





# PROTECTING and MODIFYING TEXTILE SURFACES

New and innovative properties and functionalities focusing on

Sustainable Entrepreneurship





### The company

The Company was established in 1977

Figures 2008

Volume: 4.200 T

Turnover: 13.000.000 € (Consolidated)

Export: 65% (worldwide)

HR: 45 people

#### Offices

Head Office Ronse - Belgium

DerbyUK

Porto -Portugal

Greenville (SC)USA

New Delhi - India

Izmir, Istanbul - Turkey









# Different?





#### Our Business Model

#### Innovation in:

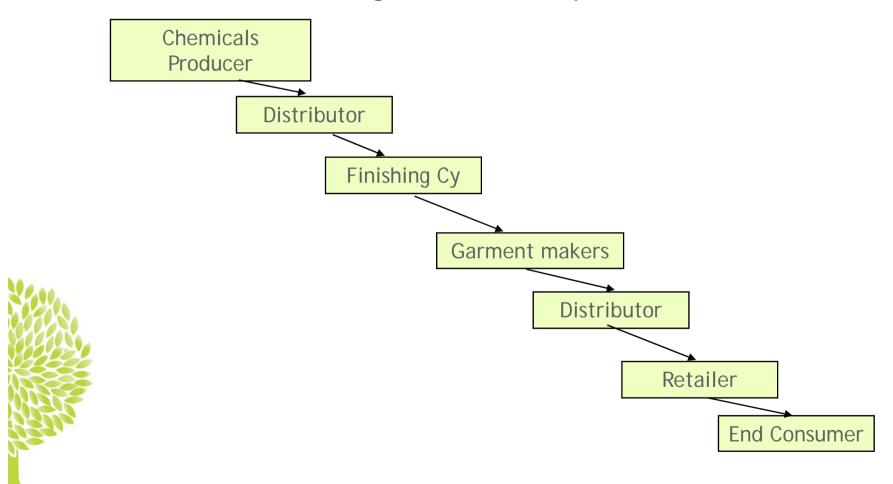
- 1. Marketing Strategy
- 2. Human Resources
- 3. Products





# Innovation in Marketing Strategy

Traditional Marketing Model: The "push" model



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# Innovation in Marketing Strategy

Traditional Marketing Model: The "push" model

#### Challenges:

- Textile production is cost driven
  - How to communicate innovation?
  - Control of higher price along the complete chain?
  - Control of the brand name?
- Conclusion: always a price discussion

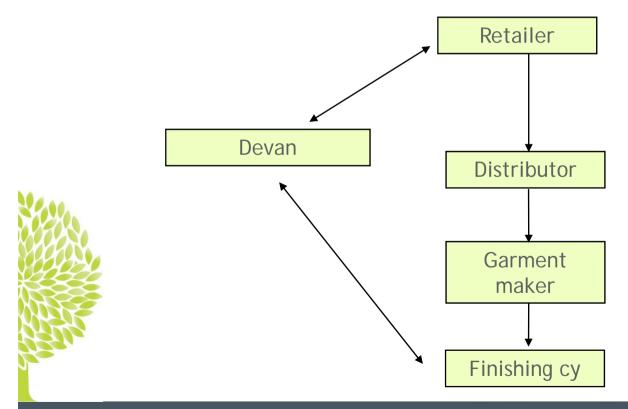




# Innovation in Marketing Strategy

Devan Marketing Model: The "pull through" model

Phase 1: The concept



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# Advantages of the Pull Through model

- Brands & Retailers specify the technology
- Trend Spotting
- Devan is considered a preferential innovative partner
- Control of prices and margin







### The Business Model

#### Innovation in:

- 1. Marketing Strategy
- 2. Human Resources
- 3. Products





#### Innovation in Human Resources

- Highly qualified human resource at all levels (45 full time)
  - 10% PhD
  - 60% University degree
    - Chemistry
    - Textile
    - Marketing
    - Finance



- 20 % of the human resource work in R&D
- 10% of turnover is invested in R&D (internal & external)



### The Business Model

#### Innovation in:

- 1. Marketing Strategy
- 2. Human Resources
- 3. Products



#### Innovation in Products



#### Sustainable technologies

- Non-migrating antimicrobial technology (Ægis)
- Halogen free flame retardants ( @co-Flam)
- Chlorine free shrink resistant wool process (Dylan)
- Masterbatch (@2spin)
- More ecological insect repellent technology (Insecta)
- Integration of Nano Technology







### Innovation in Products



CONCERN FOR ECOLOGY DRIVES NEW BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND IS REFLECTED IN OUR PRODUCT RANGE





TECHNOLOGY















SHRINK RESIST TECHNOLOGY



FLAME RETARDANT TECHNOLOGY



MASTERBATCH TECHNOLOGY



ANTI - STATIC TECHNOLOGY



# Consumer Concepts



#### APPAREL

- UNDERWEAR
- SOCKS
- SHIRTS
- SPORTSWEAR

#### HOME TEXTILES

- BEDDING
- UPHOLSTERY
- CARPET
- TOWEL

#### **TECHNICAL TEXTILES**

- MEDICAL
- OUTLOOR
- FILTRATION
- WORKWEAR





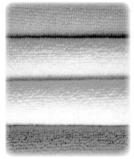






















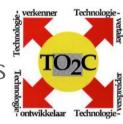


### Manunet Project: AM-Plasma

New Advanced antimicrobial concept based on atmospheric pressure plasma technology for high durable textile applications

#### Partners:

Technical University of Ghent (TO2C)-Flanders



GRINP (Piedmont)

Budget:617.000€ (290.000€ funded)

Timing: 57 MM / 2 years



### Objectives

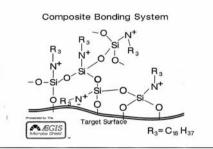
- To develop a new sustainable antimicrobial concept based on the optimal combination of new formulated non-migrating antimicrobial and new atmospheric plasma process.
- In order to
  - To reduce the risk of nosocomial diseases by protecting the textile with an antimicrobial
  - To improve wash durability specially in heavy duty laundry processes such as in hospitals (100 wash cycles)
- To develop a specific atmospheric plasma equipment fulfilling the textile needs (speed, width, process,..)



