

FURTHER INFORMATION

All national or international organizations related to fire fighting (fire brigades, civil protection agencies, rescue teams, ...) are kindly invited to request more information about the novel processes involved in this project and also to send their opinion and comments about it.

For more information, please contact the manager of the project.

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PROJECT PARTNERS



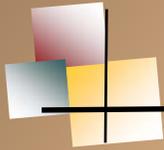
*FIRE-HOSE EXCELLENT MANUFACTURING
BY MEANS OF AN INNOVATIVE RUBBER
COMPOUNDING-EXTRUSION-
VULCANIZATION PROCESS*



SEVENTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME

• FP7-SME-2007-1 222334 EUROPEAN PROJECT





PROJECT SUMMARY

The proposal addresses the need of the European SMEs in the rubber fire-hose manufacturing sector, accounting for more than 85% of the domestic market, for the improvement of the current discontinuous manufacturing method.

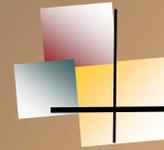
These companies will be better positioned against the direct competition from the USA, as a direct result of this project. SMEs from rubber compounding will also benefit from resulting technological developments and knowledge to strengthen their market position by increasing their market share and entering new markets.



We have designed a project that will achieve these objectives through the development of new rubber compounds and the development of new processing and vulcanization methods of the rubber compound that constitutes the inner liner and the cover of the rubber fire-hose. The advances in knowledge and technological achievements that we will develop during the project are:

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Enhancement of the understanding of the volatiles released during vulcanization and the synergistic effects of the ingredients.
- Development of new rubber compounds.
- Development of a controlled surface vulcanization method.
- Development of a simple and reliable continuous vulcanization method.



EXPECTED BENEFITS FROM THE PROJECT

The competitiveness of the SME rubber fire-hose manufacturers will be improved by:

- Improving the quality of the product; a more flexible rubber hose will have more appealing for the end-user, and a lighter hose will enhance the handling of the hose, a highly estimated characteristic among fire-fighters.
- Lowering the costs of the production of the rubber hose; less reject rate, optimized costs of rubber compounding and processing and increased productivity will impact in the overall cost of manufacturing.
- Developing a continuous vulcanization method will increase the catalogue of products of the hose manufacturers (more length than actual).