



A project co-funded by the
European Commission
within the 7th Framework
Programme



EUROPEAN NETWORK FOR NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN FUNCTIONAL TEXTILES

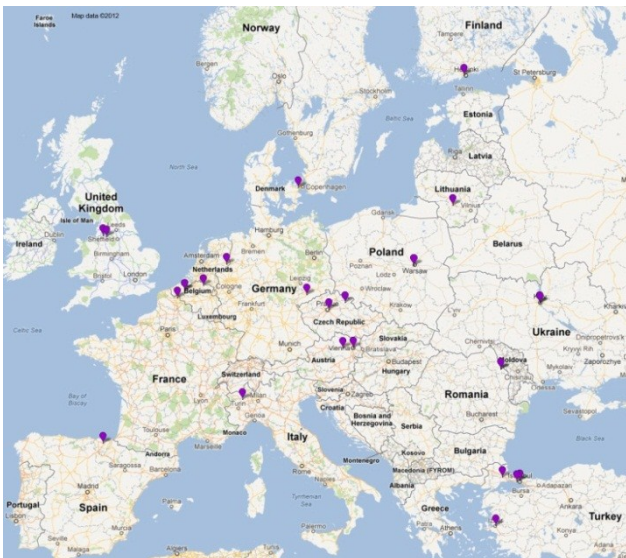
NEWSLETTER Issue 1, August 2012

AIM and OBJECTIVES

A new European Coordination Action 2BFUNTEX – *Boosting collaboration between research centres and industry to enhance rapid industrial uptake of innovative functional textile structures and textile related materials in a global market* – will bring together all innovation actors in the field to **exploit the untapped potential in functional textile structures and textile related materials** by fostering a multidisciplinary approach between academia and industry.

The website www.2bfuntex.eu will be the place for both **companies** to detect new technologies and business opportunities as well as express their needs, and for **research institutions** to present their current and future actions in research and education, and their available technologies.

Further, an **Industrial Advisory Board**, representing both large companies and SMEs at different levels in the value chain, is set up to validate the strategy and progress of the project and give information on the industrial needs in the field of functional textiles and textile related materials.



<http://www.2bfuntex.eu/>

PARTNERS

The 2BFUNTEX consortium includes 26 partners from 16 European countries deputizing all important sectors – *fundamental research and education on textiles and related materials* (universities and research institutes), *economic, policy, foresight and complexity management* (research institutes and SMEs), *associations of SMEs*, and *some national innovation agencies and governmental chamber of industry and commerce*.

- Universiteit Gent (Belgium)
- Teknologian Tutkimuskeskus VTT (Finland)
- Kiev National University of Technologies and Design (Ukraine)
- Istanbul Teknik Universitesi (Turkey)
- Ege Universitesi (Turkey)
- Kauno Technologijos Universitetas (Lithuania)
- Fundación Tekniker (Spain)
- Vlaamse Instelling voor Technologisch Onderzoek (Belgium)
- Özbek Tekstil Terbiye Tesisleri Sanayi ve ticaret (Turkey)
- Politechnika Warszawska (Poland)
- Universiteit Twente (Netherlands)
- Technical University 'Gheorghe Asachi' of IASI (Romania)
- Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Ukraine)
- Sächsisches Textilforschungsinstitut (Germany)
- Austrian Institute of Technology (Austria)
- SVUM (Czech Republic)
- Consiglio Nazionale Delle Ricerche (Italy)
- AUTEX (Belgium)
- INOTEX (Czech Republic)
- Future in Textiles Association (Romania)
- UP-tex (France)
- Itkib Ita Egitim Arastirma Ve Danismanlik Limited (Turkey)
- NWTexNet (United Kingdom)
- Teknologisk Institut (Denmark)
- Technitex Faraday Limited (United Kingdom)
- Ecoplus Niederösterreichs Wirtschaftsagentur (Austria)

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

The 2BFUNTEX international team aims to **identify technological gaps** and **eliminate barriers**, resulting in a faster industrial uptake of added value materials with new functionalities and improved performance. Technological needs will be mapped, **new joint international research disciplines** will be identified and **multidisciplinary laboratory teams** will be created between academia and industry, *supporting especially SMEs in the textile sector*.

Training materials for research and industrial purposes will be elaborated and implemented, allowing a common language regarding functional textile structures and textile related materials, and increasing the number of well-trained people in this field. 2BFUNTEX partners will organise and participate in **conferences, workshops and brokerage events**. Through the development of an **interactive website** with an extensive database, collaboration will be boosted and rapid industrial uptake catalysed and enhanced.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

The 4-years project 2BFUNTEX, funded by the EC 7th Framework Programme NMP, started on the **1st of January 2012**.

The **kick-off meeting** and the 1st complexity and foresight workshop were organized on 6th, 7th and 8th of February 2012 in Ghent, Belgium. The workshop was attended by about 40 project participants.



Kick-off meeting in Gent, Belgium

On the 13th of June 2012, a **special 2BFUNTEX session** was organised at the **AUTEX Conference** on innovative textiles for high future demands conducted in Zadar (Croatia) including the following contributions to:

- ❖ Standardisation of smart textiles (Ghent University, Belgium)

<http://www.2bfuntex.eu/>

- ❖ Using plasma for textile functionalization: atmospheric plasma for polymer materials (VITO, Belgium) and low-temperature plasma for polypropylene non-wovens (CNR-ISMAC – Biella and Politecnico di Torino, Italy)
- ❖ Electrospinning of nanofibres onto polypropylene non-wovens (CNR-ISMAC Biella and Politecnico di Torino, Italy)
- ❖ Biotechnology for innovative textiles – a Roadmap (INOTEX, Czech Republic)
- ❖ Keratin nanofibre membranes for wastewater treatment (CNR-ISMAC Biella and Università degli Studi dell’Insubria, Italy)
- ❖ Using conductive polymers for: (i) composites (Kahramanmaras Sutcu Imam University and Istanbul Technical University, Turkey), (ii) enhancing electrical conductivity and hydrophobicity of fabrics and for antibacterial textiles (CNR-ISMAC Biella, Italy)
- ❖ Nanotechnology for textiles: (i) modification of cellulosic non-wovens (Ghent University, Belgium and University Freiburg, Germany), (ii) designing superamphiphobic textiles (Universidade do Porto, Universidade de Lisboa, Universidade de Cádiz, Laboratório de Catálise e Materiais, Portugal), (iii) for photocatalytic active and antimicrobial textiles (University of Applied Sciences Niederrhein and GMBU, Germany)
- ❖ Mechanical properties of aramid fabric (SVUM, Czech Republic)

This dedicated 2BFUNTEX session was attended by more than 60 participants, making it one of the most successful sessions of the AUTEX 2012 conference.

UPCOMING TRAININGS ON FUNCTIONAL TEXTILES

- Non-woven converting, composites, lamination: September 24-27, 2012, AUTEX, North Carolina (USA)
- Textile functionalization: knowledge transfer and opportunities from research to industry: 1 day, October 2012, CNR-ISMAC and ISTECH, Biella (Italy)
- Functional textiles, their components and use aspects: 1 day, October 2012, UCCI Kyiv (Ukraine)
- Frontiers in functional textiles: research and development, 2-3 days, October 2012 on demand, AIT (Austria)
- Technical textiles (SMEs): 2 days on demand, STFI Chemnitz (Germany)
- Nonwovens (SMEs): 2 days on demand, STFI Chemnitz (Germany)
- Protective textiles (SMEs): 2 days on demand, STFI Chemnitz (Germany)

For further information on 2BFUNTEX please contact Info@2bfuntex.eu