

DATE: OCTOBER 31, 2012



Dear EPSI members,

We are happy to send you the next EPSI newsletter of 2012. This newsletter provides us with the possibility to inform you on the developments within EPSI in particular.

Broad Meeting Event in the Netherlands

Following our recurrent habit on 13th December 2012 will be organised in the Netherlands the next EPSI Broad Meeting. This event will be the occasion for broad members to discuss about the strategic objectives of EPSI, the next annual event which will be organised in 2013 and the activities of EPSI Research Working Committees. As a reminder they follow on:

1. The Consumer-chaired by IBV (Spain)
2. Materials and Technologies-chaired by TU Delft (The Netherlands)
3. Processes-chaired by Assosport (Italy)
4. Sport Information System-chaired by Sporaltec (France)
5. Knowledge Transfer and Dissemination-chaired by FESI (Belgium)

Recticel-New EPSI Member

Since its formal creation back in November 2010, the EPSI platform has carried out many activities and has gained new members. One of our new members is **Recticel**. We officially welcome Recticel within our community!



Recticel is a BELGIAN company, with headquarters in Brussels. The Recticel Group operates predominantly throughout Europe, but it also pursues a number of activities in the United States and Asia. Under the motto "The passion for comfort", Recticel, as a manufacturer of polyurethane foam

products, strives to make a real difference to daily comfort for all. The Group, as a unique whole, concentrates on four selected fields of application:

- Flexible Foams
- Bedding
- Insulation
- Automotive

Although the Group mainly produces semi-finished products (Flexible foams and Automotive), in a number of divisions it also manufactures finished goods, both consumables and durables (Bedding and Insulation). Within the Bedding division, mattresses and slat bases are sold mainly under well-known brand names (including Beka®, Lattoflex®, Literie Bultex®, Schlaraffia®, Sembella®, Superba®, Swissflex®, etc.). The Insulation division supplies high-quality finished thermal insulation products, which can be used directly in building and renovation projects. These insulation products are marketed under well-known brand names (Eurowall®, Powerroof® and Powerdeck®). In addition, Recticel attaches great importance to innovation and technological progress. The Group's various products are therefore used and processed in ever growing numbers of new and existing applications.

Recticel aims to achieve sustainable, balanced added value and steady, profitable growth for the benefit of its customers and its shareholders. Recticel (NYSE Euronext: REC.BE – Reuters: RECTt.BR – Bloomberg: REC.BB) is the European leader in polyurethane applications and is quoted on NYSE Euronext SM in Brussels.

For further information you can access the following websites:

www.recticel-automotive.com

www.proseat.de

www.recticelinsulation.com

www.recticelflexiblefoams.com

RECTICEL SPORTS

Recticel sports are part of the Flexible foams business line. It is divided into 3 segments: outdoor, indoor & equipment. **Re-bounce®** is the brand for all sports products manufactured by Recticel.

www.re-bounce.com

Sports equipment

Re-bounce® sports equipment includes a wide range of mats for a variety of combat sports as well as gymnastics. Our high-quality finished mats are not only the ideal solution for large organisations, but also for local schools and sports clubs with limited budgets. All our re-bounce® mats are available in different colours, with or without anti-skid finish base re-bounce®.

EPSI's Projects

Considering the importance of joining forces with relevant stake holders and consequently fulfil one of EPSI's most important tasks i.e. networking please consider that EPSI was asked to participate in some distinctive project proposals to be submitted for several calls (EAC, Health, Artemis) as a dissemination partner organisation.

EPSI is discussing with two EU projects that were initiated from the EPSI community (Profit, interreg project (and EU4Sports cluster) to assist them in the participation to the next ISPO fair in Munich 2013. Another important project for EPSI is Prosumer Net.

Prosumer Net

PROsumer.NET is an European networking and roadmapping project, bringing together 5 European Technology Platforms across consumer goods sectors such as textiles and clothing, footwear, sports goods and wood-based products as well as the ManuFuture platform covering the related manufacturing technologies. The project was initiated and is following in the footsteps of the 1st European Consumer Goods Research Conference organised by the same stakeholders in February 2010. The draft research and innovation roadmap resulting from the "European Seminar on Consumer Goods Research, which already was conducted in Brussels on 22nd of June 2011, will be further developed in much more breadth and depth by the 2-years PROsumer.NET project.

This seminar prepared the ground for the roadmapping work of the PROsumer.NET project over the next 2 years and represents a first occasion to connect and network with industry and research experts from across several consumer goods sectors, also beyond those covered by the 5 involved technology platforms. Contribute to the development of a research and innovation roadmap and related EU policy recommendations for the European design-based consumer goods industries!

For more information you can access: <http://prosumernet.eu/>

Profit Project

ProFit aims to stimulate innovation and new business creation in the sport sector by developing an EU network of field-labs focused on sport. The field-labs will be located in urban communities where citizens can engage in innovative sports activities. A product innovation competition is incorporated into the project to inspire and source exciting new products to test in the field-labs. Field-labs will be developed in four European cities: Eindhoven, Delft (NL), Kortrijk (Be) and Sheffield (UK).

A supportive research programme provides scientific rigour to the development and operation of the field-labs and products.

For more information you can access: www.profitproject.org

EU4sportscluster

This platform provides online quality information and networking support for clusters (organisations and members) aiming to improve their performance and increase their competitiveness through the stimulation of trans-national and international cooperation.

This brand new online portal rich in features and information has been developed aiming to build communication bridges between cluster players from the same or a different sector. The ultimate goal is to facilitate cluster cooperation, both between cluster organisations, as well as between cluster members (i.e. companies, R&D institutions, other players).

The **European Cluster Collaboration Platform** is embedded within the European Cluster Excellence Initiative and financed by the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme, since it is an instrument provided by DG Enterprise & Industry to enable cluster organisations to actively play a role on the international cluster arena. This can be achieved either through a professional presentation of their activities/members, through a dynamic interaction in virtual or personal dialogue with peers in communities or through accessing structured cluster information and using it to become better. "Striving for excellence" represents the mind-set of those cluster people who intend to bring their clusters to an excellent level of performance. Some of them are at the beginning of this process, some of them already advanced, but it is this shared spirit that makes their getting together on/through the platform that creates a win-win situation.

What the platform does not target: to become just a telephone book or a data graveyard. It targets a quality approach through the quality information provided by its users in their profiles, through their contributions, postings, intensity of use, but also in their feedback on how the platform could better serve their expressed needs.

The **European Cluster Collaboration Platform** is a user-driven instrument. The basis for its development lies in the results of the largest European survey among cluster organisations and cluster policy makers. 420 cluster players provided detailed input regarding their expectations from such an online portal that were considered in the technical development. However, the platform must keep the pace with the changes in the needs of the users in order to make it useful over a long period of time and for this it is vital that ideas for improvement coming from users should be permanently provided and considered.

For more information you can access: <http://www.clustercollaboration.eu/welcome>



If you need further information or if you have suggestions for the next newsletter do not hesitate to send an email to info@epsi.eu