

**INNOVATION | THE TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS FOUNDATION IS PERFORMING THE DATABASE INFORMATION PLATFORM FOR EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF RESEARCH RESULTS PROJECT**

# **Combining the Forces of Science and Technology**

**The TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS Foundation is a scientific research organisation that specialises in Research and Development and innovation management and technology transfer, as well as the performance of large-scale research projects. In 2004, Poland's Minister of Science awarded the foundation the status of Advanced Technology Centre whose mission is to initiate and promote processes supporting the rational use of knowledge in innovation activity and undertake practical actions aimed at developing the Polish S&T sector with Polish and foreign industry. One of the foundation's leading initiatives that furthers its mission is the Database Information Platform for Effective Implementation of Research Results project, POIG.02.03.02-00-022/09, currently underway.**

The modern economy poses high requirements for R&D partners. These requirements concern mainly the interdisciplinary character of the offering, the necessary competences and equipment, and the speed and efficiency of work performance.

The Open Innovation approach to knowledge management, used by leading enterprises in Europe and around the world, is characterised by intensive development of research cooperation with numerous external organisations simultaneously via the creation of network structures. The need to fulfil industry's expectations and participation in global innovation development processes force scientific research organisations to become much more open toward new partners.

The Database Information Platform for Effective Implementation of Research Results project is aimed at creating an environment facilitating the cooperation of scientists and research organisations with research and industrial partners in the process of interdisciplinary research project planning and performance. Increasing the effectiveness of cooperation requires system support to allow for the achievement of synergy through the joint use of complementary knowledge, equipment and organisational resources.

The project will result in the development and implementation precisely this type of system, supporting cooperation between research organisations and industrial partners and increasing the effectiveness of the management of highly complex R&D projects. It will be a tool for intensifying cooperation with industry in line with the Open Innovation approach.

The project will increase the competitiveness of the research organisations cooperating within the network, and particularly of the Project Consortium members. These are: the Polish Packaging Research and Development Centre, the Polish Academy of Sciences Institute of Biochemistry and Biophysics, the Institute of Aviation, the Institute of Precision Mechanics, the Institute of Non-Ferrous Metals, the Institute of Applied Optics, the Tele and Radio Research Institute, the Institute of Natural Fibres and Medicinal Plants, and the Institute of Advanced Manufacturing Technology.

Besides IBB, all the Project Consortium members are also members of the Technology Partners Consortium, established in 2001, with 1500 research staff, performing 900 R&D projects per year and with a turnover of € 100 mln.

Implementation of the platform will enable the consortium members to consolidate their knowledge, HR, and infrastructure resources, with the synergy achieved thereby providing benefits of scale. The system will increase communication effectiveness and provide access to information of the appropriate quality – both within the consortium and for potential external industrial partners. The establishment of a shared environment for management of R&D projects will improve their quality. System support will also play a key role in equalising differences between research partners in their level of scientific knowledge, organisational culture and research management skills. The platform will also contribute to improving the project partners' image.

The databases will contain partial and final results of the research conducted by the project partners, information on their technical infrastructure resources, human resources, scientific knowledge databases (external and internal), and so-called research work roadmaps. The information portal – intended for external scientific research organisations, research networks and industrial partners – will facilitate the acquisition of orders and research partners. The internal information portal will support the exchange of information between the project partners.

The platform will also include a scientists' social network – a toolkit for establishing interdisciplinary research teams, accessible also to scientists from outside the consortium.

The project was initiated in October 2009 and work is scheduled to conclude in August 2012.

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