Centre for Nanotechnology and Smart Materials



Nanotechnology and Smart Materials Enabled Textile Applications



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Innovation Day Funding for Innovation and Smart Textiles: best practices and opportunities 2020-2021

Biella, 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019

# Outline

- About CENTI
- Smart Textiles Challenges
- Fibre & Yarn Technologies
- Smart Textiles Wearables
- Smart Textiles Automotive
- Summary



# About CENTI

# High Level Shareholders









universidade de aveiro



Universidade do Minho







# Automotive & Aeronautics

# 



**Architecture &** 

Construction

# Health, Protection & Well-being









Proof-of-concept 1<sup>st</sup> Process approach 1<sup>st</sup> Cost Assessment

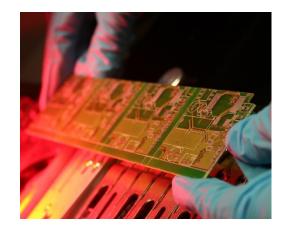
#### Prototyping

Product Design Process Refining Cost Assessment Pre-series co-production

Market Proof Pre series















# Smart Textiles - Challenges

# User Experience

Lifetime and system maintenance;

Poor textile usability

Design restrictions

Comfort issues and "user-friendliness"

Complex fabrication and assembly processes;

Incoherent value proposition

Complex data management services

# Challenges

Designer friendly technologies

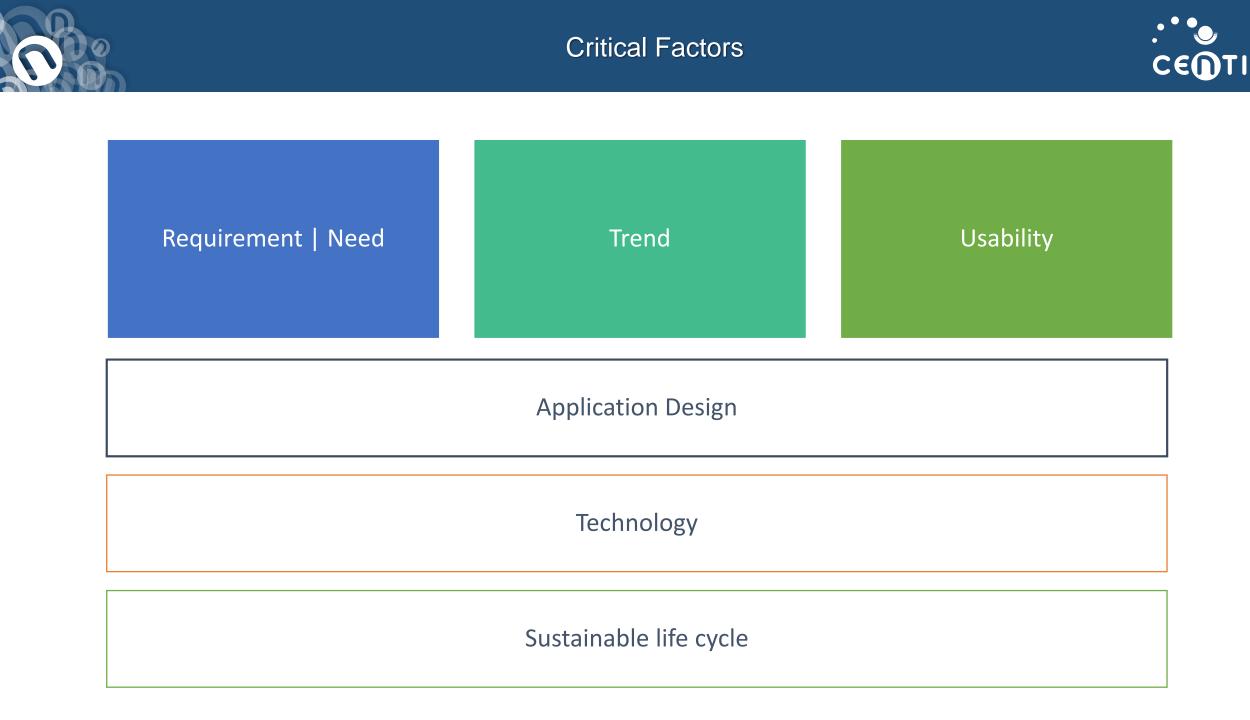
End user engagement and usability testing