#### **SMEs Alliances**



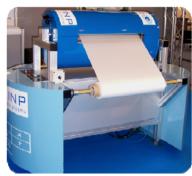
#### Devan (chemicals manufacturer)



 New formulation of monomer and prepolymer organo-functional silane (non-migrating antimicrobial)

#### **GRINP** (equipment manufacturer)

New atmospheric pressure plasma process



New process, new sustainable treatment For an existing growing market



# Textile in hospitals

- Linen is responsable for 17% of the nosocomial diseases.
- One hospital bed = 2 up to 7 Kg linen/day
- One surgircal operation requests 17.5 m²
- 3 main categories:
  - Linen (bed sheets, blankets, towels,...)
  - Clothing (uniforms and patient gowns)
  - Specialized textiles (bandages, compressure socks,...)



#### Nosocomial disease



- Definition
  - Hospital acquired infection
- Statistics
  - UK
    - 100.000 people/year
    - 5.000 patients died/year
    - Cost of treatment: 15.000 €





- 600.000 people/year (6-10% of the people hospitalised)
- 800 millions €/Year (2004) extra cost



#### Nosocomial disease



#### Statistics

- Belgium
  - 75.000 people/year
  - About 750 patients died of the direct consequence
- USA
  - 1.8 million/year
  - 20.000 patients died in 1998 as a direct results
  - The cost of treating nosocomial infection is estimated at \$4.5 billions/year





# Risks during the use of the Textile goods



- Cross contamination
  - Protection of the patient
  - Protection of the medical staff
  - Transfer from the patient to the health care professionals garments and then subsequent patients
- To avoid the textile to be a microbe « harbour »
- To protect the textile from microbial damage (i.e. towels)



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# Chemicals Protecting Textile:

#### Bed sheets

- Volumes for France
  - For hospitals: around 500.000 beds (1998)
  - For retirement houses: around 700.000 beds (2007)
- Benefits
  - Nosocomial diseases reduction
    - Economical impact
    - Decrease of patients affected
  - Reduction of the laundry conditions
    - Environmental impact
    - Economical impact
  - Reduction of the packaging
    - Environmental impact
    - Economical impact





# **Ecological Advantages**

- Non-migrating antimicrobial
  - Durable and effective for the life of the goods
  - no risk for the environment
  - no risk for the patients
- Plasmma is a Sustainable / Green technology
  - Low water consumption → « dry » technology (decrease >50%)
  - Low energy consumption (reduction of 80%)
  - Low chemical usage





### **Economical Advantages**

- Relative low investment (<250 K€)</p>
- Easy to introduce in SME mills
- Cost-efficient application
- Flexible process
- Increase the competitiveness with the Far East



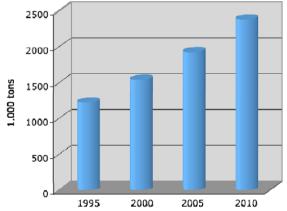


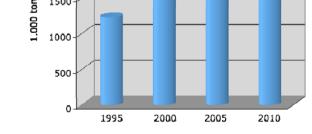




### Market potential for Devan

- Healthcare market is the most dynamically expanding sector in the technical textile.
- Healthcare market is growing at 5%/Y.
- Healthcare market is not depending of the overall economical evolution





Forecast world consumption of medical textiles, 1995-2010

Source: DRA, http://www.davidrigbvassociates.com/DRA%20WEBSITE%2003/assets/TTandN.pdf





### Market potential for Devan

- 100T/Y of antimicrobial equivalent to 1 M€/Y
- Possibility in other textile markets (sport wears, technical textile) good for another 400K€/Y





### Market potential for GRINP



- 6 machines over 2 years (1.5 M€)
- Increase of HR (5 people)
- Licence fee



# Challenges



- To reach a sufficient process speed (>20m/min)
- The dissemination of the technology
- To convince the medical sector that the new technology will allow them also to reduce significantly the laundry cost by reducing temperature and chemicals.



# Intellectual properties



- GRINP and Devan are not competitor but partners
- GRINP can further patent its equipment as Devan can patent its formulations
- The process will be licensed to production mills
  - Plasma machine (GRINP technology)
  - Plasma parameters (defined by GRINP and TO2C)
  - Antimicrobial formulation (Devan)
- Devan has already experiences with this business model (wool shrink resistant and washable)





# Benefits of a Manunet project (1)

- Good size project
  - Limited number of participants
  - Duration (short & medium term R&D)
- Focus to industrial processes
- Designed for SMEs
- Good assistance from IWT
- Easy and quick procedure
- Funding allows to involve RTD
- Scientific support from RTD
  - Input of expertise on new breakthrough technologies









# Benefits of a Manunet project (2)

- Industry sectors are geographically concentrated → allows to work with region having the same interest
- Networking
  - Exchange of experience
  - Exchange of commercial leads
- Emphasis the partnership between SMEs



#### Remark



- Each partner introduce its file in its region.
- Two procedures running in parallel
- One partner could get the grant the other not





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