



CE1136 - Expert Network on Textile

July/September 2017

ENTeR Project

The proposal focuses on waste reduction to prevent depletion of non-renewable resources, by collaboration between textile companies and innovation system to find new green markets for scraps/waste and alternative solutions to raw materials.

Proposal is a step towards recycling innovation and circular economy taking into account the EU policies on environmental issues.

The proposal covers 5 Central Europe countries with a relevant presence of the textile industry (about 44,5% of EU-28 textile turnover, source Euratex 2015) and with a national textile platform each.

The project will help to accelerate collaboration among the involved textile territories, promoting a joint offer of innovative services by the main local research centres and business associations ("virtual centre"), involving also public stakeholders in defining a strategic agenda and related action plan, in order to link and drive the circular economy consideration and strategic actions.



The approach of the proposal and the cooperation between the partners are oriented to the management and optimization of waste, in a Life Cycle Design (or Ecodesign) perspective.

The aim is to demonstrate the benefit of an operational collaborative model amongst research and business partners, based on an on-line tool (material match making platform) and shared skills focused on waste eco-design and resource efficiency.

The on-line platform is a tool for the cataloguing, use and exploitation of industrial textile scraps and waste.

This system will contribute to strengthen the innovation capacity of the textile companies in central Europe, improving a sustainable linkage among industrial textile areas to foster a closer cooperation on waste management and circular economy.

Project partners



Centrocot is a Research and Technical Centre providing specialized services to companies throughout the whole chain of the textile and clothing sector. It offers highly qualified human resources who can perform technical activities such as tests and certification, research, experimentation, training and consultancy. It is authorized to issue binding and voluntary marks acknowledged at both national and international level.

Particularly, the issued marks are:

- CE mark of clothing and gloves for personal protection
- PPE;
- Oeko-Tex® Standard 100;
- UV Standard 801;
- Comfort It offers its technical expertise and experience in relation to environmental sustainability and traceability of processes and products, throughout: Life Cycle Assessment (LCA), Environmental Product Declaration (EPD), Product Environmental Footprint (PEF), REACH Regulation, Green Public Procurement (GPP), STeP by Oeko-Tex® (Sustainable Textile Production), Traceability TFashion.

In particular, Centrocot R&D Laboratory Department has been studying, developing, and setting up analytical methods to test, recognize and characterize recycled textile materials as respects the new ones. Centrocot is full member of European Technology Platform for the Future of Textile and Clothing and of Textranet the European Network of Textile Research Organizations.

Centrocot regularly participates to the activities and workgroups of these associations and also to standardization workgroups organized by ISO and CEN.



The "Unione degli Industriali della Provincia di Varese" (UNIVA) is an independent, non-profit organization of entrepreneurs, belonging to Confindustria, the main association representing Italian manufacturers, with a voluntary membership of more than 147,000 companies employing a total of 5,416,777 people.

UNIVA has 1,160 companies and 64,600 employees, ranging from small and medium to large enterprises. All sectors of the manufacturing industry are represented: mechanical, textile and clothing, plastic manufacture, chemical and pharmaceutical, publishing and paper, food and beverage. The association activities focus on industrial relations, economic and training issues, providing services to enterprises and maintaining contacts with institutions. UNIVA has extensive contacts with schools, universities and educational system. One of the main important project in the field of education is the creation of a private University, LIUC Università Cattaneo. In particular the association areas Research & Innovation and Environment are fostering the issues of sustainable development, resource efficiency, green and circular economy among member companies. This project tackles the challenge of fostering a system of textile waste valorization, based on characterization and classification of their properties in order to support companies to reduce waste and to replace raw materials with others resources less critical for environment and supply.



PBN has been founded in 2006, with the participation of the regional Clusters and Industrial Parks. As a leading public economic development organization in the West Pannon region, it is supporting the Hungarian national goals like the creation of new jobs and improvement of living conditions with complex and integrated programs.

The network aims to contribute to the quality of employment and the improvement of the competitiveness of enterprises in the West Pannon with the cooperation and networking of the regional industrial parks and clusters.

PBN supports micro, small and medium-sized enterprises to strengthen economic power in Hungary. It maintains close cooperation with regional and international economic and industrial institutions. Basic purpose of this is to strengthen the internationalization activities of local small and medium-sized business sector. Currently, as a partner of regional government, and partner of National Ministries the organization is coordinating the planning and distribution of structural funds for 2014-2020 of its region. It works for the European Commission as well, in the form of framework contracts: country reports, case studies, feasibility studies of public money investments of Hungary, market research for FDI of international companies. It employ 18 professionals working at 3 regional and 1 Brussels offices. PBN is normally not performing any economic activities on the market.

INNOVATEXT Textile Engineering and Testing Institute - founded in 1949 - is the central research, development and testing basis of the Hungarian textile and apparel industry. The Institute as a member of the rapidly growing international HOHENSTEIN Group provides a wide range of activities.

