Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is CAROTS?

CAROTS stands for Commercial Analytical Research Organisations Transnational Strategy. It is an international project – funded by the INTERREG BSR programme – that aims to establish a new type of private or public-private companies in the Baltic Sea Region. Commercial Analytical Research Organisations or Scientific Service Companies, as we also call them, act as intermediary bodies between industry and academia, provide enterprises with much quicker yet complete assistance in analytical research in the fields of e.g. New Materials, Nanotech and Life Sciences. The project is led by DESY, Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron, Germany, in dialogue with ten project partners and twelve associated organisations from across the Baltic Sea Region.

What is a Scientific Service Company?

Scientific Service Companies act as innovative problem solvers and facilitate applicable tailor-made solutions to industrial and societal challenges involving industry and academia. Lowering the burden for businesses (particularly SMEs) to get in touch with research infrastructures and being knowledgeable about research instruments and methods are key features of their competence. They easily meet industry’s interests in confidentiality and in concluding straightforward contracts on industry terms while advancing applied science through method development as well as real knowledge and technology transfer. They act as executors of scientific expertise and “ambassadors” for research potential and facilities by e.g. carrying out measurements and experiments with their own staff at research facilities. Scientific Service Companies act as translators and educators of methods, results and data by interpreting scientific insights for their industrial customers.

To get an impression of the day to day business of Scientific Service Companies have a look at our interview series with their CEOs
https://www.carots.eu/carots_intermediary_company_portraits/

What types of analytical techniques qualify?

As advanced analytical techniques we consider methods utilising electrons, photons or neutrons for diffraction, scattering, microscopy and/or spectroscopy in a way which is not available in typical laboratories due to the need of certain research infrastructures like synchrotrons, neutron sources but also high-end electron microscopes or other devices.

How many people can apply?

You can apply individually or as a team. A maximum of three people of one team can take part in coachings and our webinars.
How many spaces are there on the STARTUP SCHOOL?

We can offer a maximum amount of 10 spaces on the STARTUP SCHOOL in 2021, so please apply quickly.

How much time do I have to invest if I get into the programme of the STARTUP SCHOOL?

You can plan with approximately two 1:1 coachings of 60 minutes each and four webinars between March and June 2021. At the end of the STARTUP SCHOOL applicants will be asked to present to a wider audience.

What are the key dates to remember?

Applications for the STARTUP SCHOOL can be sent in between 1st December 2020 and 31st January 2021.

Online coachings and monthly webinars start in March 2021 through to June 2021.

If I already have an idea for a startup, will it be treated confidentially?

Yes, absolutely! All ideas presented will be confidential within the STARTUP SCHOOL and coaches. Applicants remain their sole owners.

Who can I contact if I have a question regarding my application?

Please get in touch with Dr. Marc Thiry by phone: +49 40 8998-6914 or by email: startupschool@carots.eu