

# Moving on

Annual Report 2016



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# Foreword

## Moving on

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For DPI, 2016 was a year of transition – a transition towards the new operational structure approved by the Supervisory Board at the end of the previous year. This meant laying the necessary operational groundwork for a smooth changeover. As announced earlier, DPI's funding will now primarily come from its industrial partners, supplemented with whatever funding can be obtained from other sources such as government agencies. Close industrial involvement will continue to be the cornerstone of the successful DPI concept. Industrial commitment – reflected in a substantial industry participation level – is therefore a precondition for the continuation of the DPI collaboration platform.

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### **New Basic Research programme**

Although industry participation in the new setup has so far lagged behind the targeted level, the Supervisory Board has decided there is sufficient commitment for setting up a new research programme. This new programme will address topics relevant to the chosen end-markets: oil & gas, building construction, packaging, electrics & electronics and automotive. Meanwhile, DPI will continue to make efforts to attract more partners, so that research volume can be maintained at a viable level in all Programme Areas. As things stand now, the distribution of industrial partners between the areas is uneven: for example, the participation level in Polyolefins is much higher than in

the other areas. We hope to have a more balanced distribution in the future.

### **Applied Research**

The DPI research programme mainly consists of Basic Research, aimed at enhancing existing knowledge of polymers. Where projects involving Applied Research are carried out, these are “on top of” the Basic Research and must be initiated by a full partner in DPI. In the past, such projects mostly occurred in the framework of EU programmes. In 2016, based on our experience with EU projects, we worked out in detail the requirements for carrying out Applied Research projects. This has led to the decision that DPI will undertake such projects also in a non-EU context,

provided the lead is taken by a company that is a full participant in DPI's Basic Research programme.

### **Governance**

DPI has opted to retain its existing incorporation as a single foundation, as this was deemed to be the most effective and efficient way forward. However, in view of the recent changes in the composition of our industrial partner base, some changes had to be made in governance to accommodate both the old DPI 1.0 programme and the new DPI 2.0 programme. The Articles of Association were revised to allow for the parallel execution of two research programmes. For the same reason, a new structure was adopted for the Council of Participants: it was decided to have two mutually exclusive Councils of Participants, one for DPI 1.0 and one for DPI 2.0. As part of several organisational measures taken in 2016, the Supervisory Board decided not to fill the position of DPI Scientific Director for the time being.

### **Modification of IP Rules**

The modified IP rules adopted in 2014 are now firmly in place and are expected to give us wider scope for sourcing academic research services. Under the previous rules, any IP rights arising from DPI research projects came into the possession of DPI and the participating companies had the possibility to acquire these rights through the system of right of first refusal and via negotiation with DPI. The modification was necessary as the rules were not always compatible with the diverse national regulations in the countries where DPI's academic partners are based. Under the new rules, the IP rights are owned by the university where the invention was made and can be acquired by one or more industrial parties involved in the research through direct negotiation with the university.



### Scientific quality

DPI continues to deliver a high volume of scientific output of a consistently high quality recognized by the international scientific community. In 2016, DPI projects resulted in 20 PhD theses and 90 scientific papers published by researchers working on DPI projects. At 5.63, our Average Journal Impact Factor for 2016 remained at the high level sustained over the past several years.

Being a year of transition, 2016 saw a mixed bag of activities: we simultaneously worked on the completion of the running

Basic Research programme (DPI 1.0) and on setting up a new research programme (DPI 2.0). The latter is now well underway and developments look promising. We are confident that the various initiatives we took in 2016 will result in growth and help us to secure the future of the DPI research platform.

**Jacques Joosten** – Managing Director

**DPI TEAM** – Top row: Thomas Manders, Jan Stamhuis, Jacques Joosten and Christianne Scharff-Bastiaens  
 Second row: Monique Bruining, Peter Kuppens, Jeanne van Asperdt, Renée Hoogers and Linda de Wit  
 Absent in this picture: Arie Brouwer, Denka Hristova-Bogaerds, Ronald Korstanje

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# Organisation 2016

## Supervisory Board

- **Dr. H.M.H. van Wechem**, *Chair*
- **Dr. D. Boersma**
- **J. de Jeu**, MA MSc
- **Dr. F. Kuijpers**
- **Prof. K.C.A.M. Luyben**
- **Dr. J.A. Roos**

## Executive Board

- **Dr. J.G.H. Joosten**  
*Managing Director, Chair*
- **Prof.dr. S. van der Zwaag**  
*Scientific Director (left in 2016)*

## Programme Area Coordinators

- **Dr. M.J. Bruining**  
*Coatings Technology*
- **Dr. D.G. Hristova-Bogaerds**  
*Performance Polymers*
- **R.J. Korstanje, MSc**  
*Functional Polymer Systems*  
*Large-Area Thin-Film Electronics*
- **Dr. J.E. Stamhuis**  
*Polyolefins*  
*Polymers for Oil and Gas*

## Scientific Programme Chairs

- **Prof.dr. V. Busico**  
*Polyolefins*
- **Prof.dr. C. Creton**  
*Performance Polymers*
- **Prof.dr. S. van der Zwaag**  
*Coatings Technology (left in 2016)*

## Organisation Staff

- **A.F.J. van Asperdt**  
*Financial Administration*
- **Dr. M.J. Bruining**  
*General Affairs*
- **R.P.F. Hoogers-Valken**  
*Secretariat*
- **P.J.J. Kuppens, AA**  
*Controlling*
- **C.H.L.M. Scharff-Bastiaens**  
*Communications*
- **L. de Wit**  
*Project Administration*

## Staff European projects

- **A. Brouwer, MSc**  
*Project Manager SEAFRONT*
- **Dr. D.G. Hristova-Bogaerds**  
*Project Manager EMMC-CSA*
- **R.J. Korstanje, MSc**  
*Project Manager SHINE*
- **L. de Wit**  
*EU Project Office*

# DPI: International Centre of Excellence in Polymers

In the last few years DPI has transformed itself into an International Centre of Excellence in Polymers. To achieve that goal, the institute has expanded its pre-competitive research programme with projects focusing on pre-commercial application themes.

## Pre-competitive research programme

DPI's pre-competitive research programme currently embraces five programme areas. Companies and knowledge institutes can participate in one or more of these areas, each of which encompasses a substantial number of projects. The participating companies jointly define the programme

content for the programme areas in which they participate. PhD students and post-docs from our partner knowledge institutes perform their research in close collaboration with scientists from our industrial partners. Shaping that collaboration between industry and

academia is the key to building a coherent community that delivers research results to the envisaged high standard and prepares our scientists for their future careers, in industry or elsewhere.

### PRE-COMPETITIVE PROGRAMME

DPI Rules & regulations apply to all projects			
Polyolefins		Performance Polymers	
<b>13 projects</b>		<b>16 projects</b>	
<b>Industry</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Borealis</li> <li>• Braskem</li> <li>• Dow Benelux</li> <li>• DSM</li> <li>• ExxonMobil</li> <li>• Lanxess Elastomers</li> <li>• Michelin</li> <li>• Reliance</li> <li>• SABIC</li> <li>• SCG Chemicals</li> <li>• Sinopec</li> <li>• Teijin Aramid</li> </ul>	<b>Academia</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eindhoven University of Technology</li> <li>• ESCPI-Lyon</li> <li>• Fraunhofer Institute for Structural Durability and System Reliability LBF</li> <li>• Johannes Kepler University Linz</li> <li>• Lomonosov Moscow State University</li> <li>• Loughborough University</li> <li>• Martin-Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg</li> <li>• National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq)</li> <li>• National Interuniversity Consortium of Materials Science and Technology (INSTM)</li> <li>• Radboud University</li> <li>• UFRGS Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul</li> <li>• Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro</li> <li>• University of Manitoba</li> <li>• University of Naples Federico II</li> <li>• University of Perugia</li> </ul>	<b>Industry</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AkzoNobel</li> <li>• BASF</li> <li>• Bayer</li> <li>• DSM</li> <li>• Food &amp; Biobased Research Wageningen UR</li> <li>• FrieslandCampina</li> <li>• Petrobras</li> <li>• SABIC</li> <li>• SKF</li> <li>• Teijin Aramid</li> </ul>	<b>Academia</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CNRS Strasbourg</li> <li>• Delft University of Technology</li> <li>• DWI an der RWTH Aachen</li> <li>• Eindhoven University of Technology</li> <li>• Food and Biobased Research, Wageningen UR</li> <li>• Foundation for fundamental research on matter (FOM)</li> <li>• National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq)</li> <li>• National Technical University of Athens</li> <li>• TI Food and Nutrition (TIFN)</li> <li>• Tsinghua University</li> <li>• Universidade Católica de Brasília</li> <li>• Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro</li> <li>• University of Groningen</li> <li>• University of Twente</li> <li>• Wageningen University &amp; Research</li> </ul>
Expenditure € 0.93 million FTEs 11.6 (17 researchers)		Expenditure € 1.43 million FTEs 18.3 (29 researchers)	

## Industrial pre-commercial programme

The industrial pre-commercial programme consists of Value Chain projects and EU projects. The conditions for performing Value Chain projects are described below and those for EU projects are in accordance with published EU rules that are available on the relevant websites.

The Value Chain projects offer companies and/or research institutes the opportunity to establish consortia for innovation projects, in which they collaborate within the value chain. Every partner plays an active role in the project, which must be aimed at further development of an

innovation. The projects are intended to generate economic activity within the foreseeable future (i.e. no later than two to five years after completion of the project).

DPI's role is to actively assist in establishing the collaboration and to coordinate the project. DPI's role can also be limited to acting as coordinator of a project.

DPI provides a model framework for the collaboration, but the detailed rules are agreed between the members of the consortium. As regards intellectual property, the basic principle is that the knowledge created during the course of the project (foreground knowledge) is the property of the inventing partner, and any background knowledge contributed to

the project remains the property of the partner that provided it. Other partners have free access to the knowledge contributed to and/or generated during the project, but only for research purposes and to the extent necessary for developments in the project. Specific agreements are made to enable access to another partner's IP for commercial application of the knowledge outside the project.