Assessing suitable business models

Up scalable processing and fabrication methods

Development of new interconnection technologies

Pre-series market testing: a LabFab approach to cross the valley of death



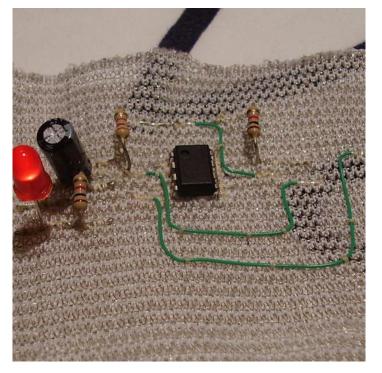


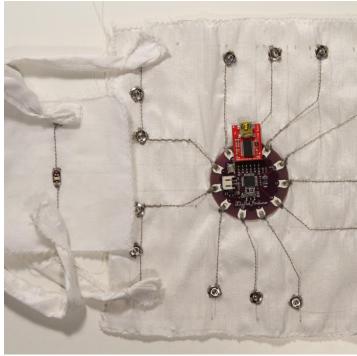


# Too much wire

# Cumbersome embedded systems

# Fragile interconnections



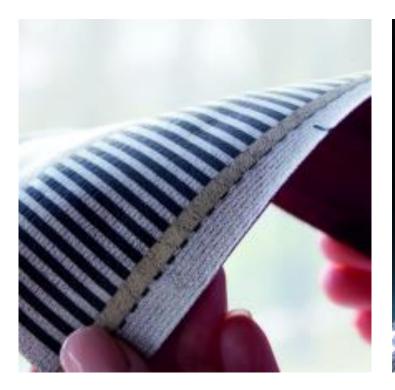








#### Surface Technology



#### Hybrid and Embedding



#### Fibre and Yarn







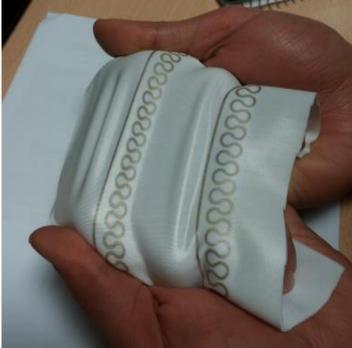
#### Direct Printing of Hybrid Systems

# Lamination and Thermoforming

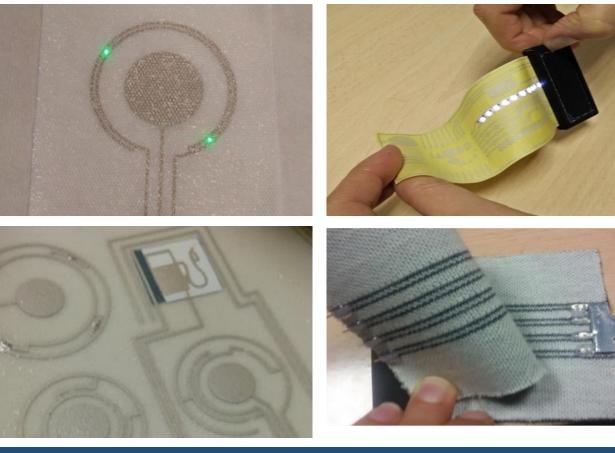


#### Capacitive Textile Structures





# Hybrid: Printed & Integrated Flexible Devices





- **PROS:** Wide variety of applications and technologies
  - Printed actuators push and gesture recognition:
  - Conformable flexible devices (streachable);
  - Flexible active and passive matrixes;
  - Printed and integrated heating and cooling system (Joule & Peltier effect);
  - Printed and laminated Flexible lighting (OLED, EL);

- CONS: Complex value proposal and lifetime
  - Complex multi-process assembling
  - Cost-intensive
  - Design restrictions and poor usability (i.e. wash ability)
  - Lifetime issues in wearable applications

