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Newsletter 4

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Acronyms and abbreviations

Acronym/Abbreviation	Description
IWT	Innovation Agency
WP	Work Package
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PPS	Personal Protective Systems

Executive summary

This deliverable is part of WP6: dissemination of the project. This 4th newsletter was distributed to procurers active in the field of Personal Protective Equipment. We used the layout from the previous newsletter as a basis. The goal of this newsletter was to inform interested parties on the current project progress. It was sent out in March 2015.

1 Topic of the newsletter

The goal of this 4th newsletter was to inform all interested parties on the progress of Smart@Fire. A quick overview was given on the objectives of PCP and Smart@Fire, followed by a short overview of the selection procedure in phase 1, the selected suppliers and an overview of what's coming up. The newsletter was concluded with an short article on Smart@Fire at 3rd European PPE Lead Market Conference

The layout of this newsletter was based on that of the previous one, to stay in line with the distinctive look and feel of the previous newsletter.

Newsletter 4

smart@fire

Every year, more than 100 firefighters across Europe lose their lives while saving others. The Smart@Fire project (2012–2016) aims to reduce the risks inherent to firefighting. To lower these risks, innovative ICT-solutions need to be developed and integrated into the Smart Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) or Smart Personal Protective System (PPS) of the firefighter. Although research for smart textiles and Smart PPE has already been conducted, none of these research programs have advanced to the stage in which a ready, day-to-day-use working prototype could be developed and presented.

Smart@Fire Objectives

In Smart@Fire we started from a concrete need for which the market at the moment cannot offer a suitable solution, and R&D efforts still remain to be performed by suppliers. In this scenario, the procurers cannot carry out a regular procurement procedure to purchase a PPS.

By launching a pre-commercial procurement (PCP) tender, they incentivize the suppliers to enter into a R&D development, as in each phase (Solution design, Prototyping and Batch production) participating suppliers are awarded with extra budget for development.

Furthermore, PCP aims primarily to reduce the risks inherent in R&D in order to avoid that:

- the procurers purchase the development of technologies that are already available on the market, and that.
- the procurers purchase R&D that is technically/technologically too challenging and unrealistic to result in an industrial application.



Smart@Fire is getting closer and closer to its final goal: The purchase of a smart Personal Protective System (PPS) for individual fire fighters comprised of a Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) turnout gear and loosely coupled ICT system. The ICT system integrates safety critical functions of a personal protection system of individual fire fighters, and acts as communication node for additional personal protection equipment as well as interface to the local center of command. The system must be compliant with, and needs to be fitted into the fire fighter turnout gear.


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Four Contracts awarded!

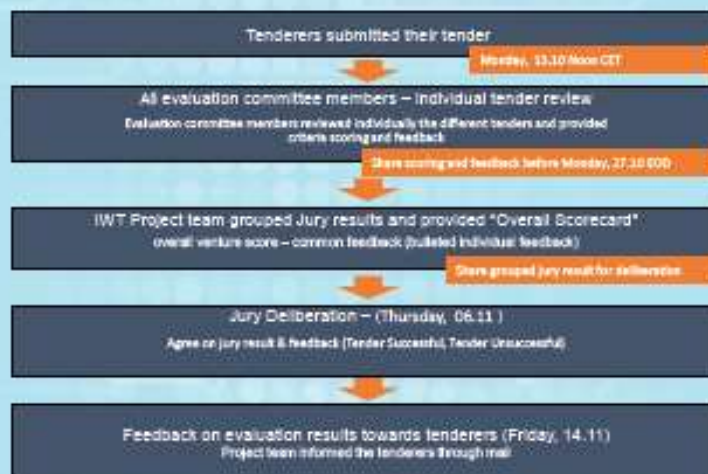
The Smart@Fire tender notice was launched in June 2014 and published in respectively "Bulletin der aanbestedingen" and in the OJEU to inform all possible interested suppliers of the Smart@Fire PCP process. Furthermore, on July 1st 2014, an information session was organized in Brussels to give additional clarification on both, the tender documents and the tender scope of Smart@Fire.

Interested service providers could introduce their offers until the 13th of October 2014. The submitted tenders were evaluated by an Evaluation Committee consisting out of 5 experts in the field of PPE, ICT and PCP.



On November 6 2014, after two weeks of remote and individual evaluation, a jury deliberation was held to reach a conclusion and consensus regarding the successful tenders.

Recap: IPO Jury Round - How & When



Based on the final scores, submitted by all jury members, 4 consortia representing 18 European companies were selected for the execution of the first phase of the Smart@Fire PCP trajectory: the solution design.



Smart@Fire is a European project, co-funded by the 7th Framework Programme and coordinated by the Agency for Innovation of Flanders aimed to support companies and researchers to develop Smart Personal Protective Systems for firefighters by 2016.



Consortium 1	Consortium 2	Consortium 3	Consortium 4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevent -Deloza Ltd., Slovenia Titera Ltd., Slovenia Biotech knowledge center, Obuda University Hungary Bioetklab Ltd. Hungary ITP GmbH - Gesellschaft für Intelligente Textile Produkte, Germany 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> e-80 Enterprises NV, Belgium Seyntex NV, Belgium 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Texport, Austria BHT Solutions, Austria ICON, Netherlands IOS International nv, Belgium Omnisense, UK 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applycon s.r.o., Czech Republic Elitronic s.r.o., Czech Holík International s.r.o., Czech Republic Vochoc s.r.o., Czech Republic University of West Bohemia, Czech Republic Dune s.r.l. (sub-contractor), Italy

What's next?

On April 30, all consortia are requested to hand in their solution design.

After the evaluation committee has assessed the different solution designs, all successful consortia will be invited to submit a tender by June 4 to participate in the second phase of the Smart@Fire PCP: Prototyping. On June 11, all tenderers will be informed about the result of the evaluation.

The call for the second tender will include a list of features which need to be demonstrated when presenting the prototype at the end of phase 2. This list will be developed based on the experience of the Smart@fire project partners, evaluation committee and end-users.



Smart@Fire (2012-2015) is financed by the European Commission (FP7), Innovation Agency (IWT), the Belgian Federal Home Affairs Ministry (IBZ) and the French SDIS13 Fire Department Bouches-du-Rhône.



Participating partners:



Smart@Fire at 3rd European PPE Lead Market Conference

In collaboration with the major European stakeholder organisations in the PPE sector, Euratex organised the 3rd European PPE Lead Market conference in November 2014 in Brussels. The event had a large audience of 200 participants from 23 countries representing the full PPE value chain incl. materials producers, PPE manufacturers, rental, laundry and service companies, academics and PPE procurers and end users from the public and private sector. The event provided excellent dissemination and visibility for the Smart@Fire project through a plenary presentation by IWT in the opening session and a parallel session dedicated to new developments in public procurement of PPE animated by IBZ, IFV and other PPE procurement organisations from across Europe, organised in the Enprotex network. More information about this event is available at www.textile-platform.eu/ppe-conference2014/




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2 The actual mailing

In March 2015 the newsletter was mailed by the different Smart@Fire consortia members to their list of potential interested parties in Smart@Fire and PCP as a whole. Furthermore, hard copies were distributed on every dissemination opportunity which will be mentioned in the upcoming dissemination report.