### PRE-COMPETITIVE PROGRAMME

#### DPI Rules & regulations apply to all projects

Functional Polymer Systems	Coatings Technology	Large-Area Thin-Film Electronics	Polymers for Oil and Gas
<b>9 projects</b>	<b>4 projects</b>	<b>4 projects</b>	<b>2 projects</b>
<b>Industry</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BASF</li> <li>• DSM</li> <li>• SABIC</li> </ul>	<b>Industry</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AkzoNobel</li> <li>• Altana</li> <li>• DSM</li> <li>• Lawter</li> <li>• Saint-Gobain</li> </ul>	<b>Industry</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DSM</li> </ul>	<b>Industry</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shell</li> <li>• SNF Floerger</li> </ul>
<b>Academia</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eindhoven University of Technology</li> <li>• Imperial College London</li> <li>• Max Planck Institute for Polymer Research</li> <li>• University of Groningen</li> <li>• University of Twente</li> <li>• Wageningen University &amp; Research</li> </ul>	<b>Academia</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changchun Institute of Applied Chemistry</li> <li>• Eindhoven University of Technology</li> <li>• University of Groningen</li> <li>• Wageningen University &amp; Research</li> </ul>	<b>Academia</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eindhoven University of Technology</li> <li>• Max Planck Institute for Polymer Research</li> <li>• University of Groningen</li> <li>• University of Twente</li> </ul>	<b>Academia</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delft University of Technology</li> <li>• University of Groningen</li> </ul>
Expenditure € 0.43 million FTEs 10.0 (11 researchers)	Expenditure € 0.15 million FTEs 3.7 (5 researchers)	Expenditure € 0.08 million FTEs 3.7 (7 researchers)	Expenditure € 0.10 million FTEs 1.9 (2 researchers)

## NEWPOL (New Polymer Materials) programme

DPI is working together with NWO, the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research, on the NEWPOL (New Polymer Materials) programme. NEWPOL is a public-private initiative focusing on developing new polymeric materials by encouraging cross-pollination between different research fields and disciplines.

DPI has organized the NEWPOL activities as a separate programme area, in which all of DPI's industrial partners are participating. The programme offers DPI a good opportunity to explore the possibilities of this model of cooperation.

The programme encompasses six projects on topics such as:

- colouring paint without pigments
- commodity polymers with self-organizing smart coatings that respond to environmental changes by changing color and/or shape
- supramolecular biomaterials for stem cell expansion
- self-synthesizing gels
- development of a SuperActive synthetic biomaterial to repair damaged tissues in the body
- flexible memories made from coordination polymers.

Four projects have started in 2016, the other two will start early 2017.

Universities involved in 2016:

- Delft University of Technology
- Eindhoven University of Technology
- University of Groningen

### INDUSTRIAL PRE-COMMERCIAL PROGRAMME

Model framework for collaboration		
Rules and regulations set by involved partners	Rules and regulations set by involved partners	Rules and regulations set by involved partners
<b>SHINE</b> (1-2-2013/31-7-2016)	<b>SEAFRONT</b> (1-1-2014/31-12-2017)	<b>EMMC-CSA</b> (1-9-2016/31-8-2019)
<b>Partners</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acciona Infraestructuras</li> <li>• Arkema</li> <li>• BIWI</li> <li>• Cidetec</li> <li>• Critical Materials</li> <li>• Delft University of Technology</li> <li>• DPI</li> <li>• ESPCI ParisTech</li> <li>• Forschungszentrum Jülich</li> <li>• Fraunhofer UMSICHT</li> <li>• MTA-TTK</li> <li>• SKF Engineering &amp; Research Centre</li> <li>• Teijin Aramid</li> </ul>	<b>Partners</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AkzoNobel / International Paint</li> <li>• BioLog</li> <li>• Bio-On</li> <li>• Biotrend</li> <li>• Bluewater Energy Services</li> <li>• Delft University of Technology</li> <li>• DPI</li> <li>• Eindhoven University of Technology</li> <li>• Fraunhofer IFAM</li> <li>• Hapag Lloyd</li> <li>• I-Tech</li> <li>• Minesto</li> <li>• Smartcom Software</li> <li>• Solintel</li> <li>• Solvay Specialty Polymers</li> <li>• University of Bristol</li> <li>• University of Gothenburg</li> <li>• University of Newcastle upon Tyne</li> <li>• Val FoU</li> </ul>	<b>Partners</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access e.V.</li> <li>• Dow Benelux</li> <li>• DPI</li> <li>• Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne</li> <li>• Fraunhofer IWM</li> <li>• Goldbeck Consulting</li> <li>• Granta Design</li> <li>• Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht</li> <li>• Materials Design (MDS)</li> <li>• Politecnico di Torino</li> <li>• QuantumWise</li> <li>• SINTEF</li> <li>• TU Wien</li> <li>• University of York</li> <li>• Uppsala University</li> </ul>
Budget € 6.4 million (€ 4.0 million EU subsidy)	Budget € 11.2 million (€ 8.0 million EU subsidy)	Budget € 3.77 million (€ 3.77 million EU subsidy)





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# DPI Value Centre

2016 was a turbulent year for DPI Value Centre. In the face of reduced support from the Ministry of Economic Affairs and the Top Sector Chemistry, it was decided to scale down the current activities and change the strategy for the future. The scaling down took place parallel to continuation of the highly valued support by the sub-teams in the various regions across the Netherlands. To this end, new agreements were made with the regions so that the team members in each region could continue their work as much as possible. Meanwhile, DPI Value Centre focused on delivering on the agreed activities and supporting SMEs with their polymer innovations.

In 2016 various innovation meetings were organised and new projects were started, such as the Thermoplastic Composites project funded by OPZuid (European funding programme for southern Netherlands) and carried out in partnership with the Brightlands Materials Center. Some highlights of the 2016 meetings and projects are presented below.

### Coaching of startups

Startup meetings were held on 7 January, 11 February and 28 April for the benefit of seven young businesses in the fields of materials and process technology looking to accelerate new business development.

To help them forward, problems specific to their businesses were discussed and support provided in the form of knowledge, experiences and network contacts.

### Partners in Plastics & Rubber on tour

Partners in Plastics & Rubber is an initiative of NRK (the Federation of the Rubber and Plastics Industry in the Netherlands), DPI Value Centre and PlasticsEurope Netherlands launched in 2011. In 2016, in the framework of its “on tour” programme, Partners in Plastics & Rubber traversed the Netherlands in search of companies that could be identified as the gems of the plastics and rubber

industry. The aim was to get companies and knowledge institutions to collaborate on developing innovation projects and to underline the importance of regional dynamics for the plastics and rubber industry. In April, 80 participants paid a visit to tyre manufacturer Apollo Vredestein. They were shown around the company’s site and participated in a number of parallel sessions and Innovation Tables. The theme of this first “on tour” activity was circular entrepreneurship in the automotive/B2B sector. Two Innovation Tables were held, intended to lead to the launch of a number of projects within the framework of KIEM-VANG, a subsidy scheme supporting small,



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**PARTNERS IN PLASTICS & RUBBER ON TOUR**  
April 2016  
[Discussions at one of the Innovation Tables](#)

## BIOBASED BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT DAY

Focus on biobased packagings



targeted research projects designed to make the most of the circular economy. KIAM stands for Kennis-Innovatie Mapping (Knowledge-Innovation Mapping) in the SME sector and is intended to promote the circulation of knowledge among institutions of higher education and companies. VANG stands for Van Afval Naar Grondstof (From Waste to Raw Material).

The “on tour” meeting in June, with 70 participants, was held at SABIC. The theme was sustainable and industrial construction. In the coming years, climate-neutral construction will be an important goal, offering major opportunities for the reduction of CO2 emissions in the Netherlands. Moreover, climate-smart constructions are a growth market for the industry. Suppliers of plastic and rubber construction products will play a major role in the achievement of the sustainable construction goals.

### Smart Supply Chain projects

In 2016, DPI Value Centre teamed up with partners such as NRK on so-called “Smart Supply Chain Collaboration” initiatives to set up projects for the development of sustainable products. Chain-based collaboration will enable an integral approach to the development of solutions and prevent incomplete solutions that turn out to be problematic at the end of the first phase of a project. An example of this approach is the chain project Groothuisbouw, in which a system builder

works together with (potential) suppliers to find new and creative applications of plastics in prefab housing construction. The project was started in summer 2016 and will be completed in the course of 2017.

### Biobased packagings

A proven DPI Value Centre activity is the Biopolymer Market Day, which brings together suppliers and manufacturers and facilitates the exchange of knowledge and experiences. One of the market days co-organized by DPI Value Centre in 2016 focused on biobased packagings. It was linked up with the “Biobased Business Development Day” organised by Biobased Delta on 29 September. Thanks to this cooperation, a larger number of interested representatives of companies could be reached.

### Brightlands Materials Center

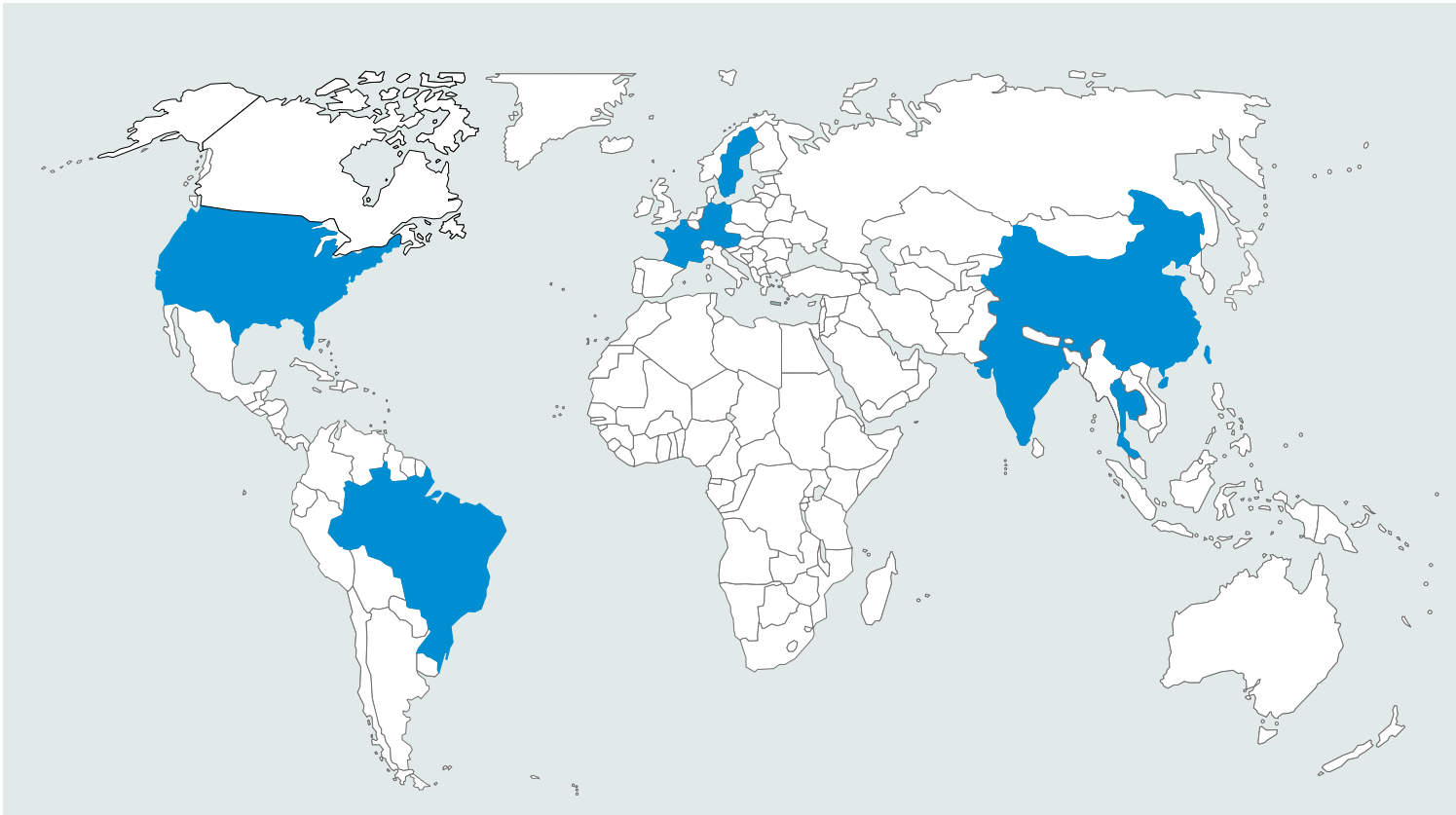
The international Brightlands Materials Center (BMC) focused on in three programme areas in 2016: 3D Printing, Lightweight Automotive (LWA) and Optics and Electronics (OE). DPI Value Centre’s business innovation experts were involved in LWA (with a focus on thermoplastic composites) and OE. Their brief: to attract new companies to BMC and thus help it to grow and eventually operate independently of government funding.