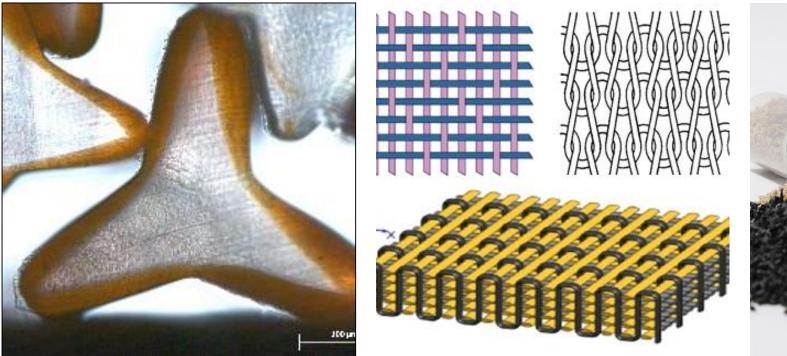


# Fibre & Yarn Technologies





#### Smart Fibre



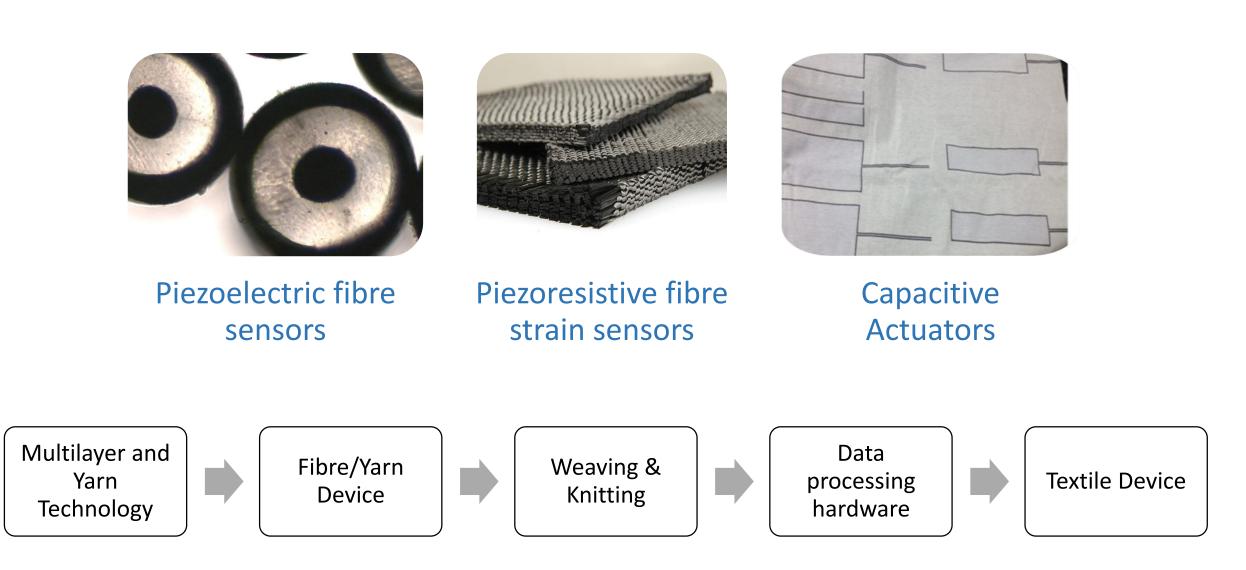
Yarn Technology

#### Materials Development

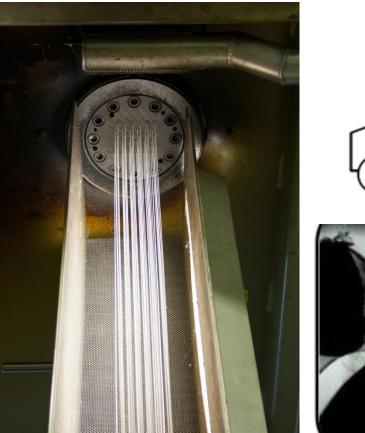


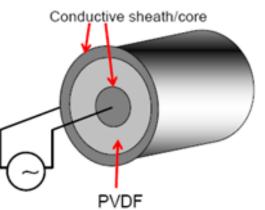






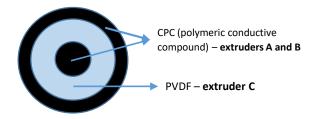
# Smart Fibre Technology







- Tri-component fibre technology (pilot scale)
- Development of fibre-based and/or yarn-based electronic devices using multilayer and coaxial structures;
- Fibres compatible with textile processing (mechanical properties) and presenting electronic output:
- Sensor actuators;
- Antennas and interconnectors;
- Energy harvesting;





