

Press release



The European Advanced Textile Materials' cluster meets in Barcelona

Members of EU-TEXTILE2030, the European Advanced Textile Materials' cluster, organized several activities in parallel to the ITMA's trade fair in Barcelona, from 20th to 26th June.

AEI Tèxtils, the Catalan technical textiles' cluster, member of the consortium, organized some of them.

The activities of EU-TEXTILE2030 began on 24th July, with a networking dinner at the Hotel Barceló Raval.

The aim of this dinner, which involved more than 50 companies' members of the EU-TEXTIL2030 clusters, was to facilitate contacts between European companies in an informal and relaxed environment.



Participants during the networking dinner on the 24th June

The following day, the consortium met at the headquarters of an AEI Tèxtils member, [La Industrial Algodonera – LIASA](#), in Selva del Camp. LIASA is a company established in 1918, dedicated to the manufacture of cords, tapes and polypropylene yarn.

During the meeting, the partnership discussed about the previous and upcoming activities that are going to be carried out during next months, mainly:

- TECHTERA, as coordinator of the mission to Israel, which took place from March 25th to 28th, presented its assessment and evaluation. The representatives of the clusters, together with 10 companies and research centres participated at this mission, where several companies and research centres in the field of advanced textile materials were visited. In addition, the consortium signed a collaboration agreement with the Israeli textile association.
- UP-TEX, as coordinator of the last two missions, presented the draft program. The first one will take place from September 2nd to 8th in Japan, coinciding with the International *Symposium on Smart Textile and Thermal Comfort of Clothing*. The second one will be held from October 7th to 11th in Taiwan, coinciding with TITAS, the technical textiles fair, where EU-TEXTILE2030 will have a booth. Members of EU-TEXTIL2030 clusters may apply for a travel grant to participate in these missions.
- AEI Tèxtils, as coordinator of the mission that took place in Colombia, in July 2018, reported the Memorandums of Understanding already signed and in process with some Colombian organizations.
- POINTEX, as leader of the activity, presented the results of the matchmaking held during Techtexsil in Frankfurt, where more than 50 B2B meetings were organized between companies of the EU-TEXTILE2030 clusters.
- The partnership discussed on the final event of the project, which will take place in Lyon on November.



EU-TEXTILE2030 members at LIASA



EU-TEXTIL2030 members together with LIASA's representatives

The second day the meeting was held at the headquarters of the 3D Factory Incubator, a project led by Consorci de la Zona Franca de Barcelona and LEITAT Foundation. The project aims to promote the adoption of 3D Printing technologies through the creation of a space for the incubation of SMEs and micro-SMEs related to these technologies.

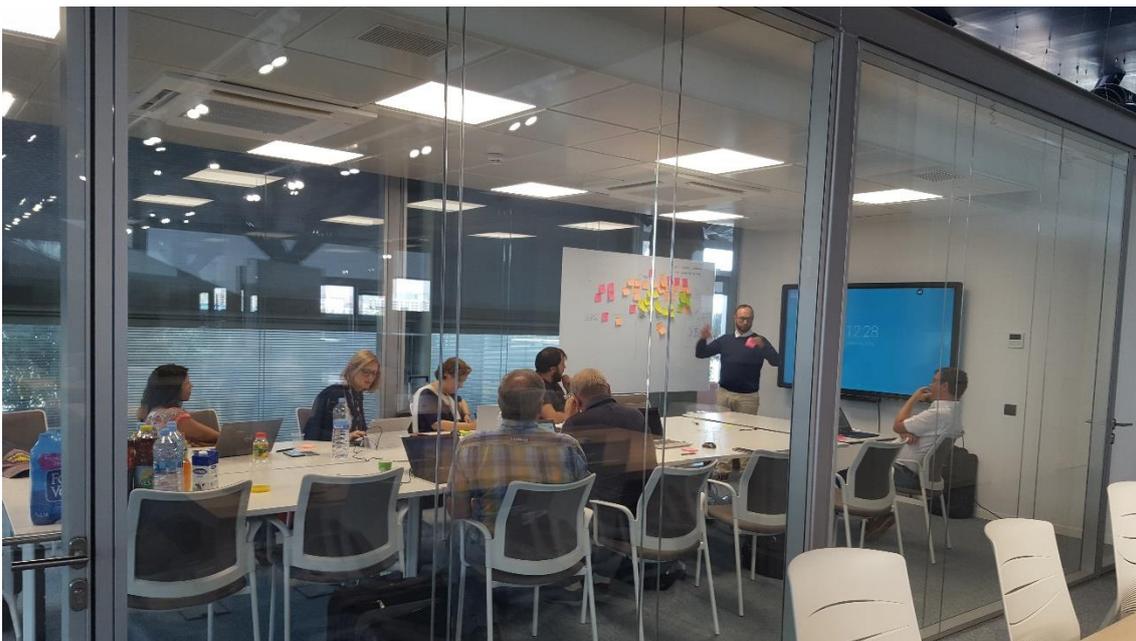
The meeting was focused on discussing about the new association. It will be founded by EU-TEXTILE2030 clusters, based in Belgium and with the aim of bringing together the European clusters of advanced textile materials to work together in different lines (innovation, networking, internationalization, etc.) for the benefit of European companies in the sector.