Our success is based on the high quality of service, commitment to the environment and social responsibility with which we want to achieve our customer's satisfaction. We give quality advice to our clients (manufacturers, distributors, suppliers, etc.), for example: in the field of environment protection and recycling, and conduct on-site quality control tests. Over the past few years INNOVATEXT has participated in a number of Hungarian and international R&D projects and in several international projects within the framework of the Leonardo da Vinci Program, the 7th Framework Program of the EU and in EUREKA Cooperation. Many of our employees have experiences in the field of engineering, research and education. In possession of the latest knowledge, the staff members of the Institute give regular lectures at universities (Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Obuda University, Budapest, etc.) about sustainability issues as well as at further training courses environmental friendly products and processes organized by the Hungarian Society of Textile Technology and Science (TMTE).



**SÄCHSISCHES
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Saxon Textile Research Institute (STFI) is a German non-profit research institution in the Free State of Saxony and continues the long standing traditions of the Saxon textile research and textile industry. Process-related and product-related research work covers classical textile technologies as well as innovative technical solutions for a wide range of applications in nonwovens and technical textiles.

Main fields of research are:

- nonwovens/films,
- warp-knitting/weaving,
- textile finishing/ecology,
- textile recycling/vegetable fibers,
- technical nets and ropes,
- textile materials research.

More than 120 R&D projects on regional, national and transnational level are carried out each year by STFI staff. The Centre covers interdisciplinary research activities in the field of nonwovens, from web formation, web bonding, finishing of nonwoven, testing and recycling of nonwovens.

STFI runs an accredited textile test laboratory and carries out all commonly required textile physical, physiological, chemical and optical investigations for fibers, yarns, fabrics and clothing as well as geotextiles. STFI deals with the recycling of all kind of textile wastes since more than 25 years and has therefore a lot of know-how and machinery/technical equipment. The main fields of research cover the cutting and tearing of textile waste, also from special fibres, like carbon, glass, aramid; material cycles and recycling friendly construction.

SACHSEN!TEXTIL

SACHSEN!TEXTIL e.V.

SACHSEN!TEXTIL acts as an incubator and is active in innovation management related to textile and clothing industries. Main goal is innovation networking for the region of Saxony and stimulating and selection of R&D projects.

Main objectives of SACHSEN!TEXTIL are support and promotion of: science and research, training and education, and art and culture, especially in the field of development and manufacturing of textile products. Saxon region has a long standing tradition in Technical Textiles. A new initiative for Technical Textiles under the leadership of SACHSEN!TEXTIL was started to support the T/C-branches (www.innovation-textil.de).

INOTEX is a small private innovation and technology transfer company specialized in wet processing of textiles, functionalization and waste-less utilization of (renewable) textile resources.

Combining the technical research and development activities with own small lot productions and services, accredited testing and environmental consultancies. Part of profit is re-used to cofinance the R&D risks and to improve technical level of equipment and staff.



CTPT – Ceska technologicka platforma pro textile, is a civil association. It associates the textile producers, research institutions, educational institutions, cluster and other service companies active in the field of technical textiles. The main aims of the CTPT are: -Definition of the R&D strategy of the Czech Textile Industry

CTPT together with its members prepared strategic documents which define the research areas with the largest benefits for Czech Textile producers. CTPT published the Strategic Research Agenda–SRA (it defines the areas) and Implementation Plan - IP (which define concrete R&D ideas). CTPT is member of European Technology Platform for Textile. This membership should bring the better cooperation of the Czech textile companies with foreign partners and foster the establishing of new international R&D projects. On the opposite side CTPT tries to bring to the ETP for Textile new information about Czech Textile Industry and propagate it among other ETP’s members. National Technology Platform in Czech Republic should be in the future the main tools for R&D grants administrators. The SRA and IP of national platforms will define the important R&D areas in each industry and administrator will better rates the project ideas that will be correspond with SRA and IP. It means that results of the National Technology Platforms (including CTPT) will be able to have direct impact on the directing of national R&D funding activities



IW is the oldest R&D textile centre in Poland which acts within the area of textiles by developing new technologies for textile industry, evaluating textile goods and processes, developing new methods of textiles assessment, providing services e.g. for SME (testing, expertise).

Main research areas: innovative textiles – barrier, functional – based on nanotechnology; industrial biotechnology, environment protection (water and energy reuse and textile waste recycling, reduction of harmful impacts of textile processeses) , polymer technology, human safety in work environment. We realise our goals mainly within different types of research projects in R&D scientific consortia also with industrial companies. We have also an Experimental Production Department which specializes in technical textiles production (nonwovens for special applications) Economic activity covers services for SME provided by accredited Labs, certification of textiles (also Oeko-Tex Standard), sale of technical textiles. In 2016 the European Commission granted the HR Excellence in Research award thereby confirming that the Institute creates stimulating and friendly environment for researchers.