In November 2016 the Thermoplastic Composites pilot was launched, aimed at promoting collaboration between









companies in the south of the Netherlands in the area of thermoplastic composites. DPI Value Centre played a key role in getting the companies together. Jos Lobée, Project Manager of the pilot project at DPI Value Centre: “We can use this pilot project to provide a boost to innovative applications of thermoplastic composites. We managed to bring a wide range of parties from the industry to the table. It’s great to see that surprising combinations can be created between parties, which otherwise would not have existed.” Marnix van Gurp, Managing Director BMC: “This pilot project dovetails perfectly with our research centre’s Lightweight Automotive programme, in which we are studying the application of composites in the automotive industry. We are developing high-quality expertise in the field of bonding, processing, design and engineering, expertise that can be immediately applied in practice at companies.”



# Partners Industry 2016



## Europe

	Altana
	BASF (Left DPI in 2016)
	Bayer
	Borealis
	Michelin
	Saint-Gobain
	SKF
	SNF Floerger

## North and South America

	Braskem
	ExxonMobil
	Petrobras



## Asia



Reliance (Joined DPI in 2016)



SCG-Chemicals



Sinopec

## The Netherlands



AkzoNobel



Dow Benelux



DSM



Food and Biobased Research  
Wageningen UR



Friesland Campina



Lanxess Elastomers



Lawter



SABIC

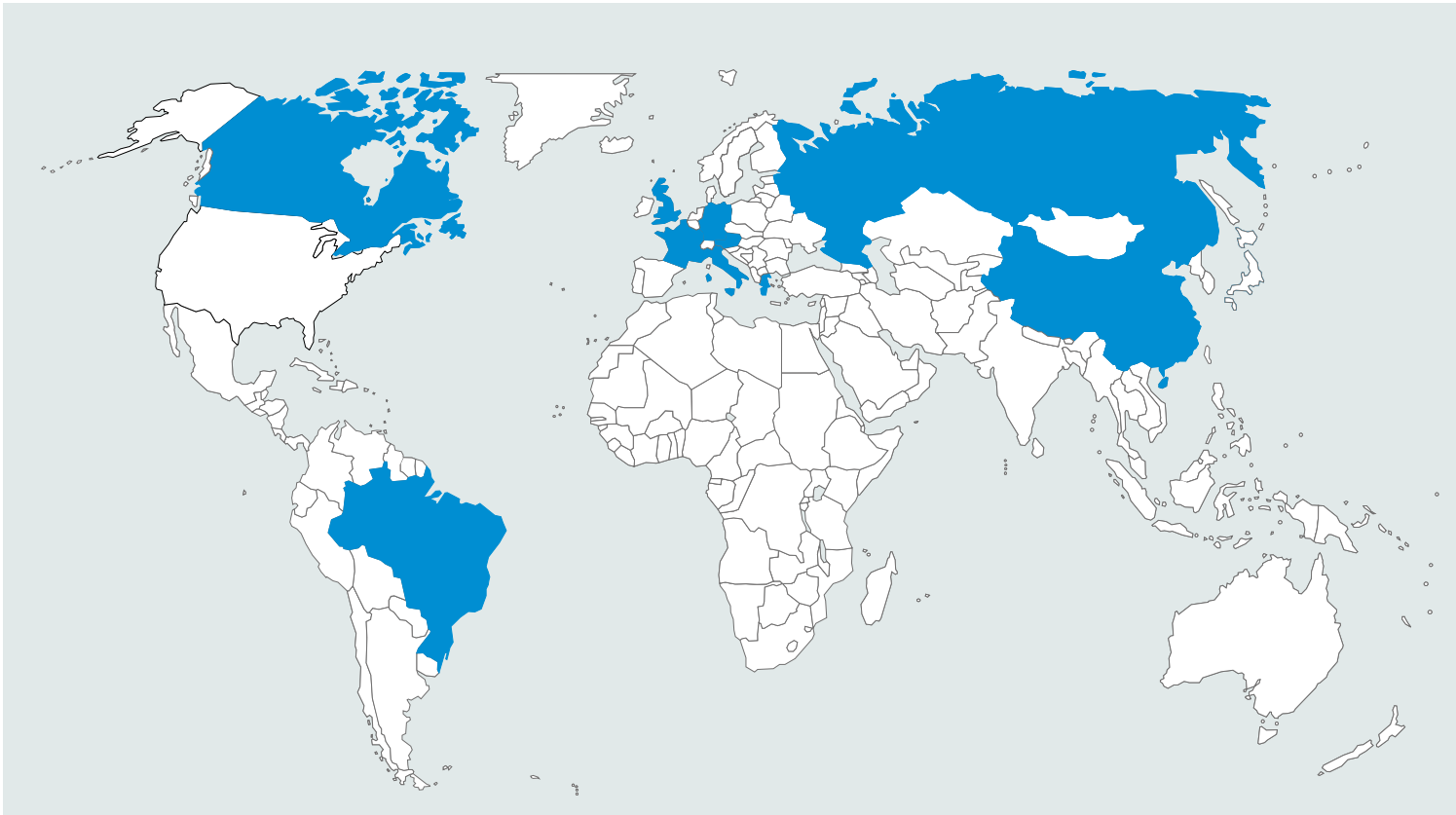


Shell



Tejin Aramid

# Partners Knowledge institutes 2016



## Europe



CNRS Strasbourg



DWI an der RWTH Aachen



ESCPE-Lyon



ESRF, Grenoble  
(No research projects in 2016)



Fraunhofer Institute for Structural Durability and System Reliability LBF



Imperial College London



Johannes Kepler University Linz



Lomonosov Moscow State University



Loughborough University



Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg



Max Planck Institute for Polymer Research



National Interuniversity Consortium of Materials Science & Technology (INSTM)



National Technical University of Athens



University of Erlangen-Nürnberg (FAU)  
(No research projects in 2016)



University of Haute-Alsace  
(No research projects in 2016)



University of Naples Federico II



University of Perugia



University of Turin  
(No research projects in 2016)



University of Udine  
(No research projects in 2016)



## North and South America, Asia



Changchun Institute of Applied Chemistry



National Council for Scientific and Technological Development



Tsinghua University



UFRGS Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul



Universidade Católica de Brasília



Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro



University of Manitoba

## The Netherlands



Delft University of Technology



Eindhoven University of Technology



Foundation for fundamental research on matter (FOM)



Food and Biobased Research  
Wageningen UR



NWO



Radboud Universiteit



Universiteit of Groningen



University of Twente



Wageningen University & Research

# Summary of financial data 2016

## Income

	(x EUR million)	%
Contributions from industrial partners	3.58	35.9
Revenue Patents	0.04	0.4
Revenue DPI Value Centre	0.33	3.3
Contributions from knowledge institutes	0.76	7.6
Subsidy (TKI Toeslag + NWO)	0.58	5.8
Revenue TKI SPM	0.69	6.9
EU projects	3.99	40.0
<b>Total income</b>	<b>9.97</b>	<b>100</b>

## Expenditure

(x EUR million) %

### By nature

Personnel costs	3.94	45.9	
Depreciation	0.01	0.1	
Other costs	0.73	8.5	
In-kind contribution	0.00	0.0	
EU projects	3.90	45.5	
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>8.58</b>	<b>100</b>	

### By Programme Area

Polyolefins	0.93	29.8	
Performance Polymers	1.43	45.8	
Functional Polymer Systems	0.43	13.8	
Coatings Technology	0.15	4.8	
Large-Area Thin-Film Electronics	0.08	2.6	
Polymers for Oil and Gas	0.10	3.2	
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>3.12</b>	<b>100</b>	

Knowledge Transfer	0.13
Organisation and support	1.06
Support to DPI Value Centre	0.37
Provision	0.00
EU projects	3.90

**Total expenditure 8.58**



# Key Performance Indicators 2016

## Number of industrial partners



## European governmental funding (% of total funding)



## Number of partner knowledge institutes (universities, etc.)



## Participation of foreign knowledge institutes as % of total expenditure



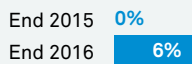
## Industrial contribution (cash and in-kind) as % of total income



## Overhead costs as % of total expenditure



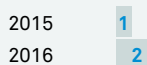
## Subsidy (TKI Toeslag + NWO) as % of total income