AEI Tèxtils, as leader of the activity, presented the status of the formalization of the association, whose constitution is scheduled for September 2019.

Then, the participants held a coaching session to define the strategy of the new association.



EU-TEXTILE2030 members at the 3D Factory Incubator headquarters



EU-TEXTIL2030 members during the coaching session

EU-TEXTILE2030 is co-funded by COSME – Clusters go International program from the European Commission and it has the following objectives:

- *To consolidate the European cluster of Advanced Textile Materials*
- *To develop a cooperative internationalization strategy*
- *To securing, strengthening and extending the competitiveness of European SMEs in the sector at international level.*

AEI Tèxtils is partner of the project, being ATEVAL the project coordinator. Additionally, 5 European technical textiles' clusters participate in the project: CLUTEX from Czech Republic, POINTEX from Italy, UP-TEX and TECHTERA from France and SACHSEN! TEXTIL EV from Germany.

EU-TEXTILE2030 continues the lines of TEXTILE2020 project, implemented from 2012 to 2014 with the same consortium, where a world-class-cluster in the field of advanced textile materials was developed to coordinate activities of the value chain of this sector at European level. Additionally, a common strategy was also defined as a key framework to accelerate technological developments and to facilitate access to market in third countries. During TEXTILE2020 several internationalization activities were carried out as a pilot program: four internationalization trips to Brazil, Japan and South Korea, Tunisia and Canada; joint participation in several international trade fairs and a market study of the personal protective equipment market in Brazil, among others.

EU-TEXTILE2030, which will last until November 2019, has foreseen the following activities where clusters' members will be able to benefit from:

- *Business missions to: Israel, Colombia, Japan, Taiwan and South Africa.*
- *Market study preparation for each target country.*
- *Joint participation at 2 international trade fairs in Colombia and Taiwan under the umbrella of EU-TEXTILE2030 European Cluster.*
- *Official establishment of the European association which represents the Advanced Textile Materials European Cluster EU-TEXTILE2030 with headquarters in Brussels along with the development of short and mid-term strategy.*

The EU-TEXTILE2030 European cluster will represent, initially, more than 900 European companies of the sector and it is anticipated that more partners will join the association increasing its scope.

Beyond the partners who are members of the consortium, the project also has six associated organizations which will provide support to the different activities of the project: the European Textile Technology Platform; the technical textile cluster from UK, NWTEXNET; the Portuguese textile cluster Cluster Têxtil: Tecnologia e Moda; the German textile business association IVGT and the Italian TEXCLUBTEC, in addition to Messe Frankfurt, the main trade fair organizer in terms of technical textiles worldwide.

For more information:

www.eu-textile2030.eu