

September 2023

## Edito

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### A new visual identity for Techtera

Techtera took advantage of the annual event on July 20: “It’s summer, it’s time to discover ourselves”. This brought together nearly 80 participants to unveil its new graphic charter to those working in the sector.

The page has turned, a new era is born!

**There are many reasons for this change:**

- Modernise Techtera’s image with a modern logo that conveys a universe of innovation - and symbolises textiles
- Gain visibility on different digital tools as well as during events in which Techtera participates as a partner
- Affirm a new phase consistent with “phase V” labelling and a new presidency
- Establish a solid corporate culture through a distinctive image that reflects the growth of the team and the evolution of Techtera’s employer trademark

The new logo highlights the cluster’s financial partners by including a badge dedicated to each of them: the French Ministry for Business, the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region, the French Ministry of Defence, the Defence Innovation Agency, the Lyon Metropolis, Unitex, and Europe.

The graphic asset above the logo represents the textile sector, each colour of which refers to the key strategies: Circular economy and recycling, Industry of the future, Smart Textile.

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## Focus

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### Techtera confirms its involvement in the military sector!

This year again, Techtera confirms its activity in the defence sector on several levels.

Techtera has supported the installation of several projects in this sector:

- **The SOLBLAST project:** Modular anti-blast and bulletproof protection solutions. Headed by the firm BLAST SOLUTIONS, it benefited from Innov’Up PIA4 aid in January 2023.
- **The FOMOF project:** Functionalisation of military and civil absorbent membranes using MOFs (Metal–Organic Framework). Headed by the firm FIBROLINE and certified by the GINCO NRBC defence innovation organisation, it benefited from RAPID financing in January 2023.

- Finally, **the PROPTITEX project**: TEXTILE with OPTICAL PROPERTIES. It obtained ASTRID Maturation funding in July 2023.

Moreover, still in connection with the GINCO NRBC defence innovation organisation, **three projects supported by Techtera were selected** in July 2023 **as part of the Nickel Chrome challenge** intended to assess the potential of self-decontaminating surfaces.

Also, the “Small/medium enterprises Tour” of the DGA (*French Ministry of Defence*), organised by Techtera in July 2023, attracted more than 80 participants. During this event, the DGA presented the challenges as well as advances in the fields of materials and textiles applied to Defence.

The Optitex incubator, initiated by Techtera in December 2022, enabled the emergence of 11 concepts for military uses. Two of these proposals are currently the subject of a concept test. This initiative should be renewed in early 2024.

Therefore, there are still many opportunities for innovation in the defence sector within the cluster – the whole team is at your disposal to support you.

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## Our Services

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### Techtera partner of the EDIH, European Digital Innovation Hub

Techtera is a partner of the two EDIH, allowing firms in the textile sector across the entire value chain (all producers, in the sector or not) to use two programmes designed to support digital innovation: MinaSmart & Polytronics.

The first, more general, – MinaSmart – based on AI is aimed at organisations in the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region.

The second – Polytronics – focused on industrial processes, is aimed at firms in several regions: Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, Centre Val de Loire as well as Bourgogne Franche-Comté.

#### **MINASMART: Support for the digitalisation of industry in the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region**

MinaSmart began on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

The consortium consists of regional groups working with digital; and application innovation clusters associated with strategic sectors (MINALOGIC, ENE, DIGITAL LEAGUE, AXELERA, TENERDIS, INNOV'ALIANCE, VEGEPOLYS, TECHTERA, SWARM, MEDICALPS, CIMES, CEA, et INRIA), serving the following areas:

Energy, health, transport and mobility, chemistry and environment, agri-food and textiles.

#### **MinaSmart will cover four relevant key technology areas:**

- Artificial intelligence (embedded)
- High performance modelling and simulation
- Cybersecurity
- Cyber-physical systems

#### **POLYTRONICS: Innovation centre for smart polymers and digital technologies**

The aim of polytronics is to support polymer materials companies (plastics, textiles, composites and rubbers) in their digital transformation through artificial intelligence (AI)

**These improvements will involve two areas of innovation: :**

- **PRODUCT INNOVATION:** Design and development of innovative **polymer** products, more intelligent, thanks to new functionalities, with printed electronic.
- **PROCESS INNOVATION:** Using AI to improve manufacturing processes, to have a better management of energy and resources, but also to increase product quality and reduce the rate of defaults.