## Expenditure for knowledge transfer x EUR million



## Number of patents/reported inventions licensed or transferred to industrial partners and DPI Value Centre



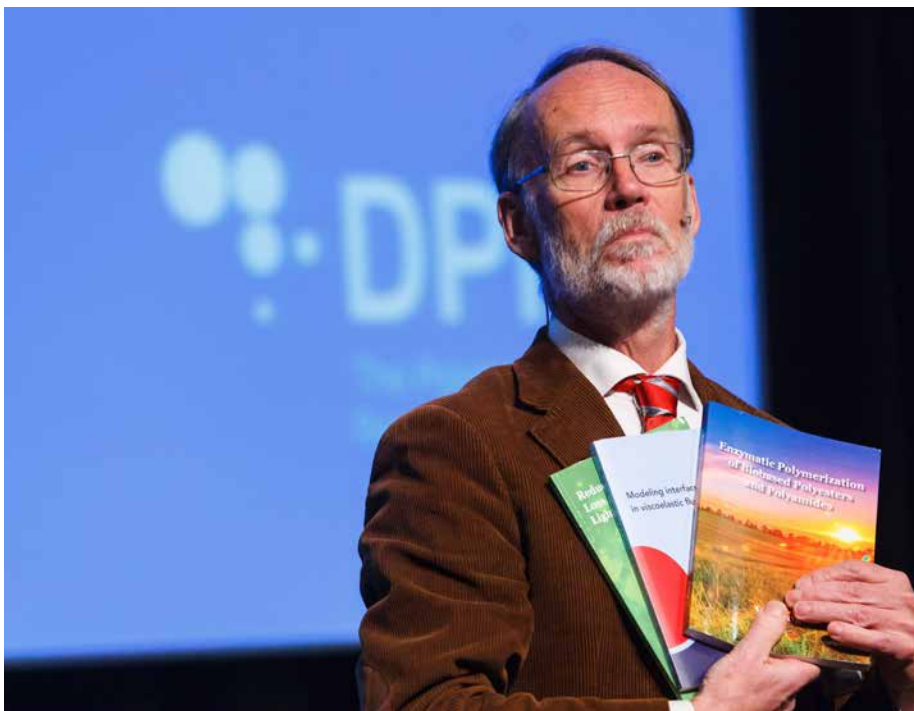
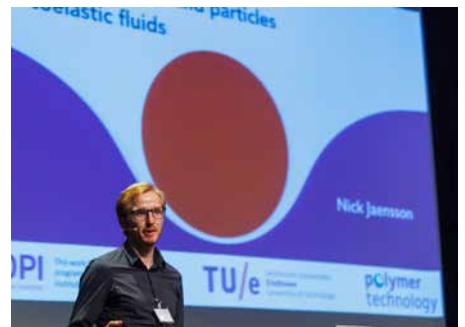
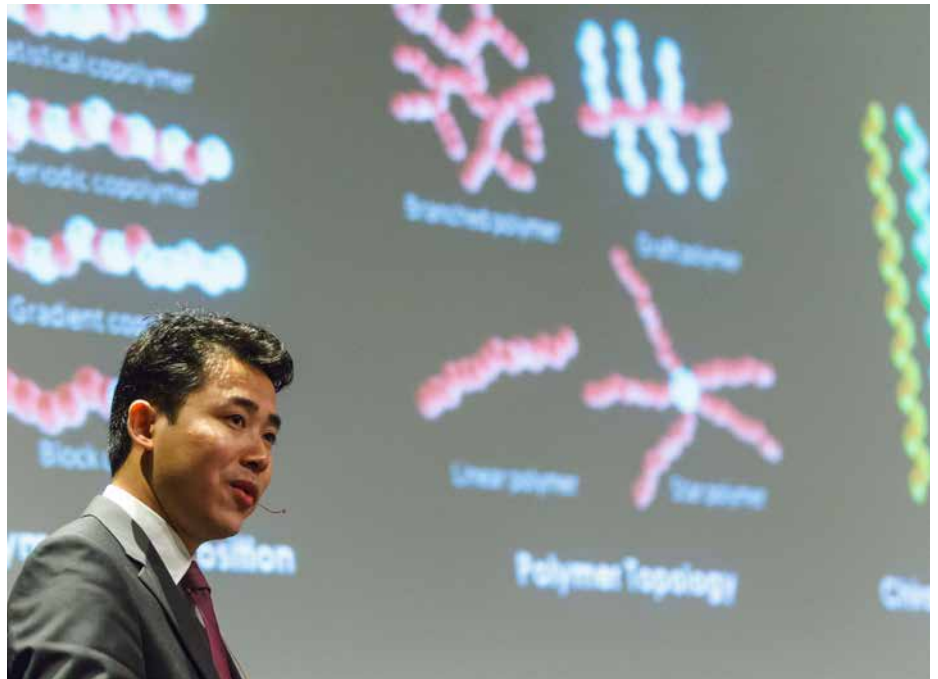
## Track record DPI researchers

Left in total	28
Employed by partner knowledge institute	9
Employed by non-partner knowledge institute	3
Employed by partner industrial company	3
Employed by non-partner industrial company or start-up	9
Unknown	4

## Research output

	2015	2016
Scientific publications	93	90
PhD theses	10	20

# DPI Annual Meeting 2016





**DPI GOLDEN THESIS AWARD 2016**  
Winner of the award Davood Abbaszadeh



**DPI THESES AWARD NOMINEES 2016**  
Yi Jiang, Davood Abbaszadeh and Nick Jaensson

**DPI POSTER AWARD 2016**  
Winners of the DPI poster prizes:  
Enrico Troisi (second prize), Frank van Maastricht (first prize) Lorenzo Troisi (third prize)



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# EU projects

For several years now, DPI has been involved – as coordinator or as a partner – in projects forming part of the Framework Programmes (FP7 and Horizon 2020) of the European Union.

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## SEAFRONT

SEAFRONT (Synergistic Fouling Control Technologies) is a FP7 project started in January 2014 with the aim of developing environmentally friendly coatings that prevent the undesirable accumulation of marine organisms on boats, ships, tidal power plants, fisheries and other aquatic installations. DPI and AkzoNobel are the main contractors of the EU project.

### New coatings

The fouling control coatings to be developed within the project will not leach chemical or other harmful substances that are non-biodegradable in the marine environment and will have no negative impact on the marine environment. In addition, the coatings will reduce the hydrodynamic resistance of ships and boats, decreasing fuel consumption and thus substantially reducing CO2 emissions. Finally, the new coatings will lead to considerable savings in operational costs by improving the efficiency of tidal power installations and reducing the frequency of maintenance and cleaning in off-shore infrastructure and aquaculture applications.

### Project team

Five multinationals, seven SMEs and seven research institutes spread across eight EU Member States are working together to achieve the goals within the

four-year timeframe. DPI is the project coordinator and International Paint Ltd., a business unit of AkzoNobel and a world leader in the field of fouling control coatings, will bring any new coatings based on technology developed within the project to the market. In focusing on the delivery of sustainable products and solutions, the goals of this project perfectly match the strategic ambitions of AkzoNobel. The project budget amounts to 11.2 million Euros including 8 million Euros from the European Commission.

### Scope

In addition to the development of environmentally friendly coatings, SEAFRONT aims to significantly enhance fundamental understanding of fouling organisms and the mechanisms of settlement and adhesion. Particular attention is being paid to a better understanding of marine biofilm or so-called marine slime. This part of the research is being led by Professor Tony Clare of Newcastle University (UK), an internationally renowned marine biologist. The insights gained will enable SEAFRONT to develop concepts and technologies for enhanced performance, the ultimate goal being a completely non-fouling surface.

### Current status

At the end of 2016 the project was well on track. A lot of work has been dedicated to

the synthesis of new building blocks for next generation fouling control coatings and the development of new processes and methods to enhance fundamental understanding of the different phenomena involved.

The project results so far are promising and the collaborative atmosphere in the consortium is excellent. In their mid-term project review report the EU reviewers concluded that the project showed good progress and that most of the objectives and technical goals set for this period had been achieved.

2017, the last year of the project, will be devoted to completing the research on fouling related phenomena, dissemination and exploitation of the results. Also, in this last year, final field trials will start on the combination of the most promising technologies before commercialisation of novel fouling control coatings can start.

More information about this project can be found on the website:

[www.seafront-project.eu](http://www.seafront-project.eu)



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## SHINE

The aim of the FP7 project SHINE (Self Healing Innovative Elastomers) was to develop self-healing elastomers for dynamic seals and vibration and noise abatement systems. The concept considered was based on covalent and non-covalent bonding, which can provide a repeatable healing response as a result of reversible reactivity.

### Scope

SHINE investigated the healing mechanisms of both pure elastomers and elastomer-based composites. The methods for the design of these types of elastomers, tailor-made fillers and self-healing composites have been described in a systematic manner in relevant publications as well as in the final project report.

The project started on 1 February 2013 with a total budget of 6.4 M€, with a 4 M€ contribution from the EU. It ended on 31 July 2016 as planned.

### Project results

The SHINE project team was successful in developing the planned self-healing elastomers, although the mechanical

properties of the new elastomers were not (yet) comparable to those of conventional ones (with 60% recovery of the initial properties after healing).

Although repeatable self-healing elastomers (preventive versus curative healing) were developed, the stability in the repeatability of these elastomers was not (yet) at the level required for the targeted industrial application. If it proves possible to apply higher temperatures of operation for the typical applications, this will open up better options for various elastomers. In those applications, the results of the SHINE project will help to reduce the maintenance costs of infrastructures and machine parts.

New analytical tools as well as new analytical procedures were developed to better characterize and analyse self-healing elastomers and to be able to distinguish self-healing from gluing or retrogradation.

The project led to a good understanding of what is possible and what is not possible in relation to covalent and non-covalent

bonding in elastomers as a means of achieving self-healing properties. No results were industrially applied or commercialized during or directly following the project.

Dissemination took place via 11 publications, presentations at 8 different conferences and poster presentations at 4 other conferences.

### Collaboration

The fruitful collaboration within the SHINE consortium - which consisted of two universities, four research centres, five large companies and one SME - delivered interesting results. For the partners, who had not worked together before this project, the experience could be a stepping stone to collaborations in the future.

More information about this project can be found at:

<https://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/106538/>

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## EMMC-CSA

DPI is a partner in the project EMMC-CSA (European Materials Modelling Council - Coordination and Support Action), which comes under the EU's Horizon 2020 framework.

Modelling is a key pillar underpinning the development of new materials and products responding to societal needs and challenges and for ensuring competitiveness of European industry in the 21st century.

### Scope

The aim of the project is to allow European Industry to reap the benefits of materials

modelling more effectively and vigorously by helping to bridge the gap between academic innovation and industrial application.

The project, which was launched in September 2016 and has a duration of three years, is being carried out by a consortium of 15 partners from 10 countries and involves 5 companies and 10 Research and Technology Organizations (RTOs).

### DPI's role

The tasks of DPI are related to the translation of industrial challenges into

modelling solutions and the development of strategies for a wider adoption of materials modelling by industry.

DPI is also represented in the EMMC Operational Management Board.

More information about the European Materials modelling council EMMC and this project can be found at:

<https://emmc.info/about-emmc-csa/>



Co-funded by the Horizon 2020 programme of the European Union

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## POLYOLEFINS

Polyolefins (PO) are the only class of synthetic macromolecules that can be produced catalytically with precise control of stereochemistry and, to a large extent, of (co) monomer sequence distribution. Therefore, as with the letters of the alphabet, the number of constituent elements which can be assembled into meaningfully organised structures is practically infinite and, accordingly, scope of application of polyolefins is continually growing.

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## OBJECTIVES

Polyolefin-based materials can be customised for a wide range of applications: from ultra-rigid thermoplastics to high-performance elastomers. This vast spectrum of performance is achieved by a variety of polyolefin molecular structures, whose common features are full atom economy in their synthesis, low cost, excellent properties, a long lifecycle and ease of recycling. The research programme of the Polyolefins programme area encompasses the entire spectrum of the knowledge chain, the aim being to increase proficiency in the ever-expanding applications. Although polyolefins represent one of the oldest (if not the oldest) thermoplastic polymer families, they are still very much characterised by continuous innovation. Both gradual and step change technology renewal yield new applications and reduce the manufacturing- and user eco-footprint. A specific example of this innovative capacity is the discovery of chain shuttling catalyst systems that enable the industrial production of polyolefin block (co)polymers with unprecedented structures, usable for a wide range of applications (from thermoplastic elastomers to optically active materials).

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## SUB-PROGRAMMES

### Catalysis

Investigating, screening and developing (novel) homogeneous and heterogeneous catalyst systems, as well as new approaches for the immobilisation of molecular catalysts, new co-catalysts and activators.

### Polymer structure, properties and processing

Understanding, modelling and predicting structure-processing property relationships in polyolefin-based polymer systems.

