



smart@fire



SMARTER FIREFIGHTER SUITS BY 2015

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“OUR PROFESSION WILL ALWAYS BE DANGEROUS, BUT WITH INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY WE CAN REDUCE THE RISKS”

More than 100 firefighters across Europe die in action every year while saving others. They lose their way in smoke, become surrounded by a sea of flames, get cut off by sudden rising water, and continually find themselves in perilous situations.

Brigades need innovative ICT solutions that continuously

- ⦿ measure environmental parameters and a firefighter's vital functions (Sensors)
- ⦿ determine their position in buildings and on the field; eg. in the case of forest fires (Localisation systems)
- ⦿ assess situations better – both on the ground and at a distance (Data transfer)

All this integrated into an equally innovative 'smart' firefighter suit.



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Smart@fire is a groundbreaking project *to encourage companies and researchers* and provide them with financial means to develop Innovative ICT Solutions that better protect firefighters and help prevent accidents, and to integrate them into Smart Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). For this, Smart@fire employs a unique and novel method of innovative procurement known as pre-commercial procurement (PCP), developed by the Innovation Agency (IWT).

- Smart@fire is a European project (2,2 million euros) aimed at **encouraging and financing** companies and researchers specialised in ICT, sensors, transmission, localisation and visualisation systems or smart textiles.
- **961 European fire and rescue services** were asked to indicate their **innovation expectations**. It showed there is a great demand for localisation, visualisation and transmission systems that can function optimally in the most difficult situations.
- **Entrepreneurs and researchers from all over the EU** will come together in unique sessions for exchanging knowledge and experience with fire brigade procurement officers.
- **Prototypes** will be developed and tested with financial support of the European Commission (FP7).
- The ultimate goal is to develop cost-effective and functional **Personal Protective Equipment on a large scale for a broad market**.



INNOVATE WITH US IN THREE STAGES

Combining strengths and expertise from various countries and sectors, Smart@fire is developing a joint research and development project for companies and researchers on demand of fire services. For this, it employs a unique and novel procurement method developed by IWT that consists of three stages, preceded by a large scale needs assessment conducted with 961 fire and rescue services.

- **STAGE 1** Smart@fire first organises **market consultations** in France, Germany and Belgium, where potential suppliers and procurement officers can engage with each other. Find the dates and themes and register online at www.smartatfire.eu.
- **STAGE 2** Next is the pre-commercial procurement in which Smart@fire will procure the development of **working prototypes** and a test range of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) with integrated ICT-solutions, all with a view to eventual large-scale production.
- **STAGE 3** Based upon positive test results, EU fire and rescue services will purchase the developed smart suits by launching a **final joint EU tender**.

Take part in Smart@fire and discover how innovative companies, researchers and government bodies can work together to reduce the risks faced by firefighters.

REGISTER FOR OUR MARKET CONSULTATIONS

September 2013 > Brussels (BE)

- 10/9: Localisation systems in Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- 11/9: Integration of ICT solutions in PPE

September 2013 > Marseille (FR)

- 17/9: Data transfer and visualisation systems in PPE
- 18/9: Integration of ICT solutions in PPE

October 2013 > Dortmund (DE)

- 1/10: Sensors in PPE
- 2/10: Integration of ICT solutions in PPE

Final event > Brussels (BE)

- 10/10: Final conclusions & network event

Go to www.smartatfire.eu

Smart@Fire (2012-2015) is financed by the European Commission (FP7), Innovation Agency (IWT), the Belgian Federal Home Affairs Ministry (IBZ) and the French SDIS13 Fire Department Bouches-du-Rhône.



Participating partners:



For more information about Smart@fire and the market consultations, please contact Project Director Christophe Veys at smartfire@iwt.be