

## Knowledge governance in collaborative innovation processes

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### Abstract

Issues of distributed innovation processes and interactive learning are an important focus in innovation research. The combination, use and further development of knowledge originating from different organizations can be seen as crucial for corporate innovation processes, especially in high-technology industries. The organizational micro-foundations of collaborative innovation processes, however, to a large extent still constitute an underresearched "black box". This article presented at the 26<sup>th</sup> SASE annual conference in Chicago (Illinois) brings forward a research perspective on the organizational and inter-organizational foundations of collaborative innovation processes that combines insights from organization studies and strategic management. It resorts to recent contributions on the "knowledge governance approach" with its focus on the link between "knowledge transactions" and underlying governance modes. Insights from a first empirical case study in the German offshore wind energy industry highlight the importance of the combination of onshore electrical engineering competences and maritime know-how. The "re-contextualization" of maritime knowledge, in this respect, is closely linked to the design of inter-organizational structures by means of knowledge management.