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Santiago de Compostela, November 20th 2017

To whom it may concern,

I, Prof. Isabel Rodriguez-Moldes Rey, Vicechancellor for Research and Innovation of the University of Santiago de Compostela (USC), confirm that the USC intends to participate in the SMARTHEP network should the network be selected for funding by the European Commission.

The LHCb group at the Physics department of USC will participate in the SMARTHEP network in management, supervision and training:

- A senior staff member will have a seat in the Supervisory Board of the network.
- USC will host and provide "secondment" supervision to the graduate students in the ITN, as described in the part B of the proposal. The participation of USC in the ITN is well aligned with research presently being carried out at USC.
- The members of USC will give a series of lectures during one of the dedicated school on hybrid architectures designed for this network. The lectures will focus on GPU programming, one of the expertises of the USC group.

It is understood that all costs incurred by USC related to the implementation of the practical research and/or complementary training will be reimbursed by the relevant beneficiary of the Grant Agreement. USC shall invoice these research training costs to the appropriate full network partner(s).

USC looks forward to participating in this Marie Sklodowska-Curie ITN to help on the proposed efforts that will greatly improve the research potential of the LHCb experiment, in improving the High Level Trigger. This is a crucial aspect for the study of rare decays of strange particles such as $K_S \to \mu\mu$, one of the main research lines of the group. USC also supports enhancing the skillset for data scientists in both the academic and industrial sector: adding programming for GPUs, whose computing power per euro outperforms traditional CPU's in parallelizable problems, is a very desirable skill that enhances the employability of the ESRs from this network, as well as the scientific and market potential of the institutes and companies where they will be developing their future careers.

Sincerely yours,

Prof. Isabel Rodriguez-Moldes Rey
Vicechancellor for Research and Innovation