### Polymer reactor engineering

Studying various reactor and technology unit operations to develop a quantitative description and acquire a thorough understanding of the crucial aspects of olefin polymerisation processes.

### New methods and exploratory research

New polymerisation and polymer characterisation methods, high-throughput screening and experimentation, embryonic research and concept development.

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## POLYOLEFINS 2.0

The Polyolefins 2.0 programme kicked off early 2016 with the granting and start-up of two projects on topics selected by the industrial funding partners Borealis, Braskem, ExxonMobil, Reliance, SABIC, SCG Chemicals and Sinopec. In total 4 PhDs are working on these two projects at Eindhoven University of Technology, Lomonosov Moscow State University, University of Perugia and University of Naples Federico II. A second Call for Proposals was launched in October 2016 for projects to be started in 2017.

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## FACTS AND FIGURES

### Partners from industry

- Borealis
- Braskem
- Dow Benelux
- DSM
- ExxonMobil
- Lanxess Elastomers
- Michelin
- Reliance
- SABIC
- SCG Chemicals
- Sinopec
- Teijin Aramid

### Partners from the research world

- Eindhoven University of Technology
- ESCPI-Lyon
- Fraunhofer Institute for Structural Durability and System Reliability LBF
- Johannes Kepler University Linz
- Lomonosov Moscow State University
- Loughborough University
- Martin-Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg
- National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq)
- National University Consortium of Materials Science and Technology (INSTM)
- Radboud University
- UFRGS Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul
- Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro
- University of Manitoba
- University of Naples Federico II
- University of Perugia

### Budget and organisation

Expenditure in 2016 totalled € 0.93 million. The total number of FTEs allocated at year-end 2016 was 11.6 (17 researchers). Prof.dr. Vincenzo Busico was Scientific Chairman and Dr. Jan Stamhuis was Programme Area Coordinator of the Polyolefins programme.

### Publications and inventions

This programme area generated a total of twenty-one reviewed papers and four theses.

For details, see page 30

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## FUNCTIONAL POLYMER SYSTEMS

The Functional Polymer Systems (FPS) programme area performs research on polymers, small organic molecules and their prototype devices that are capable of an electrical, optical, magnetic, ionic or photo-responsive function and that offer potential for industrial application.

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### OBJECTIVES

The FPS research programme is structured along application lines in the following sub-programmes: polymer lighting and field-effect transistors; polymers for information and communication technology; solar cells (photovoltaics); and responsive materials, (bio)sensors and actuators.

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### SUB-PROGRAMMES

#### **Polymers for information and communication technology**

The objective of this sub-programme is to develop scalable techniques for structuring polymers on a nano- and micro-scale by combining 'top-down' approaches with 'bottom-up' techniques based on self-assembly or supramolecular chemistry in order to produce new or greatly enhanced properties for optical, electrical, biomedical and sensor applications. Research projects are focusing on IR-reflective windows, membranes with controlled pore-size and responsive surfaces making use of the available patterning tools.

#### **Photovoltaics (PV)**

This area is dedicated to exploring new materials and gaining a fundamental understanding of all (photo-) physical processes occurring in polymer and small organic molecule bulk heterojunction PV. Organic PV is one of many promising PV technologies offering the prospect of large area cost-effective PV for sustainable energy production in the long term. The research focuses on novel low-bandgap materials, hybrid (inorganic-organic) blends, stable materials under ambient conditions, non-radiative decay processes, efficient charge separation, morphology control, tandem solar cells and a thorough understanding of materials behaviour under operational device conditions.

#### **Responsive materials and functional membranes**

The purpose of the research is to develop new materials and processes that result in a change of shape and/or large displacement upon an external electrical, magnetic, optical and/or chemical trigger. Research projects focus on new piezo-electronic materials, membranes with controlled nano-pores, switchable surfaces and antireflective coatings.

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## FACTS AND FIGURES

### **Partners from industry**

- BASF
- DSM
- SABIC

### **Partners from the research world**

- Eindhoven University of Technology
- Imperial College London
- Max Planck Institute for Polymer Research
- University of Groningen
- University of Twente
- Wageningen University & Research

### **Budget and organisation**

Expenditure in 2016 totalled € 0.43 million. The total number of FTEs allocated at year-end 2016 was 10.0 (11 researchers). Roland Korstanje was Programme Area Coordinator of the Functional Polymer Systems programme.

### **Publications and inventions**

The research programme in this programme area generated a total of ten reviewed papers and one reported invention.

For details, see page 31

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## PERFORMANCE POLYMERS

Performance Polymers (PP) have considerable potential to contribute to reducing energy use, environmental impact and the effects of climate change through component consolidation, weight reduction, lifetime extension, recyclability and utilisation of renewable feedstock and create new opportunities for the construction, transport, appliances and electronics industries.

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### OBJECTIVES

This Performance Polymers (PP) programme area combines Engineering Polymers and Rubber Technologies and is positioned between bulk plastics and specialty polymers such as functional polymer systems. Performance polymers possess improved chemical, mechanical and/or physical properties, especially beyond ambient conditions. They are applied as material systems under (cyclic or continuous) load-bearing conditions and frequently consist of multi-component mixtures with various polymers, reinforcements and additives.

The performance requirements of complex parts and assemblies in polymer materials necessitate close technological cooperation between polymer supplier, converter and end user. That in turn calls for a thorough understanding of polymerisation and polymer modification, as well as the processing, properties and design of polymer systems. Moreover, the wide variety of base polymers in this programme area demands a special effort to identify commonality in those themes along the value chain. This is reflected in the strategy and objectives of the Performance Polymers programme area, which include investigation of fundamental issues in the value chain using a 'chain of knowledge' approach in terms of energy saving, durability, ultimate performance and sustainability.

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### PERFORMANCE POLYMERS 2.0

In September 2016 the first Call of the Performance Polymers 2.0 programme was issued on the topic of early detection of deformation, selected by the current industrial programme members Shell, Teijin Aramid, SABIC and AkzoNobel. Two projects were granted, one at the Eindhoven University of Technology and the other at the University of Manchester which is a new member of the DPI academic network.

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## FACTS AND FIGURES

### Partners from industry

- AkzoNobel
- BASF
- Bayer
- DSM
- Food & Biobased Research Wageningen UR
- FrieslandCampina
- Petrobras
- SABIC
- SKF
- Teijin Aramid

### Partners from the research world

- CNRS Strasbourg
- Delft University of Technology
- DWI an der RWTH Aachen
- Eindhoven University of Technology
- Food and Biobased Research, Wageningen UR
- Foundation for fundamental research on matter (FOM)
- National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq)
- National Technical University of Athens
- TI Food and Nutrition (TIFN)
- Tsinghua University
- Universidade Católica de Brasília
- Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro
- University of Groningen
- University of Twente
- Wageningen University & Research

### Budget and organisation

Expenditure in 2016 totalled € 1.43 million. The total number of FTEs allocated at year-end 2016 was 18.3 (29 researchers). Prof. dr. Costantino Creton was Scientific Chairman and Dr. Denka Hristova-Bogaerds was Programme Area Coordinator of the Performance Polymers programme.

### Publications and inventions

The research programme in this programme area generated a total of twenty-eight reviewed papers and seven theses.

For details, see page 31



### **Polymer and network chemistry and modification**

Studies aimed at expanding the use of bio-based materials, by identifying their unique properties and reducing their eco-footprint. Further studies are designed to reduce the costs and energy use in polymerisation. Other objectives are network formation and the development of new concepts for monomer polymer molecular structure to achieve gradual changes in the balance of flow properties, static and dynamic mechanical behaviour and other functional properties.

### **Processing for properties, polymer physics and modelling**

Understanding the relationship between the molecular structure, processing and properties of polymers. Studies of the processing effects of intermolecular interactions, e.g. hydrogen bonding. Processing, modification and vulcanisation studies of elastomer blends. Studies of complex flow behaviour, e.g. in particle reinforced visco-elastic materials.

### **Advanced reinforced thermoplastics and synthetic fibres**

Studies of the interface effects in fibre-reinforced composite systems, the effects of nano-reinforcement on polymer material properties on macroscopic and microscopic scale with a focus on the effects at the matrix-filler interface, friction and wear studies of fibre-reinforced thermoplastics and elastomers.

### **Long term stability and performance**

Investigation of the chemical and physical ageing mechanisms and their interaction, with the ultimate objective of predicting lifetime and attaining a fit-for-purpose design over the entire lifecycle. Studies of self-healing in polymeric materials as paradigm shift to realise improved fit-for purpose lifetimes.

### **Bio-Inspired Polymers**

Development of advanced polymeric materials and methodologies inspired by natural polymeric structures and principles of natural systems such as self-assembly and biocatalysis, the main driver being sustainability. Bio-inspired polymers can be produced from renewable or fossil resources through either chemo catalysis or enzymatic/microbial catalysis. The structure-property relationships of the novel materials are studied to elucidate why they exhibit unique properties. One important line of research is intended to develop a generic toolbox for new bio-based polymers with a view to creating new business opportunities. Aspects addressed by a bio-based polymer programme include the identification of new or improved (multi-) functionalities of bio-based building blocks and polymers and the assessment of relevant technologies in the bio-based value chain.



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## COATINGS TECHNOLOGY

Within the Coatings Technology (CT) area frontier research in the general field of organic coatings is performed. The aim is to develop fundamental insights that will lead to innovative coatings technologies. The research is pre-competitive and is focussed at achieving sustainability, quality of life improvements, economic growth and preparing the coatings industry for future challenges.

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### OBJECTIVES

The research programme for Coatings Technology (CT) concentrates on exploring novel coating materials and technologies and acquiring fundamental insights into the structure-properties relationships of coatings to enable the coatings industry to meet future challenges. The research programme is based on three pillars: renewable raw materials and novel, environmentally friendly coating technologies; functional (smart) coatings; durability and testing of coatings.

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### SUB-PROGRAMMES

#### Renewable raw materials, formulation and powder coatings

There are currently three projects underway to study the feasibility of applying sustainable, renewable resources in coatings technology without compromising the properties of the final coating (film). The programme focuses on bio-based building blocks and raw materials as substitutes for materials derived from petrochemistry and their use in novel coating technologies. Systems being studied include polycarbonate powder coatings or waterborne polyurethane dispersions, as well as starch-based performance coating materials. The results are promising in that coatings have already been obtained which match and/or improve on the properties of purely synthetic coatings.

#### Functional (smart) coatings

'Smart coatings' are capable of responding to an external stimulus, such as light, temperature, pressure, pH, odours or gas. The stimulus causes a change in the coating's properties which may be permanent or reversible. Coatings with self-healing properties in response to mechanical damage or with light- or moisture-induced self-cleaning properties are of particular interest and have already been studied. Research on protective coatings that can adapt to their environment and/or conditions under which they are used is at the embryonic stage, but such systems, as well as tailored coatings for medical diagnostics (e.g. test strips) and implants, seem feasible in the future. The same applies for coatings with special optoelectronic and electronic properties that could be used in electronic devices and information technology.

