



# SME'S COMPETITIVENESS THROUGH CLUSTERS

# TERRASSA INTERNATIONAL TEXTILE CONFERENCE

Weaving the future with the yarn of innovation

Terrassa, 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2014





# SME'S COMPETITIVENESS THROUGH CLUSTERS

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. What is a cluster
- 1.2 Characteristics of technical textile clusters
- 1.3 Technical textile clusters in Europe

## 2. AEI TÈXTILS

- 2.1. The technical textiles sector in Catalonia
- 2.2 The technical textiles cluster in Catalonia AEI Textils

#### 3. POINTEX

- 3.1. The technical textiles sector in Piemonte
- 3.2 The technical textiles cluster in Piemonte PoInTex



THE CATALAN TECHNICAL TEXTILES CLUSTER

# SME'S COMPETITIVENESS THROUGH CLUSTERS

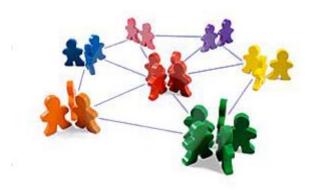
### 1. INTRODUCTION

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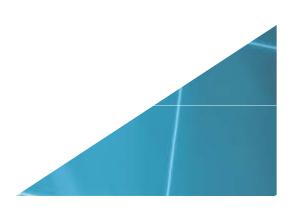


A cluster is a geographically proximate group of interconnected companies and associated institutions in particular fields, linked by commonalities and complementarities.

Michael Porter. The Competitive Advantage of Nations. 1990

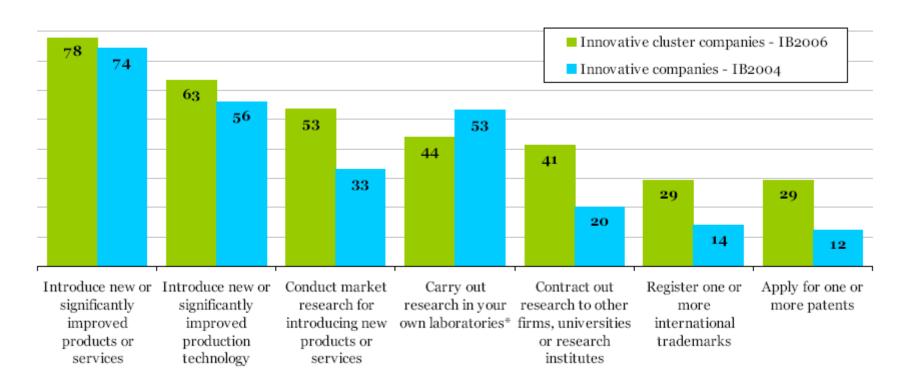








#### Comparison between innovative companies and innovative companies in clusters



Source: European Comission, 2006 Innobarometer on cluster's role in facilitating innovation in Europe

#### INNOVATION IS HIGHER IN CLUSTERS THAN ELSEWHERE



Clusters enable open innovation, the creation and refinement of new ideas in networks of cooperating companies and institutions. They also minimize the barriers for transforming new ideas into businesses and capturing the benefits of globalisation.

Clusters enable in particular SMEs to take advantage of the new opportunities in the global economy and they become key factors in attracting capital, people, and knowledge.

**European Cluster Memorandum** 



## **CHARACTERISTICS OF TECHNICAL TEXTILE CLUSTERS**

SERVICES (consultancy, associations) MACHINERY (manufacturers and suppliers)

