



May 2014 | Newsletter  
<http://www.ind-ecoefficiency.eu>



**INESCOP**

FOOTWEAR TECHNOLOGICAL  
INSTITUTE

Dear reader,

The IND-ECO project is underway providing the footwear and leather industries with tools to improve their energy efficiency both in financial and environmental terms.

In this context, INESCOP, as well as the rest of the project partners, is committed to giving technological support to these highly fragmented sectors by providing SMEs with tools that could otherwise not be developed by the companies themselves.

The IND-ECO project is working hard on the identification of the current situation of the sector's companies in terms of energy efficiency. In the footwear companies that have been analysed by INESCOP, energy expenses were traditionally considered a fixed cost and no special measures were taken apart from attempting to reduce such cost. However, energy expenses have recently gained relevance in the final cost of the product, so control tools have started to be implemented, which would have been unthinkable some time ago. This is the case of the position of Energy Manager.

IND-ECO marks a significant qualitative leap leading to the creation of certain tools to systematise the specific analysis of each company, thus offering customised solutions or recommendations. Additionally, the experience gained will allow us to identify certain common areas that need to be especially addressed in order to improve energy efficiency.

Recently, INESCOP and other project partners began a pilot campaign of energy audits in different footwear factories. It is still too soon to provide concluding data, but in general, the audited companies exert a correct control on the consumption of the production line and the operation times of the machines are quite optimised to achieve current production levels. However, there are other general elements, such as lighting, air conditioning or compressed air generation that are somehow neglected.

So far, the economic benefits of good energy management are obvious, especially in a context where energy costs are increasing. But it is also important to highlight that this also leads to an improvement of the companies' environmental impacts, and this aspect is being specifically addressed in all actions envisaged in the IND-ECO project, thus helping the companies become more aware of the need to preserve the Environment.

3rd Issue

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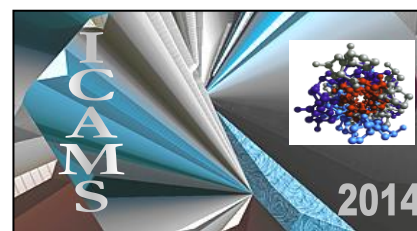
- INESCOP
- ICPI
- UNIC
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## ICAMS 2014: The 5th International Conference on Advanced Materials & Systems

The conference is organized by The National Research and Development Institute for Textiles and Leather (INCDTP) – Division: Leather and Footwear Research Institute (ICPI) and will be held on **October 23–25, 2014 in Bucharest, Romania.**



Energy efficiency in the leather sector is high on the agenda of this young but prominent International Conference. It will bring together researchers, scientists, engineers, experts and policy makers to exchange and share their experiences, new ideas, and research results on important issues related to the industry, such as novel materials and systems in science and technology in the 21st century. It will provide a good opportunity for networking for all these groups.

Smart and functional materials and biomaterials, systems and technologies, including new processing methods, and innovative applications will be showcased. Special attention will be given to quality management and competitiveness on the global market and the impact on the environment and cultural heritage.

Previous ICAMS Proceedings were indexed in SCOPUS, Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) Database, USA and Technical Information Library of Hannover, Germany. The 2010 edition has been accepted and indexed in ISI Proceedings and the 2012 edition is currently in the process of indexing.

It was no surprise that this setting of ICAMS 2014 had been chosen for, the Final event of “Leather is my job!”, the project developed by COTANCE, The European Leather Association, and its Social Partner industriAll-European Trade Union.

“Leather is my job!” aims to “innovate” the perception of the leather sector and improve its public image that is generally poor and that does not reflect today’s reality in Europe. The project partners pursue the following objectives:

1. Raising awareness of the value and benefits of the Social Dialogue at leather sector level in the area of Image & Jobs
2. Producing attractive information and dissemination material for illustrating what the leather sector has to offer in terms of societal values and employment opportunities
3. Exploiting the potential of the Social Dialogue for harnessing the challenge of the sector’s Appeal & Attractiveness.

The project organised already 2 regional meetings in April 2014, one in UK and another in Romania for gathering stakeholder input. During the Final Event that, as mentioned before will be held in Romania, a digital toolbox will be presented. It will contain the testimonials of people working in EU Tanneries and allow National Associations to compose individual promotional material for schools, job-fairs or jobseekers, or more general dissemination material such as calendars or postcards taking over elements developed at National or European level (pictures/statements)

ICAMS organizers welcome and invite all those interested in further information to access the Conference website. (<http://icams.ro/>)

## INDECO Workshop: Technological innovations for energy efficiency in footwear & tanning sectors

The 8th October 2013 an **international workshop** dedicated to technological innovations aimed at improving energy efficiency in the tanning processes was held in Bologna during the LINEAPELLE fair, the most important international exhibition dedicated to leather, accessories, components, synthetics and models for footwear, leather goods, garments and furniture.

The workshop illustrated the opportunities provided by the IND ECO project, both to manufacturers of technologies for the tanning and footwear sectors and for tanneries and footwear



manufacturers in the implementation of non-cost measures and of investments devoted to

energy saving.

During the introduction, UNIC and Cotance described the tools developed and the different measures under construction for helping the European leather value chain on how to increase its energy efficiency: Energy audits, Database of Technical solutions, financial support solutions, Investment plans.

In the second part of the workshop, some technology providers showed their solutions which are already on the market, to increase energy savings. The solutions proposed were concerned in particular to machines for tanning as drying systems, drums, spray finishing equipment...

In the details, the technical speeches came from:

- ASSOMAC - Energy savings: state of the art in the field of machinery for tanneries and footwear
- CARTIGLIANO - Advanced technologies for environmental protection and for the vacuum drying
- ERRETRE - Drying system after finishing
- FRATELLI CARLESSI - Drying system rotating cell
- OLCINA (Spain) - System drums " Cangilones next"
- THEMA SYSTEM - Chamber of batch drying
- TODESCO - System of finishing spray at low pressure.

### SAVE TO COMPETE



**Since 25 June 2012 EDP and CIP have joined forces to promote energy efficiency in Portuguese companies.**

The Programme is based on a model by which the project is paid for through the generated savings, without the beneficiary having to invest and divert the resources required for the growth of its business

In a challenging economic environment, with high competition levels, cost pressures and difficult access to funding, companies need to find ways to become more efficient and competitive.

CIP will take the role of project sponsor and EDP Comercial will be responsible for identifying the opportunities for improvement and their implementation.

The investments in energy efficiency drive the structural reduction of operating costs. In a context of rising global energy prices, energy efficient companies will be incrementally more competitive over time, sustainably.

<http://www.savetocompete.com/en>