



NEWS

- **GOVERNING COUNCIL:** At its 9th April meeting the Governing Council has decided to undertake an updating of the Strategic Research Agenda in 2008-early 2009, to support the creation of an ERA-Net on textile research and develop a sustainable funding model for ETP activities.
- **EU LEAD MARKET FOR PROTECTIVE TEXTILES:** The European Commission has started to collect first stakeholder proposals for possible support actions in the fields of standardisation and public procurement. The Technology Platform intends to proactively support this input collection through activation of its relevant expert groups (e.g. TEG4 or HTG Innovation & Standards) in case of specific requests and by involving a wider range of stakeholders through the upcoming PPE conferences in Bruges, BE and Enschede, NL (see Events section below)
- **GOOD RESPONSE OF TEXTILE RESEARCH COMMUNITY TO FP7-NMP 2008 CALL:** An estimated 30-35 first stage textile project proposals have been submitted in early March to the FP7-NMP Programme. More than half of all proposals have targeted the protective textiles/clothing topic with others being widely distributed across more general nanotechnology, material and production topics. According to first indications some 35-40% of these submitted textile-related proposals have successfully passed the first EC evaluation stage. These 12-15 consortia will now have to prepare their full proposals for submission to the EC in September 2008. As most consortia are not yet fully complete there may be good opportunities for additional industry partners to join these project proposals.
- **PUBLIC WEBSITE OF TECHNOLOGY PLATFORM RE-LAUNCHED:** A revamped public website of the European Technology Platform has been launched in late April as is now available at www.textile-platform.eu. It provides general information as well as regularly updated news items and event announcements to the public. Registered ETP experts can use the same website to log into the on-line expert's communication platform which holds all internal documentation, a full address book of all 550+ registered experts, an on-line calendar of expert group meetings with on-line registration facility.



EVENTS

- **3RD ANNUAL PUBLIC CONFERENCE 28-29 MAY 2008:** Registration for the 2008 edition of the **Annual Public Technology Platform Conference in Brussels** has been opened in early April. The 1,5 day event will be devoted to Innovation in Mass Customisation of Clothing and Fashion. It will showcase results of EU projects and industry success stories in this domain.
- **INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT 21-23 MAY 2008:** Under the title "For more (than) safety", an international conference on PPE is organised in **Bruges, Belgium**. The conference will focus on the legislative state-of-the-art as well as end user requirements across all segments of the PPE market. For more information and registration documents visit: www.centexbel.be/PPEcongress/PPEhome.htm
- **PPE LEAD MARKET CONFERENCE 1-2 DECEMBER 2008:** Another international conference on the topic of Personal Protective Equipment will be held on 1-2 December 2008 in Enschede, Netherlands. This conference will specifically focus on innovation along the entire protective textiles & PPE value chain and will also explore new developments in fields like standardisation and public procurement, which are specifically high on the agenda of the EU lead market. More information is available at www.efsm.nl/peconference.



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Public website & on-line communication platform for experts:

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