



Smart Textiles

Case study

InnovaTec



The independent engineering company InnovaTec (a Spanish SME based in Alicante) uses its socio-engineering expertise to develop a wide range of technological solutions to social problems and needs, covering the areas of sensorization, mobile applications, wireless technologies and advanced textiles (<http://innovatecsc.com/company/>). Because of their work in the sensors and smart textiles sector, InnovaTec is interested in the LCA to go smart textiles tool and requested for a training with this tool via the LCA to go partner GAIA.

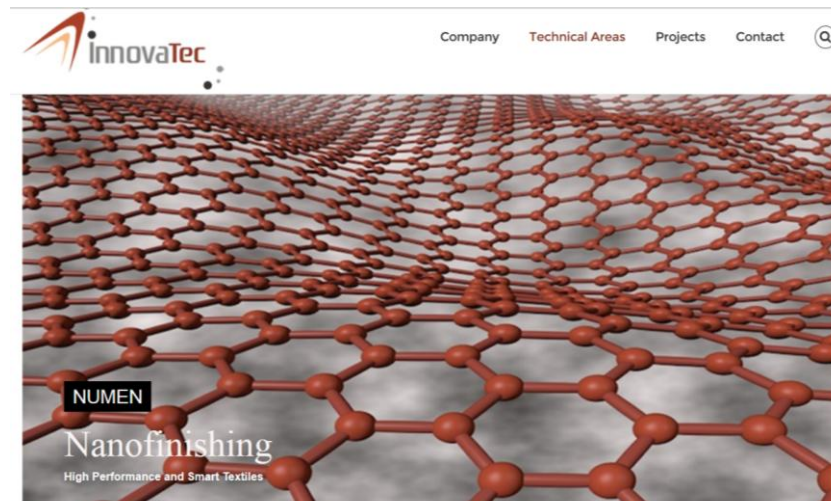


Fig.1 Image from the website of InnovaTec

The online training was given by Natascha van der Velden from Delft University of Technology (TUD) at Thursday morning January 16 per skype. This was the first time training was given in this way and both parties (TUD as training company and InnovaTec as SME user) were positive about it. Because skype allows one conversation partner to watch the screen of the other, the trainer could give advice during the usage of the tool and guide the assessment. By this means Francisco Ibañez and Elena Morant of InnovaTec made an analysis of a product they are developing at the moment. This first session took well over an hour and during this period InnovaTec was able to make a preliminary comparison between two product alternatives. By prolonging the lifespan of the product they could notice the benefit of this design decision in terms of eco-costs.

After this first session InnovaTec declared their intention to do another assessment a next time, either alone or with assistance from TUD. They were positive about the first results and the insights the tool could provide them in terms of environmental burden when implementing eco-design and/or compare design alternatives.