

MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH IN FINLAND

Facilities, resources and networks

Tekes has chosen materials technology as one of its technology focus areas, and has now started evaluating the need for a new technology programme.

Materials technology is a fast-developing cross-disciplinary field that creates opportunities for new innovations in different industrial sectors. According to the technology strategy of Tekes, long-term funding and technology programme activities will be focused to such technology and knowledge-intensive areas that have the capacity to create added value and renew the Finnish industry.

The Finnish materials research has not yet been fully exploited. It could give a competitive edge to many industrial enterprises or even support to create new businesses. Successful industrial utilization of material technology requires effective cross-disciplinary cooperation and networks linking industry to leading international materials researchers and centers of excellence.

Scope of the study and confidentiality

Approximately 60% of Tekes' public research funding will be directed to the strategic technology focus areas. In order to maximize the effectiveness of these efforts, Tekes has decided to make a study on materials technology research in Finland. Tekes has contracted the study from Spinverse Consulting.

The study includes gathering information of research units, their current focus areas, level of know-how, quality and scope of networks and future plans.

In this first phase of the study, materials research units in universities and research organisations are asked to return a questionnaire concerning basic information of the unit, research activities, resources and networks. In the second phase, extensive interviews are carried out at selected units.

The results of the study are confidential and only for the use of Tekes. The final report of the results of the study will be handed to Tekes in November 2006. The results will also guide the scope and focus of the new possible materials technology programme under preparation.

A summary of the results will be distributed to all respondents of the study in November 2006.

Spinverse Consulting
Tekniikantie 14, 02150 Espoo

Questionnaire

The questionnaire has been sent to directors of research units in Finnish universities, research institutes and polytechnics that according to our knowledge are involved in materials technology research.

You have received by email a personalized link to an online questionnaire.

Please follow that link to complete the survey. Filling the questionnaire takes 30-60 minutes. Please note that it is recommended to fill the whole questionnaire the same time. However, you may also exit the survey and return to your answers at a later stage as long as you use the same computer with the **same IP address**.

Alternatively, you can download the questionnaire in excel format from

[www.spinverse.com/Tekes Materials Technology Questionnaire.xls](http://www.spinverse.com/Tekes_Materials_Technology_Questionnaire.xls)

Please return it by email to laura.juvonen@spinverse.com

We kindly ask for your response as soon as possible.

Deadline for responses is 11 August 2006.

In case you are unable to answer the questionnaire personally, you may ask another person from your unit to respond on your behalf. Please forward your personal link for the person answering the survey or ask them to download the excel sheet from the link above.

The online questionnaire can also be accessed from (but your personal link is preferable):

www.spinverse.com/survey.htm

For the purposes of this study, *a research unit* means a group of 10-50 researchers who work in the same field of research and share a common administration (e.g. budget).

Additional information

In questions concerning the Materials Technology Research in Finland study, please contact Laura Juvonen or Pekka Koponen, Spinverse Consulting.

In questions concerning materials technology and Tekes' strategy, please contact Reijo Mönther or Pertti Heinonen.

Spinverse Consulting

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