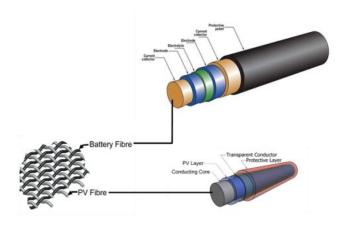
#### Fibre Devices













F-FET Fibre Transistor Source Gate Drain

F-LED Fibre Light-emitting Diode

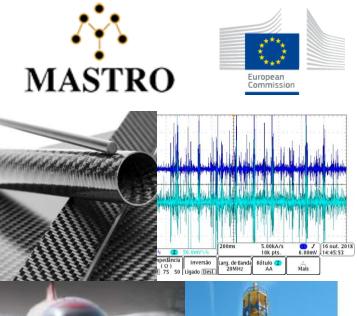
F-Energy Fibre Energy Device













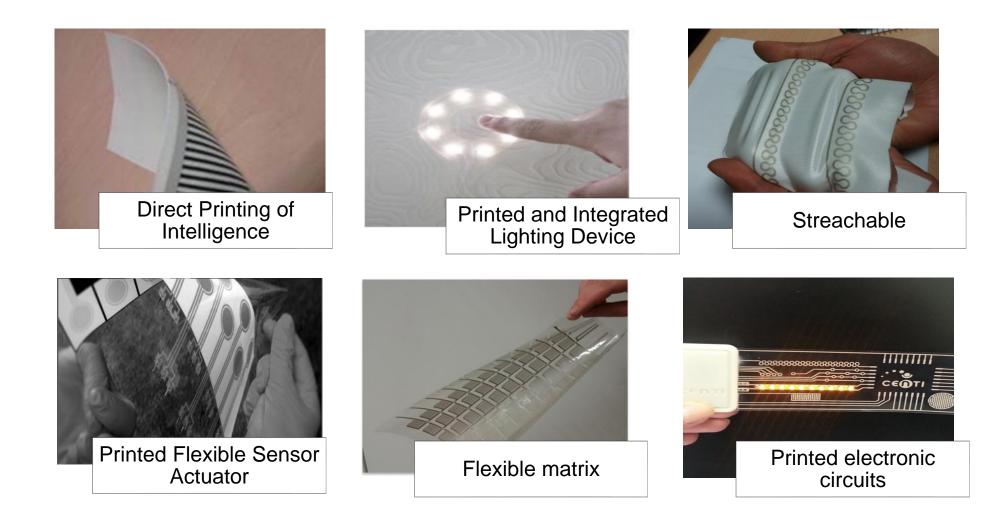




# Smart Textiles - Wearables





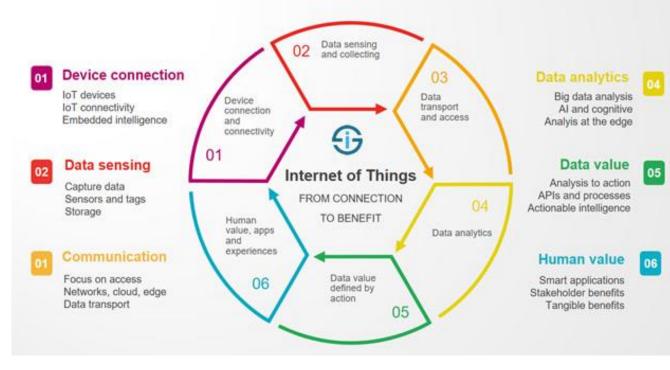






# The Internet of Things

From connecting devices to human value



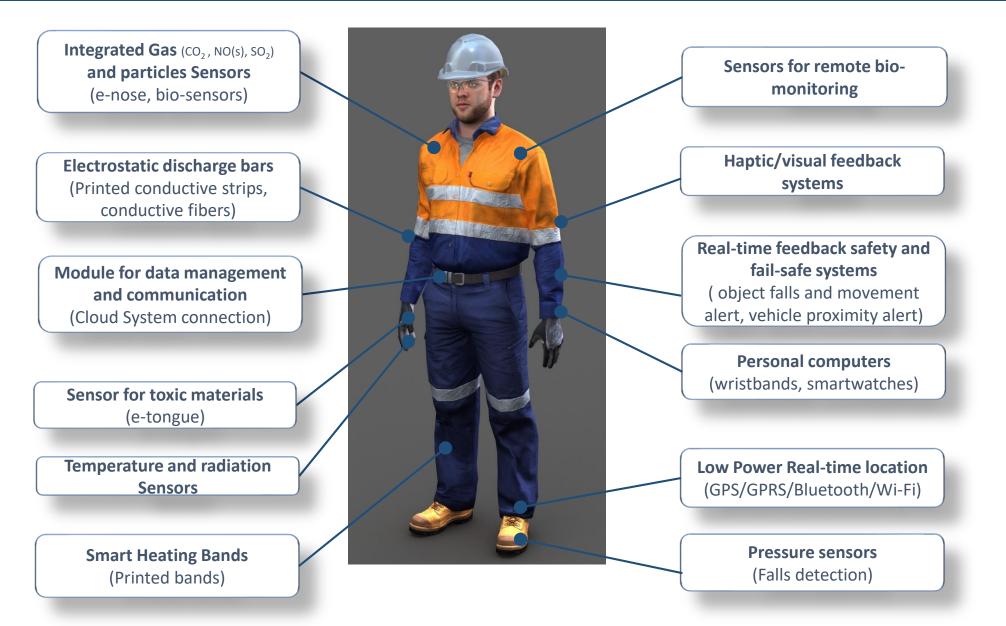
#### **Ubiquitous interactivity – live devices:**

