

PROSURF

Promotion and Support of SME Research and
Innovation in the Surface Finishing and Printed Circuit
Manufacturing Sectors
PROSURF

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Supported by the European Commission



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Project Objectives

- PROSURF is a Co-ordination Action, which is taking place with the financial support of the European Community 6th Framework Programme.
- The primary objective being to strengthen SME competitiveness in both the medium and long term.
- PROSURF aims to support SMEs and other stakeholders in the printed circuit and surface finishing industries, by building the capability to innovate through greater involvement in Research and Development



Project Partners

Participant name	Country
C-Tech Innovation Ltd	United Kingdom
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Galvano und Oberflächentechnik e.V.	Germany
EIPC Services BV	Netherlands
RTC NORTH Ltd	United Kingdom
Syndicat National des Entreprises d'Applications de Revêtements et Traitments de Surfaces	France
International Project Management Plating and Materials	France



Main Project Outputs

- Analysis and benchmarking of the technological and business/market needs of the sectors has been completed: these reports are freely available on the project website to registered users
- A roadmap defining future research strategies: a research road map providing recommendations for research strategies to SMEs in the printed circuit and surface finishing industries is nearing completion
- A partnering platform to establish collaborative research proposals: mechanisms are being established to assist organisations to find partners for research & development projects
- A best practice methodology to enable SMEs to become involved in research and innovation: the project aims to establish best practice to enable companies to become involved in R&D.



Reports available on website

- Current industrial technologies – limitations and future aims
- Economic intelligence on market trends and opportunities
- Review of new technologies and research
- Simplified life cycle analysis methodology
- Economic sustainability assessment using LCA
- Environmental legislation
- Road Maps for Printed Circuit and Metal Finishing Sectors (available soon)



Target FP7 Activities

- A main target is to help to increase participation from the industry sectors in the European Community's FP7 research programme (2006-2013).
- **Co-operation Programme**
 - The programme is particularly relevant to SMEs due to their needs and vital role in advancing and using modern technologies. As well as SMEs being able to participate in all Theme 4 calls for proposals, there will be dedicated calls for SME-focussed projects
- **Nanotechnologies, Materials, New Production Technologies (NMP)**
- **Information and Communications Technologies (ICT)**
- **Other relevant themes:**
 - Environment; Energy; Security; Transport including aeronautics; Health; Food, agriculture and fisheries, biotechnology; Space



Target FP7 Activities

- **Capacities Programme**
- **Research for the benefit of SMEs**
 - **Research for SMEs:**
 - Support for small groups of innovative SMEs which outsource research to RTD performers; to solve common or complementary technological problems for the SMEs involved
 - **Research for SME associations:**
 - Support for SME associations, which outsource research to RTD performers; to develop technical solutions to problems common to a large number of SMEs in a specific sector or segment of the value chain



Target FP7 Activities

- **Human Resources and Mobility**
- **Industry-Academia Partnerships and Pathways:**
 - This action will seek to open and foster dynamic pathways between public research organisations and private commercial enterprises, including in particular SMEs



PROSURF Dissemination

- Dissemination Targets
 - Prime target is high tech SMEs with research capability
 - Other SMEs to enhance capacity for research
 - Most relevant research providers
 - Large end user companies
 - Suppliers to the industries (chemicals & equipment)
- Dissemination Routes
 - Selective direct targeting of Trade Association (& other partner) Memberships and their collaborators
 - Wider dissemination towards the end of the project

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