#### Durability and testing of coatings

The aim is to gain a fundamental understanding of the degradation mechanisms of coatings used in outdoor exposure to enhance durability. Another objective of this sub-programme is to develop new testing methods for coatings, e.g. methods for testing adhesion, gloss or scratch resistance, which correlate to meaningful physical parameters. Last but not least, DPI collaborates intensively with the Materials Innovation Institute's 'Materials to Innovate' (M2i) programme in the study of anti-corrosion coatings.

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## FACTS AND FIGURES

### Partners from industry

- AkzoNobel
- Altana
- DSM
- Lawter
- Saint-Gobain

### Partners from the research world

- Changchun Institute of Applied Chemistry
- Eindhoven University of Technology
- University of Groningen
- Wageningen University & Research

### Budget and organisation

Expenditure in 2016 totalled € 0.15 million. The total number of FTEs allocated at year-end 2016 was 3.7 (5 researchers). Dr. Monique Bruining was Programme Area Coordinator of this programme area.

### Publications and inventions

The research programme in this programme area generated a total of twelve reviewed papers and one thesis.

For details, see page 33

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## LARGE-AREA THIN-FILM ELECTRONICS

Large-Area Thin-Film Electronics (LATFE) is the step in the value chain devoted to studying fundamental issues related to processing for large-area deposition and disruptive architectures for large-area organic electronic devices. Large-Area Thin-Film Electronics is an excellent example of a highly interdisciplinary research area, extending from chemistry and physics to engineering.

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### OBJECTIVES

Whereas Functional Polymers and Surfaces (FP&S) focuses on materials development and initial device performance, Large-Area Thin-Film Electronics (LATFE) is the obvious next step in the value chain. The fundamental knowledge generated should facilitate the reliable production and operation of organic electronic devices.

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### SUB-PROGRAMMES

#### Large-area material deposition using solution processing

The objective is to study fundamental issues of large-area polymer and small-molecule material deposition using roll-to-roll solution processing (gravure, flexo, screen, slot-die) to make the transition from lab scale to industrial scale for reliably processed devices. For patterning of structures inkjet printing is explored. Although lab-scale devices have superb performance, we lack the industrial processes and the fundamental knowledge about large-area material deposition from solution and patterning needed to choose the right deposition method per layer for mass production.

#### Disruptive device architectures

The purpose of this research is to develop disruptive device architectures for more reliable and easier production and to understand the failure mechanisms occurring in industrially produced devices. Current device architectures require very thin films (~ 100 nm) with less than 2% thickness deviation, which imposes very strict demands on the processing and production of devices. At the moment, this results in poor yields, high costs and many uncomprehended failures. There is an urgent need for new device architectures that allow more robust processing and production and improve yield without affecting device performance (efficacy, homogeneity of light output).

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## FACTS AND FIGURES

### Partner from industry

- DSM

### Partners from the research world

- Eindhoven University of Technology
- Max Planck Institute for Polymer Research
- University of Groningen
- University of Twente

### Budget and organisation

Expenditure in 2016 totalled € 0.08 million. The total number of FTEs allocated at year-end 2016 was 3.7 (7 researchers). Ronald Korstanje was Programme Area Coordinator of this programme area.

### Publications and inventions

This programme area generated a total of seventeen reviewed papers, eight theses and one reported invention.

For details, see page 34

## POLYMERS FOR OIL AND GAS

In the Polymers for Oil and Gas research programme two main areas are distinguished: firstly, the use of polymers in fluids for enhanced oil recovery (EOR) and other subsurface drilling/recovery applications. With the increasing complexity of oil recovery from existing and new reservoirs, EOR could contribute significantly to more efficient recovery of the world's energy resources. The second area addresses the behaviour of polymers in materials used under extreme/adverse conditions, e.g. in hydrocarbon transport and in deep-sea and/or pre-salt applications. This topic is researched in close collaboration with the Performance Polymers programme area.

### OBJECTIVES

The aim of the Polymers for Oil and Gas programme is to generate tools and new insights into existing and new polymers for utilisation in the exploration, production and transport of oil and gas.

### SUB-PROGRAMMES

#### Structure–property relationships and the design of new model macromolecules

Controlled radical polymerisation techniques will be employed to investigate the effects of macromolecular topology, for example branching, on polymer solution properties and on viscosity and/or visco-elasticity. These novel structures are evaluated in core flow experiments to determine their injectivity and impact on the recovery of oil in porous media. The effects of polymeric surfactants, i.e. high molecular weight amphiphilic structures that have the potential to decrease the interfacial tension and enhance oil recovery compared with that obtained with the current polymer flooding applications, are also being investigated.

#### Relating polymer rheology to apparent viscosity in porous media

The objective of this sub-programme is to develop reliable models to predict the relationship of polymer-apparent viscosity in porous media to porous-medium properties, bulk rheological parameters and superficial velocity in the medium and establish the relationship with enhanced oil recovery.

## FACTS AND FIGURES

### Partners from industry

- Shell
- SNF Floerger

### Partners from the research world

- Delft University of Technology
- University of Groningen

### Budget and organisation

Expenditure in 2016 totalled € 0.10 million. The total number of FTEs allocated at year-end 2016 was 1.9 (2 researchers). Dr. Jan Stamhuis was Programme Area Coordinator of the Polymers for Oil and Gas programme.

### Publications and inventions

This programme area generated no reviewed papers in 2016.

For details see page 34





## POLYOLEFINS

### Projects

**#750:** Optimisation and Calibration of High-Temperature Liquid Chromatographic Separation of Polypropylene and Propylene based Copolymers

**#751:** Predictive Modelling of Polyolefin Reactors

**#753:** Impact of the geometric parameters of catalyst supports on the kinetics and morphology of polyolefins

**#754:** Direct insight into elusive active Ti species of high-yield Ziegler-Natta Catalysts

**#754ft16:** Computational Modeling of Ziegler-Natta Propene Polymerization Catalysts: Chemical Reactivity

**#757:** Influence of entanglement on rheological response of Ultra High Molecular Weight Polyethylene from linear to nonlinear viscoelastic behaviour

**#785:** High Impact Polypropylene: Structure Evolution and impact on Reaction

**#787:** In situ X-ray measurements

**#791:** A comprehensive integrated HTC&HTE workflow for the mechanistic study of (novel) olefin polymerization catalysts

**#793:** Novel Quadrupolar Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Methodology for the Study of MgCl<sub>2</sub>-Supported Ziegler-Natta Catalysts

**#800:** Quantitative Structure-Activity Relationships (QSAR) in Metallocene-Based Olefin Polymerization Catalysis

**#801:** Predictive modelling of mechanical anisotropy in oriented semi-crystalline polymers directly from morphological characteristics

**#907:** Gas Phase Propylene (Pre) Polymerisation: Impact of catalyst activation, prepolymerisation and support morphology on polypropylene production

### Theses

Harmen Zijlstra  
Mysterious MAO

Sampat Singh Bhati  
Optimization and calibration of high-temperature liquid chromatographic separation of polypropylene and propylene based copolymers

Muhammad Ahsan Bashir  
Impact of Physical Properties of Silica Supported Metallocenes on their Ethylene Polymerisation Kinetics and Polyethylene Properties

Ele de Boer  
Implications of a tailored non-equilibrium polymer melt state on the viscoelastic response and crystallisation behaviour of UHMWPE

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*Three-dimensional chain-length-branching-combination points distribution modeling of low density polyethylene in a continuous stirred tank reactor allowing for gelation*  
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*Polymer research and synchrotron radiation perspectives*  
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*Nucleation induced by "short-term pressurization" of an undercooled isotactic polypropylene melt*  
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*Comparative nmr study on the reactions of hf(iv) organometallic complexes with al/zn alkyls*  
Organometallics 35(9) 1241-1250

K. S. Liu, E. Andablo-Reyes, N. Patil, D. H. Merino, S. Ronca and S. Rastogi  
*Influence of reduced graphene oxide on the rheological response and chain orientation on shear deformation of high density polyethylene*  
Polymer 87(8-16)

S. H. Jeong, J. M. Kim, J. Yoon, C. Tzoumanekas, M. Kroger and C. Baig  
*Influence of molecular architecture on the entanglement network: Topological analysis of linear, long- and short-chain branched polyethylene melts via monte carlo simulations*  
Soft Matter 12(16) 3770-3786

## FUNCTIONAL POLYMER SYSTEMS

### Projects

**#762:** Solution-Processed Small-Molecule Tandem OPV

**#763:** Design of novel donor-acceptor systems with optimized morphology and transport

**#764:** Responsive IR reflectors based on polymeric cholesteric liquid crystals

**#766:** Responsive and self-healing membranes with well-defined nanopores using block copolymers

**#767:** Towards solution processable near-IR and IR-reflective coatings and mirrors with high transparency in the UV-visible regime

**#775:** Switchable topologies using responsive polymers for controlled wetting and self cleaning surfaces

**#776:** Membranes with adjustable interior in their nanopores

**#777:** Tuning the optical properties of thin film coatings by using self-assembled protein particles

**#792:** Particle Stability and Mobility in Silicones

### Scientific publications

A. J. Liu, C. H. H. Traulsen and J. J. L. M. Cornelissen  
*Nitroarene Reduction by a Virus Protein Cage Based Nanoreactor*  
Acs Catalysis 6(5) 3084-3091

S. Solak, P. W. M. Blom and G. A. H. Wetzelaer  
*Effect of non-ohmic contacts on the light-intensity dependence of the open-circuit voltage in organic solar cells*  
Applied Physics Letters 109(5)

H. Khandelwal, G. H. Timmermans, M. G. Debije and A. P. H. J. Schenning  
*Dual electrically and thermally responsive broadband reflectors based on polymer network stabilized chiral nematic liquid crystals: The role of crosslink density*  
Chemical Communications 52(66) 10109-10112

L. L. Yang, A. J. Liu, S. Q. Cao, R. M. Putri, P. Jonkheijm and J. J. L. M. Cornelissen  
*Self-Assembly of Proteins: Towards Supramolecular Materials*  
Chemistry-a European Journal 22(44) 15570-15582

H. Khandelwal, M. G. Debije, T. J. White and A. P. H. J. Schenning  
*Electrically tunable infrared reflector with adjustable bandwidth broadening up to 1100 nm*  
Journal of Materials Chemistry A 4(16) 6064-6069

A. J. Liu, M. Verwegen, M. V. de Ruiter, S. J. Maassen, C. H. H. Traulsen and J. J. L. M. Cornelissen  
*Protein Cages as Containers for Gold Nanoparticles*  
Journal of Physical Chemistry B 120(26) 6352-6357

M. Garcia-Iglesias, B. F. M. de Waal, A. V. Gorbunov, A. R. A. Palmans, M. Kemerink and E. W. Meijer  
*A Versatile Method for the Preparation of Ferroelectric Supramolecular Materials via Radical End-Functionalization of Vinylidene Fluoride Oligomers*  
Journal of the American Chemical Society 138(19) 6217-6223

M. Cetintas and M. Kamperman  
*Self-assembly of PS-b-PNIPAM-b-PS block copolymer thin films via selective solvent annealing*  
Polymer 107(387-397)