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## They are new members

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### COVERGUARD

French PPE (*personal protective equipment*) designer, **COVERGUARD** designs, manufactures and distributes a complete range of unique products to protect women and men in their workplaces. The range is organised into six categories of PPE: **work gloves, safety shoes, work clothing, head protection** (helmets, glasses, ear protection), **fall protection** and **single use**. Covering all market sectors, from entry-

level to high-end, COVERGUARD is aimed at all sectors of activity: **construction, public works, industrial maintenance, communities, logistics, food, plus the mining, gas and oil industries.**

#### **Innovation and design to make a difference!**

With design and innovation at the heart of its development strategy, Coverguard creates its products based on the know-how of the “Coverlab®” community consisting of internal and external experts: **product managers, designers, model makers, healthcare professionals and end users.** These specialists feed product development with their knowledge to offer ever more outstanding products.

**Website:** <https://www.coverguard-safety.com/>

## Your appointments with the cluster

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### **September 18-22, 2023: REC-N-COMP “Sustainable composites” exploratory mission to Singapore**

As part of the [REC-N-COMP](#) project, Techtera invites its members to participate in an exploratory mission to Singapore. This mission will take place during Singapore Design Week, and will support European small/medium enterprises active in the composites sector, and more particularly in sustainable composites and/or composites based on recycled materials.

Coverage of travel expenses is provided to facilitate access to the mission.

In order to be eligible for the call, information and documents must be submitted before Friday, June 16, 2023.

Call for pitches – application form: [here](#)

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## **September 20, 2023: Info Day & Matchmaking event – Webinar (10h-18h)**

EuroBoosTEX invites you to a BtoB meeting–matchmaking event, which will take place on September 20 in a Webinar (*Online seminar*).

It provides the opportunity to meet a potential partner and apply for the "Innovate Boost" grant within the context of consortia.

The event is aimed at innovative small/medium enterprises (including start-ups) active in the textile ecosystem. Advanced manufacturing small/medium firms are also part of the target audience if they support textile companies in their transition to digital. To be eligible, small/medium enterprises must be already established or have a branch in one of the 27 EU Member States.

EuroBoosTEX aims to **stimulate the environmental and digital transition of European textile small/medium enterprises, and to boost their competitiveness internationally.**

Information & inscription : [here](#)

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## **October 10 -13, 2023: POLLUTEC Trade show (Solutions for environment) – LYON EUREXPO - FRANCE**

Techtera will be present at Pollutec via the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes regional pavilion along with two of its members: [Recycl'Elit](#) and [Chomarat](#).

The innovation cluster will take advantage of this meeting time to present R&D projects on the theme of the circular economy and the industry of the future. It will also ensure the development of innovations and projects thanks to the interventions of the [Recycl'Elit](#) startup and the [Calimero](#) project.

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## **October 24-27, 2023: A+A Trade show (PPE)– DÜSSELDORF – GERMANY**

A+A is a major trade fair for the textile industry dedicated to protection, safety and health at work. The event takes place every two years and offers a comprehensive overview of processes and new materials in the field of PPE (personal protective equipment).

This event is the largest event for the promotion of know-how and the identification of prospects and future partners in a 70,000 m<sup>2</sup> exhibition area.

At its last edition, it brought together more than 1,200 exhibitors from 56 countries.

Once again, Techtera will be present at the event to support firms, in partnership with [Business France](#).

*This action benefits from the support of Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region.*

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## **April 23-26, 2024 : Techtextil trade show (Technical textile) - FRANKFURT - GERMANY**

Techtextil is the worldwide event for the technical and nonwoven textiles sector. It will take place from April 23 to 26, 2024 in Frankfurt.

Every two years, the show attracts more than 1,500 exhibitors – 46 countries are represented.

During the last edition, Techtera accompanied 30 firms and thus represented the first French delegation to the show – 360 m<sup>2</sup>. On average per participant, the firms made 64 qualified contacts. This first French delegation to the show, with 360 m<sup>2</sup>, resulted in 87% participant satisfaction.

In partnership with Business France, Techtera will once again be present to support French companies in the sector and optimise their participation, thanks to:

- Market support prior to the show
- Participation in the French pavilion cocktail
- Organisational support
- Many targeted communication actions to highlight the know-how of the participants

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## **Life of the members**

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### **ANDRITZ expands its nonwovens business with the acquisition of Dan-Web**

The ANDRITZ Group has signed a buyout agreement with the company Dan-Web Machinery A/S, based in Denmark, which has been among the world leaders in terms of airlaid\* technology for the production of nonwovens for almost 50 years. This acquisition thus makes it possible to increase the portfolio of the nonwoven division of the ANDRITZ

Group.

