

Intelligent Manufacturing Systems

Intelligent Manufacturing Systems (IMS) is an international programme related to manufacturing technologies. It is an international collaboration between the European Union, the USA, Korea, Japan and Switzerland. Representing the *A-FOOTPRINT* project, Prof. Jim Woodburn and Prof. Kenny Dalgarno from Newcastle University were invited to attend the IMS Manufacturing Technology Platform (MTP) and Roadmap meeting, '*Engineering a Sustainable Future*' held in Geneva, Switzerland on 9-10 November, 2009. The meeting involved plenary sessions outlining the overall goals of the MTP roadmap initiative and summaries of ongoing projects in the field. In parallel MTP sessions, Professor Dalgarno gave an overview of the *A-FOOTPRINT* project in the 'Sustainable Manufacturing for Consumer Goods' session and proposed TICOP (Technologies for Intelligent Orthotics and Prosthetics) as an embedded MTP within the project. Other projects in the NMP consumer goods field were also presented including S SHOES, FIT4U and DOROTHY. A breakout session provided the opportunity for these project leaders to discuss future MTP initiatives, including specific project ideas and overlap, partners, and funding. With around 300 delegates in attendance there were opportunities to network with international representatives from the IMS partner countries to share knowledge and experiences and to establish potential collaborations. For a new MTP to be launched, the consortium must have partners from a minimum of three participating countries and a minimum funding threshold of \$1m.

Further information can be found at www.ims.org and www.ims2020.net

Future events

- European Footwear Products and Processes Technology Platform meeting (Brussels 03 February 2010).
- '*Designed to Surprise*', Towards a Strategic Roadmap for Research and Innovation in the European Design-based Consumer Goods Sector meeting (Brussels, 04 February 2010).
- A-FOOTPRINT, 6 month project meeting (Glasgow Caledonian University, Glasgow, UK, 17-18 March 2010).

A-FOOTPRINT CONTACT

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Consortium partners

- Glasgow Caledonian University
- Baltic Orthoservice UAB
- University of Newcastle upon Tyne
- Materialise NV
- Peacocks Medical Group Ltd
- Firefly Orthoses Limited
- K.H. Kempen University College
- RSscan International
- AnyBody Technology A/S
- Maastricht University Medical Centre
- TNO
- Fontys University
- Junquera y Diz S.L