Y. F. Xu, H. P. C. van Kuringen, D. J. Mulder, A. P. H. J. Schenning and N. A. J. M. Sommerdijk  
*Smectic liquid crystal polymers as a template for ultrathin caco3 nanolayers*  
Rsc Advances 6(17) 13953-13956

K. Kumar, A. P. H. J. Schenning, D. J. Broer and D. Q. Liu  
*Regulating the modulus of a chiral liquid crystal polymer network by light*  
Soft Matter 12(13) 3196-3201

### Reported invention

**#775:** E. de Jong, L. Liu, P.R. Onck, D.J. Broer  
Switchable topologies using responsive polymers for controlled wetting and self-cleaning surfaces

## PERFORMANCE POLYMERS

### Projects

**#718:** High Tg Liquid Crystal Thermosetting Resins: A New Generation High-performance Polymers for Advanced Composites

**#738:** Tailored water-based materials assembled from sponge-like building blocks

**#740:** Enzymatic catalysis for the production of biobased monomers and polymers based upon them

**#742:** Membranes with Adjustable Interior in their Nanopores

**#743:** Curable Semi-aromatic or aliphatic Semi-crystalline Thermoplastics

**#744:** Molecular Simulations of Polymer Networks: Stress-Strain Relations, Cavitation, and Dynamics in Confinement

**#745:** Microstructure-based Modeling of the Intrinsic Kinetics of Aging and Deformation of Polymer Glasses

- #746:** Particles at Fluid-Fluid Interfaces  
L. Gustini, L. Finzel, C. Lavilla, B. A. J. Noorderover, M. M. R. M. Hendrix, C. Gehrels and C. E. Koning  
*Understanding the limitations of the solvent-free enzymatic synthesis of sorbitol-containing polyesters*  
Acs Sustainable Chemistry & Engineering 4(4) 2259-2268
- #749:** The chemistry of rubber modification and crosslinking: New approaches towards an old problem  
M. Semkiv and M. Hutter  
*Modeling Aging and Mechanical Rejuvenation of Amorphous Solids*  
Journal of Non-Equilibrium Thermodynamics 41(2) 79-88
- #756:** Do contacts in electrically conductive particulate composites really exist?  
N. O. Jaensson, M. A. Hulsen and P. D. Anderson  
*Direct numerical simulation of particle alignment in viscoelastic fluid*  
Journal of Non-Newtonian Fluid Mechanics 235(125-142)
- #782:** How short-cut fibers influence friction, wear and noise generation of polymers  
C. L. Li, R. J. Sablong and C. E. Koning  
*Chemoselective Alternating Copolymerization of Limonene Dioxide and Carbon Dioxide: A New Highly Functional Aliphatic Epoxy Polycarbonate*  
Angewandte Chemie-International Edition 55(38) 11572-11576
- #783:** Contact mechanics, Friction and contact fatigue on polymeric SURFACES  
W. Ogjieglo, Z. P. Madzarevic, M. J. T. Raaijmakers, T. J. Dingemans and N. E. Benes  
*High-pressure sorption of carbon dioxide and methane in all-aromatic poly(etherimide)-based membranes*  
Journal of Polymer Science Part B-Polymer Physics 54(10) 986-993
- #784:** Reactive Polymer Colloids for Design of Interfaces in Fiber/matrix Composite Materials  
L. M. Polgar, M. van Duin and F. Picchioni  
*The preparation and properties of thermo-reversibly cross-linked rubber via diels-alder chemistry*  
Jove-Journal of Visualized Experiments 114)
- #786:** Processing for Enhanced Product Performance  
Y. Wang, J. den Toonder, R. Cardinaels and P. Anderson  
*A continuous roll-pulling approach for the fabrication of magnetic artificial cilia with microfluidic pumping capability*  
Lab on a Chip 16(12) 2277-2286
- #788:** Predicting the Fountain Flow Instability from Material Properties and Processing conditions  
C. von der Ehe, A. Rinkenauer, C. Weber, D. Szamosvari, M. Gottschaldt and U. S. Schubert  
*Selective uptake of a fructose glycopolymer prepared by raft polymerization into human breast cancer cells*  
Macromolecular Bioscience 16(4) 508-521
- #796:** REFINE
- ## Theses
- Yi Jiang  
Enzymatic Polymerization of Biobased Polyesters and Polyamides  
Y. S. Deshmukh, C. H. R. M. Wilsens, R. Verhoef, M. R. Hansen, D. Dudenko, R. Graf, E. A. Klop and S. Rastogi  
*Conformational and structural changes with increasing methylene segment length in aromatic-aliphatic polyamides*  
Macromolecules 49(3) 950-962
- Huib van Kuringen  
Nanoporous polymer adsorbents based on smeltic liquid crystals  
M. Koole, R. Frisenda, M. L. Petrus, M. L. Perrin, H. S. J. van der Zant and T. J. Dingemans  
*Charge transport through conjugated azomethine-based single molecules for optoelectronic applications*  
Organic Electronics 34(38-41)
- Nick Jaensson  
Modeling interfaces and particles in viscoelastic fluids  
M. Al Samman and W. Radke  
*Two-dimensional chromatographic separation of branched polyesters according to degree of branching and molar mass*  
Polymer 99(734-740)
- Yongliang Zhao  
Silica-Based Inorganic/Organic Hybrid Materials  
H. P. C. van Kuringen, D. J. Mulder, E. Beltran, D. J. Broer and A. P. H. J. Schenning  
*Nanoporous polymer particles made by suspension polymerization: Spontaneous symmetry breaking in hydrogen bonded*
- Oana Andreea Bărsan  
Towards polymer composites with ultimate conductivity  
L. Gustini, C. Lavilla, W. W. T. J. Janssen, A. M. de Ilarduya, S. Munoz-Guerra and C. E. Koning  
*Green and selective polycondensation methods toward linear sorbitol-based polyesters: Enzymatic versus organic and metal-based catalysis*  
Chemosuschem 9(16) 2250-2260
- Liliana Gustini  
Sorbitol-derived polyesters: a renewable platform towards sustainable materials  
W. M. Pazin, D. S. Olivier, N. Vilanova, A. P. Ramos, I. K. Voets, A. E. E. Soares, A. M. Ito  
*Interaction of Artemillin C with model membranes*  
European Biophysics Journal 46(4) 383-393
- Ye Wang  
Out-of-Cleanroom Magnetic Artificial Cilia  
L. M. Polgar, G. Fortunato, R. Araya-Hermosilla, M. van Duin, A. Pucci and F. Picchioni  
*Cross-linking of rubber in the presence of multi-functional cross-linking aids via thermoreversible diels-alder chemistry*  
European Polymer Journal 82(208-219)
- ## Scientific publications
- C. von der Ehe, T. Bus, C. Weber, S. Stumpf, P. Bellstedt, M. Hartlieb, U. S. Schubert and M. Gottschaldt  
*Glycopolymer-functionalized cryogels as catch and release devices for the pre-enrichment of pathogens*  
Acs Macro Letters 5(3) 326-331
- T. T. H. Pham, F. Snijders, I. M. Storm, F. A. de Wolf, M. A. C. Stuart and J. van der Gucht  
*Physical and mechanical properties of thermosensitive xanthan/collagen-inspired protein composite hydrogels*  
International Journal of Polymeric Materials and Polymeric Biomaterials 65(3) 125-133



*smectic liquid crystalline droplets and high adsorption characteristics*  
Polymer Chemistry 7(29) 4712-4716

H. Yao, D. X. Wei, X. M. Che, L. W. Cai, L. Tao, L. Liu, L. P. Wu and G. Q. Chen  
*Comb-like temperature-responsive polyhydroxyalkanoate-graft-poly(2-dimethylamino-ethylmethacrylate) for controllable protein adsorption*  
Polymer Chemistry 7(38) 5957-5965

L. Gustini, C. Lavilla, L. Finzel, B. A. J. Noordover, M. M. R. M. Hendrix and C. E. Koning  
*Sustainable coatings from bio-based, enzymatically synthesized polyesters with enhanced functionalities*  
Polymer Chemistry 7(43) 6586-6597

P. Gijsman, W. F. Dong, A. Quintana and M. Celina  
*Influence of temperature and stabilization on oxygen diffusion limited oxidation profiles of polyamide 6*  
Polymer Degradation and Stability 130(83-96)

Y. Jiang and K. Loos  
*Enzymatic synthesis of biobased polyesters and polyamides*  
Polymers 8(7)

C. von der Ehe, C. Weber, M. Gottschaldt and U. S. Schubert  
*Immobilized glycopolymers: Synthesis, methods and applications*  
Progress in Polymer Science 57(64-102);

L. M. Polgar, R. R. J. Cerpentier, G. H. Vermeij, F. Picchioni and M. van Duin  
*Influence of the chemical structure of cross-linking agents on properties of thermally reversible networks*  
Pure and Applied Chemistry 88(12) 1103-1116

Y. Jiang, D. Maniar, A. J. J. Woortman and K. Loos  
*Enzymatic synthesis of 2,5-furandicarboxylic acid-based semi-aromatic polyamides: Enzymatic polymerization kinetics, effect of diamine chain length and thermal properties*  
Rsc Advances 6(72) 67941-67953

M. Khafidh, N. V. Rodriguez, M. A. Masen and D. J. Schipper  
*The dynamic contact area of elastomers at different velocities*  
Tribology-Materials Surfaces & Interfaces 10(2) 70-73

## COATINGS TECHNOLOGY

### Projects

**#758:** Self-replenishing hydrophobic coatings with intrinsic hardness cured by LED's

**#759:** Novel Isocyanate-free, Chain-Extended Polyurethane Dispersions Containing Alternative Internal Dispersing Agents

**#780:** Self-replenishing high-surface-energy coatings

**#781:** Film Formation in Complex Colloidal Coatings

### Thesis

Yujing Zhang  
Self-replenishing photo-cured hydrophobic dual-network coatings

### Scientific publications

S. Ma, C. Liu, R. J. Sablong, B. A. J. Noordover, E. J. M. Hensen, R. A. T. M. van Benthem and C. E. Koning  
*Catalysts for Isocyanate-Free Polyurea Synthesis: Mechanism and Application*  
Acs Catalysis 6(10) 6883-6891

H. Makki, K. N. S. Adema, E. A. J. F. Peters, J. Laven, L. G. J. van der Ven, R. A. T. M. van Benthem and G. de With  
*Degradation of a polyester-urethane coating: Physical properties*  
Journal of Polymer Science Part B-Polymer Physics 54(6) 659-671

C. Rocco, F. Karasu, C. Croutxe-Barghorn, X. Allonas, M. Lecomper, G. Riess, Y. Zhang, A. C. C. Esteves, L. G. J. van der Ven, R. A. T. M. van Benthem and G. de With  
*Highly-interpenetrated and phase-separated UV-cured interpenetrating methacrylate-epoxide polymer networks: Influence of the composition on properties and microstructure*  
Materials Today Communications 6(17-27)