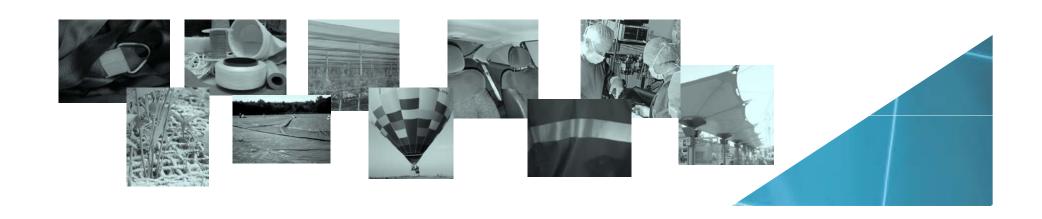
RESEARCH AND TRAINING CENTERS

MANUFACTURING COMPANIES IN THE TECHNICAL TEXTILES SECTOR

PRODUCTS PRODUCTS

**FIBERS** 

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION





## **TECHNICAL TEXTILE CLUSTERS IN EUROPE**

#### THE TECHNICAL TEXTILES EUROPEAN CLUSTER



Nord-Pas de Calais, France



Nord-Pas de Calais, France



North-West, United Kingdom



Saxony, Germany



Catalonia, Spain



Rhône-Alpes, France



Valencia, Spain



Piemonte, Italy

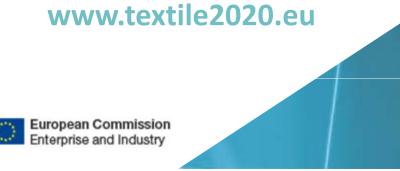


Liberec, Czech Republic



The aim of TEXTILE2020 is to bring together the main Advanced Textile Materials clusters from Europe with a view to develop and implement a long-term joint international strategy that contributes to securing, strengthening and extending their competitiveness at the international level.







THE CATALAN TECHNICAL TEXTILES CLUSTER

# SME'S COMPETITIVENESS THROUGH CLUSTERS

## 2. AEI TÈXTILS

- 2.1. The technical textiles sector in Catalonia
- 2.2 The technical textiles cluster in Catalonia AEI Textils



## THE TECHNICAL TEXTILE SECTOR IN CATALONIA (I)

#### STATISTICS OF THE TEXTILE AND CLOTHING SECTOR IN CATALONIA (2013)

	Catalonia	Spain	EU28	% Catalonia/EU28
Companies	2.572	8.471	172.662	1,49
Employees	39.881	128.600	1.664.000	2,40
Turnover (x10 <sup>6</sup> €)	4.127	9.363	166.500	2,48



**SPAIN** 

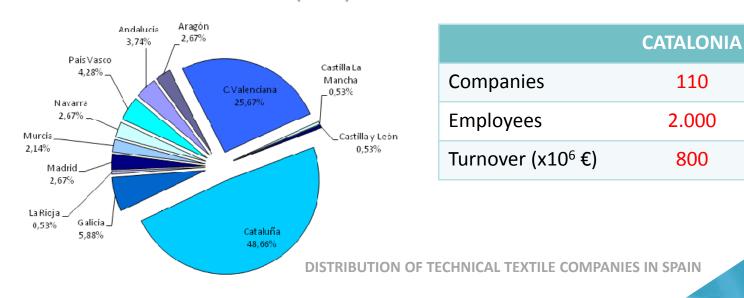
225

4.200

1.650

Source: CITYC / Euratex

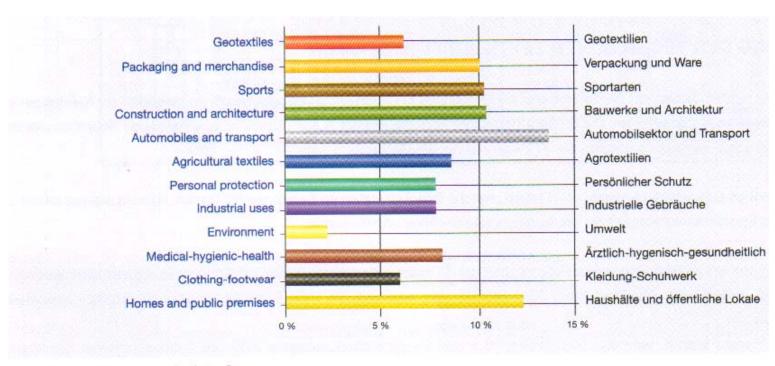
#### **TECHNICAL TEXTILES STATISTICS (2013)**





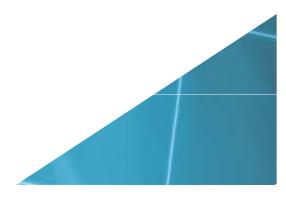
# THE TECHNICAL TEXTILE SECTOR IN CATALONIA (II)

#### SPECIALIZATION OF TECHNICAL TEXTILE COMPANIES IN SPAIN



Source: Detrell, A., Salgado, C. and Fernández, O.





