

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Energy Management Training for European Plastics Processors

SHROPSHIRE, UK (November 2009) – iSmithers, the information business within Smithers Rapra, have been awarded over €290,000 to lead an innovative project that will help European plastics processors manage and reduce their energy consumption.

ENERGYWISE Plastics, a two-year project funded by the Transfer of Innovation strand of the European Commission's Lifelong Learning Programme, will develop an elearning platform and training materials for those working within the plastics industry to increase their knowledge and understanding of energy management.

Using a 'blended learning' approach ENERGYWISE Plastics will provide interactive online modules and supporting hard-copy resources focusing on three different areas within an organisation: management, processing and peripherals.

iSmithers won the funding as a result of its success with its recent EC-funded energy saving projects RECIPE and ENER-Plast. ENERGYWISE Plastics will be managed by iSmithers, working with a consortium of 7 partners from across Europe including the British Plastics Federation, the Danish Technological Institute, ASCAMM (Spain) and Fraunhofer-ICT (Germany).

For more information on ENERGYWISE Plastics or energy efficiency in plastics processing, contact Suzanne Wilkinson, tel: +44 (0) 1939 252435 or email: swilkinson@rapra.net.

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Note to Editors:

This project is co-funded by the Transfer of Innovation strand of the European Lifelong Learning Programme. The Leonardo programme funds a number of opportunities for organisations involved in vocational education and training to develop new materials and manage European networks.

For more information visit www.leonardo.org.uk

Smithers Rapra has provided a world leading portfolio of rubber, plastic and other polymer information products and services for 90 years. To improve the delivery and range of products a new company was formed in July 2008 called **iSmithers**.

iSmithers as a sister company to **Smithers Rapra** and still part of the **Smithers Group** has expanded its service offering to cover other business areas and industries harnessing the expertise of the iSmithers management team and the knowledge from other companies within the group.

About The Smithers Group:

Headquartered in Akron, Ohio, The Smithers Group includes Smithers Scientific Services, Smithers Quality Assessments, Springborn Smithers Laboratories, Synomics Pharma Services, Smithers Rapra, and SP Formulations. These companies provide technology-based services to a diverse mix of market sectors, with expertise in well-defined niche areas. This strategy fosters stability and longevity, enabling Smithers companies to leverage their technical and brand equity to compete effectively on a global basis. For more information, visit www.smithers.com