

EDITORIAL

Dear Readers,

Welcome to our third issue of TANOCOMP Newsletter that we would like to present to you! With our semi-annual newsletters we keep you regularly updated with the progress of our project and make you aware of news related to TANOCOMP, the plastics industry and nanotechnology, which we hope will be of interest to you.

In this third issue, we are presenting the progress of our project, focusing mainly on the content validation seminars organized in the participating countries in order to raise stakeholders awareness of our project, technology and the developed e-learning platform for our training.

The TANOCOMP Stakeholders Networks in the partners countries has played a significant role in the validation and the development of our e-Learning units. The identification of the Stakeholders needs has constituted the basis of our training content. This issue also contains suggestions on conferences that might be of interest to you. Moreover, we kindly invite you to also regularly consult our website:

www.tanocomp.eu

We are happy to invite you to follow our activities with this newsletter and we are looking forward to your feedback.

Yours sincerely,

The TANOCOMP Consortium

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TANOCOMP ID

Title

Training on the nANotechnology aspects of plastic COMPosites with enhanced properties for use in high-strength applications

Programme

Leonardo Da Vinci Transfer of Innovation Project, Lifelong Learning Programme

Project No.

147426

Duration

01/10/2011-30/09/2013

Main objective

TANOCOMP aims at developing an e-Learning training for small and mediums sized enterprises (SMEs) on the compounding and processing of carbon nanotubes in polymers and plastics.

Partner countries

Germany, Greece, Spain and Cyprus

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission.

This communication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

OVERVIEW OF TANOCOMP SEMINARS FOR STAKEHOLDERS

21st March 2013: TANOCOMP Seminar on didactic and functional aspects in Athens, Greece
Seminar to validate the tools, didactic aspects and functionalities of the e-Learning training

25th April 2013: TANOCOMP Seminar on didactic and functional aspects in Nicosia, Cyprus
Seminar to validate the tools, didactic aspects and functionalities of the e-Learning training

Mid of 2013: Simultaneous pilot testing in all partner countries



**Lifelong
Learning
Programme**

CONTENT VALIDATION SEMINAR IN STUTTGART

On 30th October 2012, the TANOCOMP consortium presented the first chance to take a look into the content of the TANOCOMP e-Learning units to a German audience at the Steinbeis-Europa-Zentrum facilities in Stuttgart. In a half-day event, the TANOCOMP trainers Berta Gonzalvo from aiTIIP and Stephanos Nitodas from Glonatech S.A. presented the content of six e-Learning modules to the audience, consisting of German TANOCOMP stakeholders and a representative of the German National Agency, which is in charge of all German LEONARDO projects.

The audience in return gave the project team feedback on the content and summed up their first impressions on feedback boards. On the boards, the participants could rate the units according to criteria such as logical structure, integrity, detailedness or comprehensibility. Due to the various backgrounds of the participants, their impressions were quite diverse, nevertheless leading to some fruitful discussions and conclusions. The TANOCOMP team took its time to evaluate and discuss all feedback suggestions in order to fully adapt the training to the needs of plastics producers and converters. One of the consequences was that the units were re-structured and reduced in their number from six to four.

The new and optimized version was later on presented at the second Content Validation Workshop in December 2012 in Zaragoza, Spain, to the Spanish TANOCOMP stakeholders.

SIMULTANEOUS ONLINE TEST TRAINING IN ALL PARTNER COUNTRIES

With the final TANOCOMP seminar in Cyprus in April 2013, the TANOCOMP training's validation phase will be completed. Each partner will then take a few weeks of time to have all units and the platform translated into their language. This means that soon, our TANOCOMP platform will be available not only in English, but also Spanish, Greek and German. The final language versions will then be accessible via the TANOCOMP website (www.tanocomp.eu).

To let the e-Learning platform undergo a final testing, the TANOCOMP consortium offers all stakeholders to participate in a simultaneous online testing phase from 10th to 21st June 2013. For all stakeholders this will be the opportunity to access the training from their workplace and test our training in a real-time environment and in their preferred language. On the platform, a questionnaire will be provided that will allow participants to communicate further feedback and impressions.

Interested stakeholders can register for participation via e-Mail to Franziska Bergmann,

tanocomp@steinbeis-europa.de

NEWS AND EVENTS

1. [ImagineNano 2013](#), 23-26 April 2013, Bilbao, Spain
2. [Nanotech 2013](#), 12-15 May 2013, Washington, USA
3. [Micro and Nano Technology Conference](#), 21-23 May 2013, Minneapolis, USA
4. [Applications of Nanotechnology for Safe and Sustainable Environmental Remediation](#), 5-7 June 2013, Hammond (LA), USA
5. [International Conference on the Science and Application of Nanotubes](#), 17-20 June 2013, Ostrava, Czech Republic
6. [EuroNanoForum 2013](#), 18-20 June 2013, Dublin, Ireland
7. [NanoFormulation 2013](#), 18-21 June 2013, Manchester, United Kingdom
8. [Nanotechnology for Renewable Materials](#), 24-27 June 2013, Stockholm, Sweden

CONTENT VALIDATION SEMINAR IN SARAGOSSA

The workshop in Spain was organized on December 11th 2012 of behalf of the piloting activities within TANOCOMP project. The aim of the piloting activities was to have the training validated by the target groups and adjust it according to their specific needs. Two workshops are set-up in order to prove and discuss the content. The contents structure was completely modified and optimized, according to the feedback received in the first workshop in Stuttgart.