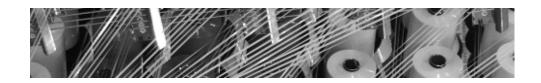


## THE TECHNICAL TEXTILE CLUSTER IN CATALONIA (I)

## **AEI TÈXTILS**

Non-profit association, created in May 08 in accordance with the Spanish cluster policy.

Its aim is to bring together all Catalan companies and organizations related directly or indirectly to the technical textiles sector and which form a specialized productive area with competitive advantages.





## THE TECHNICAL TEXTILE CLUSTER IN CATALONIA (II)

#### **MISSION**

To promote innovation with the aim of improving the competitiveness of its members, as well as cooperation, complementarity and communication amongst them.

#### **VISION**

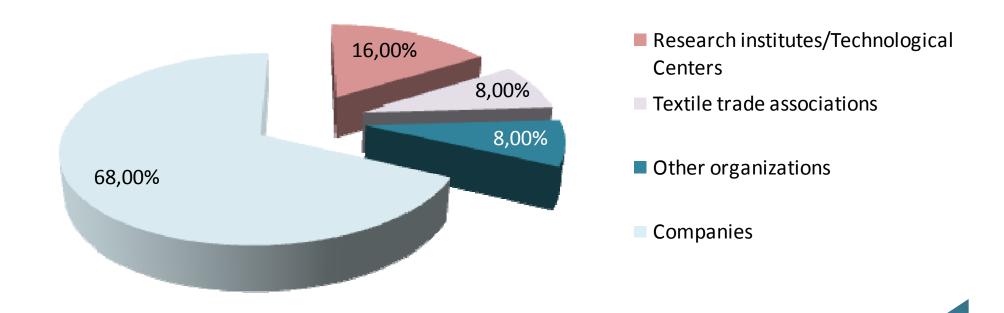
To achieve a critic mass of innovative companies and organizations of the territory enough to facilitate the innovating practices which allow the improvement of their competitiveness and international renown.

#### **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES**

- To promote innovation in a wide sense, improving the abilities of its members and combining them by means of horizontal or multidisciplinary collaborations.
- Commercial worldwide presence by means of promotion and internationalization.
- Management and productivity improvement of companies to generate added value and to face up the current environment.

# THE TECHNICAL TEXTILE CLUSTER IN CATALONIA (III)

#### **CLUSTER MEMBERS**



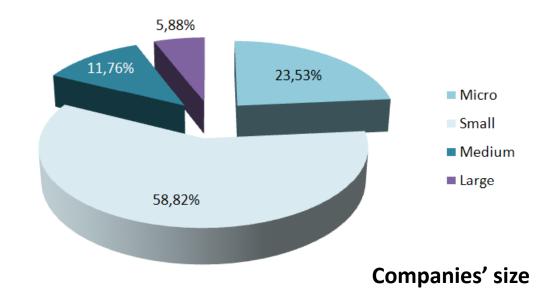
# THE TECHNICAL TEXTILE CLUSTER IN CATALONIA (IV)