PIOT continues the activities of Polish Chamber of Apparel and Textile, which had roots in Chamber of Wool. The federation has 42 members but it works with over 100 companies that are both manufacturers of clothing, fabric as well as manufacturers of machinery and equipment, components. The federation is a self-governing organization, independent of the state administration bodies, local government and other organizations in the range of its statutory activities.

The main objective of the Federation is to protect and represent the economic interests of their members to the authorities, government, trade unions, local government authorities, national and international organizations and cooperation with the Ministry of Treasury:

- opinion role in the range of decision to privatize companies, cooperation with the Ministry of Finance and Customs
- fiscal policy-making, monitoring with regard to checking the import of textile products, eliminating unfair trade practices, evaluation of proposed changes to the harmonized customs tariff, evaluation of changes in the Customs Code, participation in the work of the Tripartite Team for Light Industry, cooperation with the Ministry of Economy
- newly opinions or revised legislation, evaluation of proposed changes in trade with countries outside the EU, implementation of activities under the roadmap for the development of light industry Sector, partner of EURATEX, the European Confederation of Textile and Clothing Industry.

ENTeR – Expert Network on Textile Recycling: innovative waste management and recycling methods in textile manufacturing make it possible to reduce and reuse waste. It helps cutting production costs while protecting the environment. ENTeR works in five central European countries that are involved in the textile business, to promote innovative solutions for waste management that will result in a circular economy approach to making textiles.

Site Web:
www.interreg-central.eu/enter



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October/December 2017

ENTeR and Circular Economy

Improving the management of industrial waste, promoting the approach to the Circular Economy, is the founding theme of the ENTeR project (co-financed by the Interreg Central Europe program).

The project sees the Textile Cotton and Clothing Center (Centrocot) as the leader of a partnership consisting of research centers and business associations / clusters in the textile sector, belonging to five Central European countries: Italy (Lombardy), Germany (Saxony), Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland, and focuses on reducing waste from the textile and clothing industry and on improving the processes of reuse and recycling of textile materials to prevent the consumption of non-renewable resources.

In this context, the project's key objectives are:

- Promote the approach to the circular economy and industrial symbiosis through the online platform;



- Reduce the production of waste and textile waste to prevent the consumption of non-renewable resources;

- Improve the Open Innovation model by creating sustainable collaborations over time among the players in the textile sector of Central Europe (companies, research centers, associations / clusters) to strengthen the innovative capacity of the entire textile sector.

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CENTROCOT
Innovation experience

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CTPT
CZECH TECHNOLOGY PLATFORM FOR TEXTILE

Czech Republic: Inotex & CTPT– RegioTEX



The conference “Textiles for future – future for textiles” was held in Hradec Králové, Czech Republic, from 8th to 9th November 2017, aiming to

enable a wide range of textile companies and textile users to acquire knowledge about the current innovative offer of companies and research institutes as well as about the opportunities offered by the new emerging initiative for coordinated support of innovations at the regional level. The aims and main planned outputs of the ENTeR project were presented during the conference programme to about 60 stakeholders from Czech textile companies, universities, associations and regional authorities.

Hungary: light industry professional day



On 6th of December 2017 a light industry professional day was held in Budapest organized by Hungarian Society of Textile Technology and Science (TMTE). The aim of this professional day was to summarize the state of light industry in Hungary and it’s challenges in the field of professional training. It also was a platform to introduce new the projects of the light industry and works of Phd. students.

On this event INNOVATEX gave a presentation about the implementation of ENTeR project. There were around 50 people present representing the stakeholders of the light industry.

Germany: ENTER “Re4Tex”

The 13th STFI colloquium on „recycling for textiles“ (re4tex) took place in Chemnitz (DE) on 6th and 7th December 2017. About 70 experts and specialists from the recycling sector and related research institutions took part. A diverse lecture programme was dedicated to the broad range of topics related to textile waste and its processing. With the recycling of smart textiles, STFI presented a new competence area. Following the focus on future technologies, STFI is increasingly directing its research towards this complex and innovative research field based on a longstanding experience in recycling of textiles as well as in the development and certification of high-performance textiles. The participants used the event to discuss about latest developments but also to do networking with partners from the branch. This was also fostered by a presentation given by STFI on the Interreg CE project “ENTeR – Expert Network on Textile Recycling”.



Poland: Fast Textile International and Lodz Municipal



The **Fast Textile International Textile Fair** of woven fabrics and accessories, organised by PTAK WARSAW EXPO on 22-24 November 2017, gathers over 250 exhibitors and over 24 000 visitors from all the world and offers possibilities to promote ENTeR idea among textile professionals. The trade fair was created in response to the market’s need for such events and soon became the go-to place for clothing producers in Central Europe. **ENTeR idea** was also promoted during **special exhibition on promotion of textile professions on labor market** organized on 13 December 2017 within the frame of a special session of Lodz Municipal Council/City of Lodz Office.