Fostering the digital transformation in the textile industry



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The textiles and clothing manufacturing sector in Europe is facing several challenges; owing to the f i nancial crisis, the competition f rom emerging markets, the environmental demands, etc., and the crisis generated by COVID-19.

The sector, one of the largest and most important in Europe, needs to reassess its position by assuming the two drivers of competitiveness: green transition and digital transformation.

The main objective of DI4TEX is to foster the digital transformation of the textile industry by providing its employees with the required skills to face the current challenges of the sector.

Disclaimer

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Acknowledgement

DI4TEX project (Fostering digital transformation in the textile industry; project reference number KA210-VET-DDE7F72A) is co-funded by European Union.



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BRIEF COMPANY DESCRIPTION

Croom Precision Medical (CPM) have over 35 years of experience in designing and manufacturing precision components for the medical and aerospace industries. It hosts a wide selection of subtractive and additive technologies as well as finishing, cleaning, and inspection methods to meet customer needs.

Working with 72%+ of our customer base for over 20 years, we continue to build long lasting partnerships with the medical industry leading companies and provide high quality Class I, II & III Orthopaedic Implants and Instruments at a competitive cost.

CURRENT DIGITALISATION PROFILE

Over the last 13 years, CPM has invested in the adoption of Additive Manufacturing (AM) technologies and digital manufacturing focused workflow. Connected machines, machine data extraction, and machine sensorisation efforts for monitoring had been implemented during the last 5 years, with further developments and research projects underway. CPM leverages the wide variety of high class researchers and engineers in the Irish and EU research ecosystem to accelerate its own developments and growth. Development and implementation of automation for repetitive tasks through the use of robotic/automated systems is also a key focus of CPM's digitisation roadmap with robotics being used across multiple value streams for increased quality and reduced lead times and costs.

IMPLEMENTATION

Within traditional manufacturing processes, the digitalization strategy is focused on the extraction of machine-generated data and the use of sensors for increased process insights. This has allowed CPM to increase processes efficiencies whilst learning more about the process trends. This has seen the generation of powerful datasets and dashboards for data visualisation. The adoption of AM within CPM's business structure was taken on to tackle new markets for CPM and grow their business. Within this, there has been much research and new skill generation required across the entire process flow. Both major adoptions have been gradually implemented, using the R&D team at CPM to help build the required knowledge and skills to be transferred into production. The cost of such activities has been supported by funders such as Enterprise Ireland and the European Commission along with other funding bodies through research and evelopment grants. However, CPM has invested heavily in technology and people required to support

IMPACT AND OUTCOMES

The impact of this overall digitization strategy has seen CPMs process efficiencies, revenue and profitability grow significantly over the last number of years, with major growth being driven by this direction of development. CPM has become a global supplier of AM produced medical devices with knowledge transfer from R&D to production allowed for fast new product development.



"We aim to enhance our competitiveness through the digitalization of our manufacturing processes." GET INVOLVED – DI4TEX info@di4texproject.eu <u>https://di4tex.eu/</u> @ •

Patrick Byrnes CEO

<u>www.di4tex.eu</u>

OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT



To detect the **specific needs and lack of skills** in the textile industry to make the digital transformation possible.



To create a **v i r tual t raining programme** to provide the required knowledge and skills.



To test **transnational partnership** which can be sustained beyond the project to jointly face the common challenges of the textile industry.

Technology is the enabler and people are the leaders