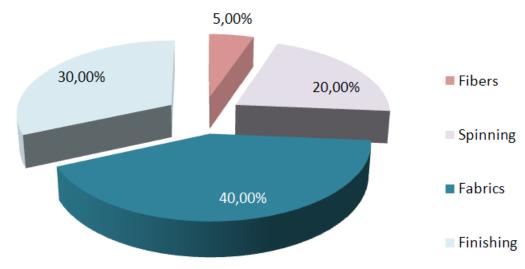
## **Companies**

✓ Number: 17

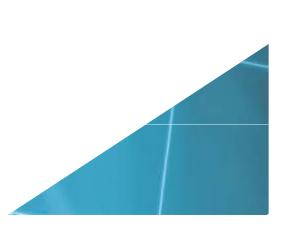
✓ Total turnover: 200 M€

✓ Total employees: 1.000



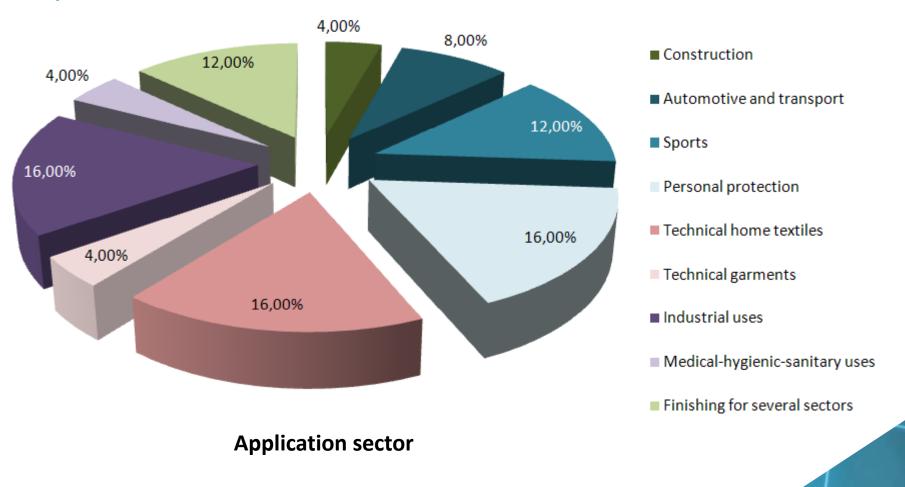


Companies' activity



# THE TECHNICAL TEXTILE CLUSTER IN CATALONIA (V)

## **Companies**





# THE TECHNICAL TEXTILE CLUSTER IN CATALONIA (VI)

## **Strategic lines**



- **R&D:** Promoting cooperation amongst its members, increasing the taking on level of innovation support initiatives; promoting the participation of the Catalan technical textiles sector in technological cooperation European projects and increasing their productivity in the territory promoting the implementation of new technologies and the development of new products and processes.
- Internationalization: Improving access to international markets; improving access to knowledge through international R&D and technological and commercial partners and improving access to research and key production infrastructures in third countries.
- **Skills:** Increasing the training of current employees in the sector and improving the level of qualifications; promoting development and knowledge of career opportunities in the sector and providing unique and specific training on technology and market in the technical textiles sector.
- Marketing: Promoting the exchange of best practices amongst local enterprises; improving the image of the sector in Catalonia; promoting its strengths and capabilities to other manufacturing sectors of the territory to increase globally business opportunities and creating dialogue between industry, scientific community and public administration.

# THE TECHNICAL TEXTILE CLUSTER IN CATALONIA (VII)

## 1. R&D - examples

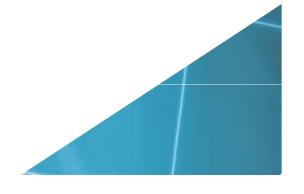
Generation and/or management of collaborative R&D projects







- Management of innovative individual projects
- Technological watch: technological reports; patents maps, events, etc.
- Reports: textile innovations technical textiles





# THE TECHNICAL TEXTILE CLUSTER IN CATALONIA (VIII)

## 2. Internationalization - examples

Textile2020





















## 3. Skills - examples

- Organization of technical conferences
- Organization of technical training (and/or teaching)
   on demand





# THE TECHNICAL TEXTILE CLUSTER IN CATALONIA (IX)

## 4. Marketing - examples

Participation at international conferences

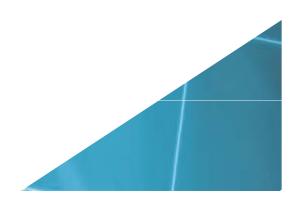






Bronze Label





# Thank you for your attention



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