Dan-Web designs and manufactures tailor-made, turnkey machines for the production of airlaid\* nonwovens, which are used in the manufacture of baby diapers, feminine and incontinence protection, wipes and many other applications.

With this acquisition, ANDRITZ gains additional technology, broadening the spectrum of its activities, including consolidation by hot air, mechanical and water jet needling, extrusion spinning, wet process/Wetlace™, transformation, textile finishing, and natural fibre transformation processes.

The range of products available from Dan-Web also allows ANDRITZ to use a special dry-moulding process based on cellulose, for the manufacture of plastic-free packaging and single-use articles. Finally, Dan-Web positions itself as one of the best suppliers of grinding and forming equipment, used to produce numerous applications based on wood fibre.

*\* Manufacturing technology which produces a veil from short fibres, most often softwood pulp.*

**Website:** [www.andritz.com](http://www.andritz.com)



## Samaya wins a military tender and continues its relocation strategy

Samaya has just signed its first military tender with the army. The aim is to equip the 27<sup>th</sup> Mountain Infantry Brigade with tents, so that the forces can use them during their mountain training and for operational deployments in extremely cold environments.

At the same time, Samaya benefits from support from the DGA (*French Ministry of Defence*), for innovation and breakthrough projects concerning the army's operational equipment. As part of this programme, Samaya works closely with the CEA (Central Commission for Nuclear Power).

This collaboration was initiated in 2021 with the support of the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region.

Support for dual innovation is a driving force for Samaya and, in general, for the technical textile industry. At the same time, Samaya is actively working to relocate know-how and part of production into France; with the primary ambition of meeting military needs in a strategy of growing national sovereignty.

**Website:** <https://www.samaya-equipment.com/>



## clim8, thermoregulation for soldiers – Armetiss Project - European Defence Fund

After 7 years of developing its heating technology, clim8 was chosen to participate in the combat clothing innovation programme, ARMETISS. This innovative project - funded to the tune of €20 million - will offer new features to improve soldiers' ability to carry out their

demanding tasks; while increasing their safety and well-being during military operations. For this programme, clim8 is responsible for developing new cooling technology and thermal management.

The ARMETISS project represents a significant advance in textile innovation, as it aims to develop innovative technologies, tailored to the diverse needs of today's soldiers, through the seamless integration of smart features.

In addition to clim8, the Techtera innovation cluster and Safran Electronics & Defense, as well as the members of Techtera, Chamatex and the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Arts et Industries Textiles, are also part of the consortium.

**Website:** <https://myclim8.com/fr/>



## ALLIANCE MACHINES TEXTILES: Launch of an ultra-flexible dyeing machine with a low-bath ratio

Alliance Machines Textiles has developed a small, ultra-flexible industrial machine with a low-bath ratio (1:3). It is suitable for any type of fabric (knit and warp & weft), from light fabrics such as muslin to

heavy fabrics such as Trevira. The particularity of this fully automated innovation, with interchangeable jets, is due to the fact that it is equipped with: a basket with Teflon bars to limit mechanical friction; a Teflon guide ring to facilitate the circulation of the fabric; and an overflow. It can dye up to around nine kg of fabric. It is equipped with an automaton developed by Alliance Machines Textiles, which can be

controlled from a simple smartphone. Available in low or high temperature versions, this new machine uses electric heating, allowing it to be installed in any laboratory.

The JETA UF is perfectly suited to the development of product and process, as well as the production of capsule collection.

**Website:** <https://www.alliance-mt.com/fr>

## Calls for projects

### EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL CALLS FOR PROJECTS

LIFE Programm - *More information:* [here](#)

Horizon Europe - *More information:* [here](#)

European Defence Fund - *More information:* [here](#)

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### CART'TEX

**Call for applications for the CART'TEX chart (reserved for TECHTERA members)**

Textile companies wishing to join "CART'TEX", the chart of textile skills created by TECHTERA, can make themselves known to Issam CHAOUKI.

**The CART'TEX database is the daily tool of the cluster for managing the search for partners for all projects, and for the response to business opportunities.**

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