



NEWS

- **NEW EP, NEW COMMISSION & EU2020 STRATEGY:** Late 2009-early 2010 is a decisive period for the future directions of EU policies including research & innovation. The new European Parliament has started its work in autumn, the new EU Commissioners are designated and will start their work in February 2010 and a new general political framework entitled **EU2020 Strategy** is expected to be adopted by the EU Council in Spring 2010. It is certain that research and innovation, more closely linked with education, will remain very high on the EU agenda, but the details will be interesting to follow. Learn more and express your opinion at <http://ec.europa.eu/eu2020/>
- **FP7 CONTINUES TO PROVIDE EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR TEXTILE RESEARCH :** In 2009 the 7th Framework Programme offered good scope for more textile-related research in areas such as smart textiles, manufacturing systems for 3D assembly of textile-based products or new concepts for small-series production. The Textile Platform again supported project creation through its TEPPIES system and 2 project brokerage events and the results should start to be known in early 2010. Also the 2011 calls of FP7 (to be published in summer 2010) should offer interesting opportunities in textile research areas that have not yet been covered in FP7 such as applications in environment, water or energy.
- **ERA-NET PROJECT HAS STARTED: CrossTexNet**, the first ERA-Net project dedicated to textile research, has started in November 2009. This network of national and regional research funding agencies across 11 European countries will coordinate and pool resources to fund more cross-border textile research projects with quicker reaction time and at smaller scale than typical EU research projects. A first call for proposals is expected for mid 2010. In the meantime 2 cross-sectoral ERA-Nets CORNET & EraSME have published calls (closing 31 March 2010) which may also offer scope for textile-related projects (see www.cornet-era.net and www.era-sme.net for further info).
- **EU LEAD MARKET FOR PROTECTIVE TEXTILES/PPE:** In mid-December the EC organised a workshop to assess PPE Lead Market progress, bringing together officials of the various Commission services involved in Lead Market Policies, representatives of 12 EU Member States and industry stakeholders. The assessment of the progress in the protective textiles lead market was positive with a number of actions both from the Commission and the industrial side well underway including 7 PPE-related FP7 projects started in late 2009. Conclusions: efforts need to be intensified in standardisation, public procurement and other innovation support areas. Member States need to support these activities much more. More information at : <http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/innovation/policy/lead-market-initiative>



EVENTS

- **EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON CONSUMER GOODS RESEARCH, 4 FEBRUARY 2010 IN BRUSSELS:** The Textile Technology Platform together with the European Sports and Footwear Platforms organises the conference "Designed to surprise - How strategic research and innovation can extend Europe's leadership in design-based consumer goods on the global market". Industry leaders and innovators will demonstrate the growth potential of new technologies and business models applied to the "more traditional" consumer markets. The 3 platforms and other sectors which are expected to join us want to put research and innovation in the creative industries higher on the EU policy agenda, which remains too focussed on the technological building blocks for the capital goods sectors. Programme & registration available at www.textile-platform.eu
- **5TH ANNUAL PUBLIC ETP CONFERENCE 24-25 MARCH 2010:** The 2010 edition of the Technology Platform Conference will feature the national and regional dimension of textile research and innovation across Europe. Some 30 clusters or networks are invited to present their activities and results and demonstrate how industry, research community and public authorities work hand-in-hand to build the Future of Textiles in Europe. Part of the 2nd day will be dedicated to the first results of the CrossTexNet ERA-Net.

