

Future Expert Launchpad

Oulu employment and growth services, autumn 2026. Information pack for participants.

Administration and logistics

WHAT FELP IS

Eight weeks of real development work on company challenges

Future Expert Launchpad is Demola's eight-week programme where you solve a company-validated challenge in a multidisciplinary team. You take part as an expert, not as a job seeker. In eight weeks you build skills, networks and evidence of your work that count directly in the labour market.

Your skills made visible

You get concrete evidence of your work and the words to describe your own expertise.

Topics come from companies

You solve a real company need, not a classroom exercise.

Contacts and a team

The work connects you to companies and to four other professionals.

8

weeks of development work on a company partner's challenge

5

people in a multidisciplinary team on average, backgrounds mixed

3

main events: kick-off 5 Oct, mid-event 26 Oct and finals 2 Dec

What Demola is

Demola is a Finnish company that has connected universities, companies and public organisations in innovation projects since 2008. More than 7,000 projects have been run in over 40 countries. In the spring 2026 round in Oulu, 69 participants worked in 15 teams.

HOW TO APPLY

A low threshold to apply, a clear path in

Who the programme is for

University-educated professional

You gain evidence of your work and contacts, not another course.

No prerequisites

Taking part requires no ready-made idea and no interest in entrepreneurship.

Finnish and English

The programme runs in both languages, so language is not a barrier.

How you apply

1. **Read through the project topics** in this pack and on the project list in the portal.
2. **Create a Demola profile** in the portal and apply yourself to the projects that interest you.
3. **Come to a short conversation** with Demola. You can also meet the Demola team at MegaMatchmaking at Tullisali on 23 Sept. Teams are formed from the applications as applicants come in.
4. **Start at the kick-off on 5 Oct** and work in your team for eight weeks until the finals on 2 Dec.

How the projects work in practice

A team of around five people, one company challenge.

A Demola facilitator guides the work throughout.

The outcome is a concept or prototype to take further with companies, as a new company or as a thesis.

A weekly rhythm: team meetings and interim tasks.

Work happens in Demola Hub, the digital workspace.

Expect a few hours a day on average.

Schedule, autumn 2026

The September dates belong to the application period. The actual project work runs 5 Oct - 2 Dec 2026.

APPLICATION PERIOD 1 SEPT
– 27 SEPT

PROJECT WORK 5 OCT – 2 DEC

23 Sept

MegaMatchmaking
at Tullisali

27 Sept

Applications
close

5 Oct

Kick-off, work begins

26 Oct

Mid-event

2 Dec

Finals

PROJECT TOPICS

Administration and logistics

These four topics were selected especially for this field. You can apply to any project of the autumn round, also outside this list.

The project topics have been shaped together with the Radical AI Deployment consortium (Wärtsilä, Valmet, Kempower, Danfoss, Bittium and the Pirkanmaa and Ostrobothnia wellbeing services counties).

Organisational Decision Simulator

In a large organisation decisions ripple across functions: a choice made in sales shows up in production, finance and staffing, often only months later. The team models the dependencies of a fictional company and builds a simulation where the consequences of decisions can be tested safely in advance.

Why this could fit you: an administration and logistics background lets you see the process dependencies without which the simulation would not be credible.

<https://portal.demola.net/projects/3296?locationId=oulu>

The 60-Second Briefing

Shift changes and staff turnover lose valuable tacit knowledge, and a 20-page report does not save the situation. The team builds an AI-generated briefing that pulls the equipment, event history and open issues into one form that can be absorbed in a minute.

Why this could fit you: the same model works on ships, in factories and in logistics, so understanding information flow and onboarding makes you key here.

<https://portal.demola.net/projects/3295?locationId=oulu>

Customer Segmentation for Welfare-Region Services

The team develops a new kind of customer segmentation for welfare regions that helps target services and preventive work far better than today. The work is data-driven management and service design at the core of public administration, and it is done with synthetic data.

Why this could fit you: a public sector background pays off directly: data-driven management and service design are the core of this project.

<https://portal.demola.net/projects/3281?locationId=oulu>

Black Box AI: data protection and contract limits

In practice data sharing between companies stalls on uncertainty about what may be shared and with whom. The team designs a governance and audit model for confidential AI: access rights, query limits, logging and a neutral operator.

Why this could fit you: administration, legal and compliance backgrounds are right at the heart of this project.

<https://portal.demola.net/projects/3286?locationId=oulu>

All other topics are open to you too

The full autumn project list is online. You can choose any topic, as long as it is genuinely meaningful and interesting to you.

<https://portal.demola.net/?locationId=oulu>

What you take away in eight weeks

Evidence of real work

A concrete project on a company partner's challenge for your portfolio: what you did, how, and what came out of it.

Certificate and 360 review

A certificate of participation plus feedback from your team and facilitator on how you worked.

Rights to your own results

You may use the project results in your portfolio and job search, and take them further with companies, as a new company or as a thesis.

Networks and contacts

You meet company partner representatives, facilitators and four other professionals in your team.

What the programme asks of you

A few hours a day on average, 5 Oct - 2 Dec.

Weekly work with your team.

Attendance at the kick-off 5 Oct, mid-event 26 Oct and finals 2 Dec.

Taking part does not affect earnings-related benefits.

How to apply

Applying, profile and all topics

<https://portal.demola.net/?locationId=oulu>

Applications close

27 Sept 2026

Come to MegaMatchmaking at Tullisali on 23 Sept. You can meet Demola representatives there and ask about the projects directly.

Who to contact

Jere Wessman

Head of Talent Development and Academic Partnerships

+358 40 631 4029

jere@demola.net

Joonas Kemppainen

COO

+358 50 529 1845

joonas@demola.net