

R&D Profile Form



Name of the Organisation	SO.F.TER. Spa
Organisation Short Name	SOFTER
Organisation Type	INDUSTRY – LARGE ENTERPRISE
Country	ITALY
Fields of Activity	<p>DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTION OF THERMOPLASTIC MATERIALS. SOFTER is a privately held large enterprise specialized in the design, the customization and the production of polymeric thermoplastic materials in form of pellets for several final applications (e.g. automotive, building, household appliances, interior design, infrastructures, water filtering, sport items and footwear sectors). SOFTER supplies probably the widest array of thermoplastic materials in Europe, ranging from extremely soft thermoplastic rubbers to high performance engineering rigid plastics and to elastomers for the modification of road bitumen. SOFTER SPA is part of SOFTER GROUP, which has industrial plants in Italy, Mexico, Brazil and USA.</p> <p><u>RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE</u>: In our facilities both small scale and large scale machinery is available for the prototyping and production of thermoplastics by melt-mixing and batch-polymerization processes, and for scale-up activities. Our labs are equipped to perform a wide range of testing of thermoplastic materials, including Thermal, Physical-mechanical, Rheological and Chemical Analyses. Also a CAE service for mould virtual prototyping and structural analysis is available.</p>
Skills and Expertise Offered	<p><u>Research and Industrial Cooperation</u> is offered in H2020 Transport projects featuring the development and production of innovative thermoplastic materials and composites.</p> <p><u>SKILLS</u>: Plastics&Polymers Science, Materials Science. Industrial validation and demonstration. Development and production of innovative materials. Compounding, melt-blend extrusion, reactive blending. Batch polymerization, polycondensation. Thermal, mechanical, chemical and rheological characterization of thermoplastics. Recycling of polymers/plastics. Plastic market knowledge and new product development and launch.</p> <p><u>OUR POSSIBLE ROLE IN CONSORTIA</u>: SOFTER in a consortium can cooperate with RTO partners in developing innovative thermoplastics materials, can perform physical, mechanical, thermal, chemical and rheological characterization of thermoplastic materials, can implement industrial scaling-up activities, can validate/demonstrate in industrial environment innovative materials and processes (melt-blend extrusion, reactive blending, batch-polymerization), can produce the thermoplastic materials for consortium manufacturers and end-user partners and can use its long experience and network for the exploitation of the project results.</p>



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	<p>Moreover SOFTER can cooperate with other partners of the manufacturing value chain to the development/optimization of process technology for thermoplastics and to the demonstration of innovative/optimized practices of integration and management.</p> <p><u>SOME TOPICS OF INTEREST:</u> High performance materials. Light-weight materials. Plastic functional materials for thermal management. Nanocomposites. Functionalized plastics. New additives, fillers and reinforcements. Green and sustainable materials. Polymers and plastics from recycling. Elastomers for the modification of road bitumen. Halogen-free FR materials. Improvement of Process technology for thermoplastics. Energy consumption optimization for plastic processing.</p>
Keywords	<p>Plastic materials & Polymers Science. Industrial demonstration and scaling-up. Compounding, Melt-blend extrusion. Polymerization. High performance materials. Light-weight materials. Plastic functional materials (e.g. for thermal management). Nanocomposites. New additives, fillers and reinforcements. Green and sustainable materials. Road paving - bitumen modifiers.</p>
Previous FP Projects Participated	<p>FP7 NMP MINANO (http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/98066_en.html) H2020 NMP Trash2Cash (H2020 NMP18-2014)</p>
Topic(s) of Interest from 2014-2015 Transport Work Programme	<p>GREEN VEHICLES: GV.8-2015, GV.6-2015; MOBILITY FOR GROWTH: MG.1.2-2015, MG.3.6-2015 (RIA and CSA), MG.5.5-2015 (IA and CSA), MG.8.4-2015; FAST TRACK TO INNOVATION PILOT FTIPilot -1-2015</p>
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