Twenty-one participants registered in the workshop. Of the 21 confirmed, 17 participants actually attended the workshop. Their background was diverse (compounders, injection molders, nanotechnology researchers, designers), and that also led to a broad and useful feedback.



Second TANOCOMP Workshop in Saragossa

The second TANOCOMP workshop on the Validation of Contents was a very good opportunity to receive a complementary feedback on the TANOCOMP e-Learning modules after the first validation in Germany. The number of participants attended the workshop was adequate and their different backgrounds complemented each other very well.

The participants were satisfied with the link between knowledge and industrial applications and in general terms, they found the information beneficial and adapted to their necessities.

In order to further clarify some more the content and increase the range of applications, the consortium decided to broaden the learning unit that deals with the nanomaterials handling and health issues, by introducing a “guideline” for the current legal framework to a national and European level and thus encouraging the possible practical applications of the acquired knowledge.

Following the workshop, the available e-Learning tools will be tested and validated by TANOCOMP stakeholders in two seminars in Greece and Cyprus.

FIRST TANOCOMP VALIDATION SEMINAR IN GREECE

On 21st March 2013, the TANOCOMP consortium successfully hosted the 1st TANOCOMP content seminar on the validation of didactic aspects of the project's e-learning units at the premises of Glonatech in Athens. The audience consisted of the Greek TANOCOMP Stakeholders, which mainly stem from the local industry. In a half-day event, the TANOCOMP trainers Stephanos Nitodas and Nickolas Bosinas from Glonatech S.A. and Berta Gonzalvo from aiTIIP presented the content of four e-Learning units to the audience through the e-learning platform that had been developed.

The Stakeholders subsequently tested the presented e-learning units in the designed platform that basically serve as the project's training tool. The seminar gave them the opportunity to discuss and provide feedback for corrections in the platform through properly structured evaluations forms developed by the TANOCOMP team. The seminar participants evaluated a wide variety of the platform's functionalities, such as user friendliness and the didactic logic of the interdependencies between units. Thereby participants had the chance to directly influence the design of the platform and exchange ideas with other experts in the fields of nanotechnology and thermoplastics polymer synthesis. The TANOCOMP team took its time to evaluate and discuss all feedback suggestions in order to adjust the functionality of the platform for the 2nd TANOCOMP content seminar that will take place in Cyprus on 25th April 2013.

A certificate of attendance was given to all participants. In addition, the Stakeholders will receive a certificate proving they have completed the course and gained theoretical background knowledge by completing exercises at the end of each learning unit.



TANOCOMP Workshop in Athens

THE SECOND TANOCOMP SEMINAR ON THE VALIDATION OF DIDACTIC ASPECTS CONTENT

The 2nd TANOCOMP seminar on the validation of didactic aspects content will take place on Thursday, April 25th 2013 at the premises of Marketmento in Nicosia. All Cypriot TANOCOMP Stakeholders will be invited to test the second version of the e-learning units that will serve as the project's training tool. The participants will evaluate a wide variety of functionalities, such as logic and interactivity of units, text formulations and exercises. The seminar will give stakeholders the opportunity to discuss and give feedback to TANOCOMP project partners and exchange ideas with other experts in the fields of thermoplastics polymer production and nanotechnology. A second aim of the seminar is to test the knowledge acquired by the Stakeholders through their participation in the seminar.

For registration details, Stakeholders can visit project's website www.tanocomp.eu or follow the link <http://www.tanocomp.eu/registration-to-tanocomp-2nd-content-validation-seminar> or contact directly Marketmento at company's call center (+357 22256665).

Moreover, the fourth partner meeting of the TANOCOMP project will take place on Friday, April 26th 2013 in Nicosia.

AITIIP PARTICIPATION IN FAIRS AND STAKEHOLDERS MEETINGS

In the following months, AITIIP will participate in diverse fairs as the MATIC-MOLDEXPO 2013 fair, 12TH International Mould and Die Exhibition on 7-9th May in Zaragoza and will meet with several Spanish stakeholders meetings, Industrial clusters, associations and platforms.

The 12th edition of MOLDEXPO 2013 is the meeting point between the industrial sector, interested in discovering all the latest innovations and the companies offering comprehensive solution in moulds and dies.



7-9 MAYO/MAY
2013
ZARAGOZA
(SPAIN)

MOLDEXPO 2013 spotlights the application to new technologies for the design and production of moulds and dies. This means that the production generated in all sectors is of high quality and highly competitive, with the most industrialised countries worldwide being the main end consumers.

This show coincides with the staging of MATIC, the International Industrial Automation Exhibition.

In this fair associations and enterprises of different sectors will participate such as Moulds, Dies, Furnaces, Surface treatments, Microtechnics, Aluminium, Plastic injection, Non-ferrous injection casting, Iron casting, Materials and Raw materials, Machining, Engineering, Robotics, Plastics, Technical publications. Many of these industries are related to the TANOCOMP stakeholders network, and therefore the results of the project will be disseminated throughout its duration.

For this reason, a 30-min TANOCOMP presentation will be made at the Aitiip's stand where laptops will be available for the visitors to check TANOCOMP learning units and exercises during the 3-day fair.