

**-ACCESS PROTOCOL -
OPEN CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

To gain access to the CNME facilities, eligible users have to submit a research proposal describing their requirements. A standardized proposal form is available in the CNME website and can be filled on-line. The research proposal to gain access will contain the administrative location of the requesting person or group leader and will describe:

- The scientific aim of the project, including
 - ✓ The state of the art
 - ✓ The expected output
 - ✓ The potential industrial applications
 - ✓ Possible special requests (for example: use of particular stages, precautions, low temperature, gas atmosphere, low voltages...)
- The requested instrument(s) including measuring conditions and sample preparation facilities, if needed.
- The requested access time to the instrument and sample preparation time (if any)
- The preferred dates for the measurements.
- The requested time for computing / data treatment and analysis time (if any).

There will be a permanently open call for submission of proposals. The proposals will be collected and reviewed by the Proposals Coordinator. Successful proposals will be then allocated for a measuring slot. For every successful proposal, the Proposals Coordinator of the CNME will select a scientific in-house correspondent (local contact). The applicant will be then notified of the acceptance of the proposal and invited to communicate details and dates of the experiment with the local contact at the CNME.

Access Committee

The evaluation of the proposals is performed by a scientific committee formed by the following experienced external scientists:

Dr. B. Warot	CEMES-CNRS, Toulouse
Prof. O. Stephan	LPS-UPS, Paris
Dr. J. Verbeek	EMAT, Antwerpen
Prof. J. Arbiol	ICMAB, Barcelona
Dr. Luca Ortolani	University of Bologna
Dr. Juan Carlos Idrobo	ORNL, USA
Dr. Robert Klie	University of Illinois at Chicago, USA
Dr. Quentin Ramasse	SuperSTEM, Daresbury

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Dr. Marta Rosell	EMPA, Switzerland
Prof. Osamu Terasaki	University of Stockholm, Sweden
Prof. José Juan Calvino	UCA, Spain
Prof. Francisca Peiró	UB, Spain
Prof. John Hutchison	University of Oxford, UK
Dr. R. Arenal	ARAID, Zaragoza
Prof. G. Botton	McMaster University, Canada
Prof. José M. de Teresa	CSIC, Zaragoza
Dr. Ivo Utke	EMPA, Switzerland
Dr. M. Varela	UCM, Madrid
Dr. Javier Garcia (Proposals Coordinator)	CNME-UCM, Madrid

Description of the evaluation procedure

Each research proposal will be sent via the WEB site. Each proposal will be assessed against the following selection criteria:

- ✓ Scientific quality of the proposal (rank: weak: 0 – outstanding: 5)
- ✓ Demonstration of the need for the use of the advanced infrastructure (rank: weak: 0 – outstanding: 5)
- ✓ Feasibility of the experiment (rank: weak: 0 – outstanding: 5)
- ✓ Potentiality for industrial applications and industrial interest (rank: weak: 0 – outstanding: 5)
- ✓ Safety and environmental issues (yes /no)

Proposals will be accepted in strict order according to the ranking and the available measuring slots. Remaining proposals will be placed in a waiting list and, eventually, considered for a subsequent evaluation. Proposals with a total ranking less than 10 will be rejected.

Rejection of a proposal will always be accompanied by a report written by the referee outlining the reasons for rejection. Where appropriate, the report will also include recommendations and suggestions for improvement and resubmission of a new proposal for accessing to the CNME.

Accepted proposals will be sent back to the Proposals Coordinator who will designate a local person who will contact the user(s) to organize and perform the experiment.