G. Kacar and G. de With  
*Hydrogen bonding in dpd: Application to low molecular weight alcohol-water mixtures*  
Physical Chemistry Chemical Physics 18(14) 9554-9560

Y. Zhang, F. Karasu, C. Rocco, L. van der Ven, R. A. T. M. van Benthem, X. Allonas, C. Croutxe-Barghorn, A. C. C. Esteves and G. de With  
*Pdms-based self-replenishing coatings*  
Polymer 107(249-262)

H. Makki, K. N. S. Adema, E. A. J. F. Peters, J. Laven, L. G. J. van der Ven, R. A. T. M. van

Benthem and G. de With  
*Multi-scale simulation of degradation of polymer coatings: Thermo-mechanical simulations*  
Polymer Degradation and Stability 123(1-12)

K. N. S. Adema, H. Makki, E. A. J. F. Peters, J. Laven, L. G. J. van der Ven, R. A. T. M. van Benthem and G. de With  
*The influence of the exposure conditions on the simulated photodegradation process of polyester-urethane coatings*  
Polymer Degradation and Stability 123(121-130)

K. N. S. Adema, H. Makki, E. A. J. F. Peters, J. Laven, L. G. J. van der Ven, R. A. T. M. van Benthem and G. de With  
*The influence of the exposure conditions on the chemical and physical changes of polyester-urethane coatings during photodegradation*  
Polymer Degradation and Stability 123(13-25)

F. Karasu, C. Rocco, Y. Zhang, C. Croutxe-Barghorn, X. Allonas, L. G. J. van der Ven, R. A. T. M. van Benthem, A. C. C. Esteves and G. de With  
*Led-cured self-replenishing hydrophobic coatings based on interpenetrating polymer networks (ipns)*  
Rsc Advances 6(40) 33971-33982

H. M. van der Kooij, R. Fokkink, J. van der Gucht and J. Sprakel  
*Quantitative imaging of heterogeneous dynamics in drying and aging paint*  
Scientific Reports 6(

H. M. van der Kooij, G. T. van de Kerkhof and J. Sprakel  
*A mechanistic view of drying suspension droplets*  
Soft Matter 12(11) 2858-2867

Y. W. Li and Z. Y. Sun  
*The relationship between local density and bond-orientational order during crystallization of the gaussian core model*  
Soft Matter 12(7) 2009-2016

## LARGE-AREA THIN FILM ELECTRONICS

### Projects

**#734:** Predictive processing of polymer: fullerene solar cells

**#741:** Inkjet Printing of Suspensions

**#748:** Organic semiconductors blended into a crosslinkable insulator: Separating process-ability from optoelectronic functionality

**#752:** Looking down the rabbit hole: impact of porosity in the (in)organic layers on the performance of moisture permeation multi-layer barriers

## Theses

Davood Abbaszadeh

Reduction of Loss Processes in Polymer Light-Emitting Diodes

Monique Bötzer

Methanol- und wasserlösliche Polyfluoren-Copolymere

Daniel Lenkeit

Neuartige Fluoren-Copolymere für aus Lösung prozessierbare Mehrschicht-Bauelemente

Davide Bartesaghi

Device physics of polymer:fullerene bulk heterojunction solar cells

Hans van Franeker

Droplets, fibers & crystals: controlling the nanostructure of polymer and perovskite solar cells

Charley Schaefer

Theory of nanostructuring in solvent-deposited thin polymer films

Emanuele Breuza

Computational and Structural Study of Model and Industrial Ziegler-Natta Catalysts

Alberto Perrotta

Looking down the rabbit hole: nano-porosity in thin films

## Scientific publications

A. Perrotta, W. M. M. Kessels and M. Creatore  
*Dynamic ellipsometric porosimetry investigation of permeation pathways in moisture barrier layers on polymers*  
Acs Applied Materials & Interfaces 8(38)  
25005-25009

Y. H. Lin, S. R. Thomas, H. Faber, R. P. Li, M. A. McLachlan, P. A. Patsalas and T. D. Anthopoulos  
*Al-Doped ZnO Transistors Processed from Solution at 120 degrees C*  
Advanced Electronic Materials 2(6)

D. Abbaszadeh and P. W. M. Blom  
*Efficient blue polymer light-emitting diodes with electron-dominated transport due to trap dilution*  
Advanced Electronic Materials 2(7)

D. Bartesaghi, G. Ye, R. C. Chiechi and L. J. A. Koster  
*Compatibility of ptb7 and [70]pcbm as a key factor for the stability of ptb7:[70]pcbm solar cells*  
Advanced Energy Materials 6(13)

J. G. Labram, N. D. Treat, Y. H. Lin, C. H. Burgess, M. A. McLachlan and T. D. Anthopoulos  
*Energy quantization in solution-processed layers of indium oxide and their application in*

*resonant tunneling diodes*  
Advanced Functional Materials 26(10) 1656-1663

N. D. Boscher, M. H. Wang, A. Perrotta, K. Heinze, M. Creatore and K. K. Gleason  
*Metal-Organic Covalent Network Chemical Vapor Deposition for Gas Separation*  
Advanced Materials 28(34) 7479-7485

G. H. L. Heintges, J. J. van Franeker, M. M. Wienk and R. A. J. Janssen  
*The effect of branching in a semiconducting polymer on the efficiency of organic photovoltaic cells*  
Chemical Communications 52(1) 92-95

D. Abbaszadeh, G. A. H. Wetzelaer, N. Y. Doumon and P. W. M. Blom  
*Efficient polymer light-emitting diode with air-stable aluminum cathode*  
Journal of Applied Physics 119(9)

Q. Wang, J. J. van Franeker, B. J. Bruijnaers, M. M. Wienk and R. A. J. Janssen  
*Structure-property relationships for bis-diketopyrrolopyrrole molecules in organic photovoltaics*  
Journal of Materials Chemistry A 4(27) 10532-10541

C. H. Duan, R. E. M. Willems, J. J. van Franeker, B. J. Bruijnaers, M. M. Wienk and R. A. J. Janssen  
*Effect of side chain length on the charge transport, morphology, and photovoltaic performance of conjugated polymers in bulk heterojunction solar cells*  
Journal of Materials Chemistry A 4(5) 1855-1866

S. Shao, Z. Chen, H. H. Fang, G. H. ten Brink, D. Bartesaghi, S. Adjokatse, L. J. A. Koster, B. J. Kooi, A. Facchetti and M. A. Loi  
*N-type polymers as electron extraction layers in hybrid perovskite solar cells with improved ambient stability*  
Journal of Materials Chemistry A 4(7) 2419-2426

A. Senes, S. C. J. Meskers, W. M. Dijkstra, J. J. van Franeker, S. Altazin, J. S. Wilson and R. A. J. Janssen  
*Transition dipole moment orientation in films of solution processed fluorescent oligomers: Investigating the influence of molecular anisotropy*  
Journal of Materials Chemistry C 4(26) 6302-6308

C. H. Duan, K. Gao, J. J. van Franeker, F. Liu, M. M. Wienk and R. A. J. Janssen  
*Toward practical useful polymers for highly efficient solar cells via a random copolymer approach*  
Journal of the American Chemical Society 138(34) 10782-10785

C. Schaefer, J. J. Michels and P. van der Schoot  
*Structuring of thin-film polymer mixtures upon solvent evaporation*  
Macromolecules 49(18) 6858-6870

D. Abbaszadeh, A. Kunz, G. A. H. Wetzelaer, J. J. Michels, N. I. Craciun, K. Koynov, I. Lieberwirth and P. W. M. Blom  
*Elimination of charge carrier trapping in diluted semiconductors*  
Nature Materials 15(6) 628-+

C. H. Duan, J. J. van Franeker, M. M. Wienk and R. A. J. Janssen  
*High open circuit voltage polymer solar cells enabled by employing thiazoles in semiconducting polymers*  
Polymer Chemistry 7(36) 5730-5738

D. Abbaszadeh, N. Y. Doumon, G. J. A. H. Wetzelaer, L. J. A. Koster and P. W. M. Blom  
*Effect of the layer thickness on the efficiency enhancement in bilayer polymer light-emitting diodes*  
Synthetic Metals 215(64-67)

## Reported invention

**#734:** C. Schaefer  
Predictive processing of polymer: fullerene solar cells

POLYMERS FOR OIL AND GAS

## Projects

**#736:** Relating Polymer Rheology to Apparent Viscosity in Poreus Media

**#778:** Strategies towards industrial production of new (branched) polyacrylamide structures for EOR

HIGH-THROUGHPUT EXPERIMENTATION

## Scientific publication

J. Vitz, T. C. Majdanski, A. Meier, P. J. Lutz and U. S. Schubert  
Polymerization of ethylene oxide under controlled monomer addition via a mass flow controller for tailor made polyethylene oxides  
Polymer Chemistry 7(24) 4063-4071

EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

## Scientific publication

Q. B. Guan, B. Norder, L. Y. Chug, N. A. M. Besseling, S. J. Picken and T. J. Dingemans  
*All-Aromatic (AB)(n)-Multiblock Copolymers via Simple One-Step Melt Condensation Chemistry*  
Macromolecules 49(22) 8549-8562

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## EXCHANGE PROGRAMME BRAZIL

### Projects

**#769:** High performance Stereocomplex of Poly(lactic acid) SC-PLA

**#770:** Antimicrobial recombinant polymers for treatment of nosocomial infections

**#772:** Emergent properties of biomolecular systems: structural/dynamic characterization and development of new functionalities

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## EXCHANGE PROGRAMME CHINA

### Projects

**#779:** Preparation and Characterization of Model Waterborne Clearcoats

**#794:** Microbial Synthesis of Functional Polyhydroxyalkanoates (PHA)

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## NEWPOL (NEW POLYMER MATERIALS) PROGRAMME

### Projects

**#731.015.502:** Responsive Commodity Polymers

**#731.015.503:** Supramolecular Biomaterials with a Dual Network Architecture for Stem Cell Expansion

**#731.015.504:** Self-Synthesizing Hydrogels

**#731.015.506:** Towards flexible memories with coordination polymers with polar rotors

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## DPI ...

DPI is a foundation funded by Dutch industry, universities and the government which was set up to perform exploratory research in the area of polymer materials.

DPI operates at the interface of universities and industry, linking the scientific skills of university research groups to the industrial need for innovation.

DPI carries out pre-competitive research projects to add value to the scientific community through scientific publications and to the industrial community through the creation of intellectual property.

DPI provides a unique platform for generating awareness of new technology, in which participating industrial companies, competitors in the market place, communicate on a pre-competitive basis to trigger innovation.

DPI integrates the scientific disciplines and know-how of universities into the 'chain of knowledge' needed to optimise the conditions for making breakthrough inventions and triggering industrial innovation.

DPI aims to combine scientific excellence with a genuinely innovative impact in industry, thereby creating a new mindset in both industrial and academic research.

DPI aims to fill the innovation gap between industry and universities and so resolve the Dutch Paradox of scientific excellence and lack of innovation.

Some 75 researchers (PhDs and Post-Docs) are currently involved in DPI projects at knowledge institutes throughout the world.



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