- Smart devices must generate data;
- Data must be communicated/transmitted;
- Data must be analysed;
- Specific value must be obtained from the data;
- Data must serve to aid human, or to increase value into day life
- Integration of actuation interface



# ICT and IOT Integrated Technologies





# Printed and Hybrid Systems





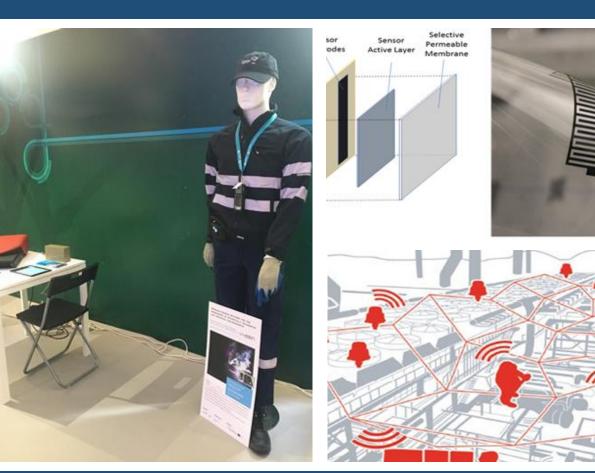


- Integrated ligthing and printed elements;
- Combination with SMD components (LED and micro processors);
- Direct printing and encapsulation of devices;
- Encapsulation enables the printed component to be washable;



# WISEN





WISEN project aims to create an integrated solution of sensing and communication systems in industrial environments, namely for a waste management plant via:

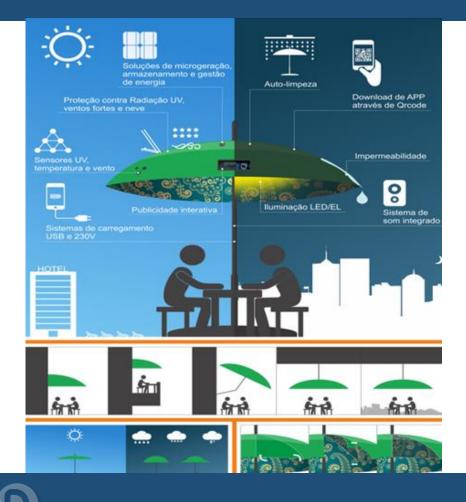
- Optimization of a wireless data transmission architecture;
- Development of new sensors and respective integration solutions;





# Home Textiles



















# iParasol Project









- Synergies between traditional Portuguese sectors, such as the metal-mechanical and home textiles industries;
- Develop aptitudes in the area of embedded electronics in textile materials, increasing the quality of the products and strengthen the position of the companies in the growing market of smart materials and devices;
- Concepts:
  - Full Automation (solar orientation) and interconnection w/ other peripherals;
  - Energy Harvesting Self Powered;
  - Integrated Lighting Self-Lighting;
  - Autonomous management;
- Develop new design concepts of metal and dynamic structural modules.
- www.iparasol.pt



# Smart Textiles - Automotive

Automotive Interiors Vision



Clean Design

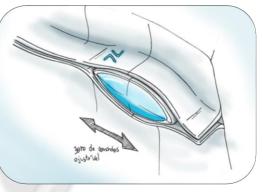


**On Demand** 

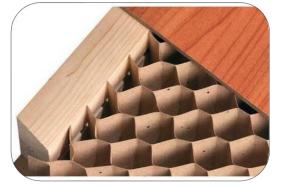
**Functions** 



Seamless Feel



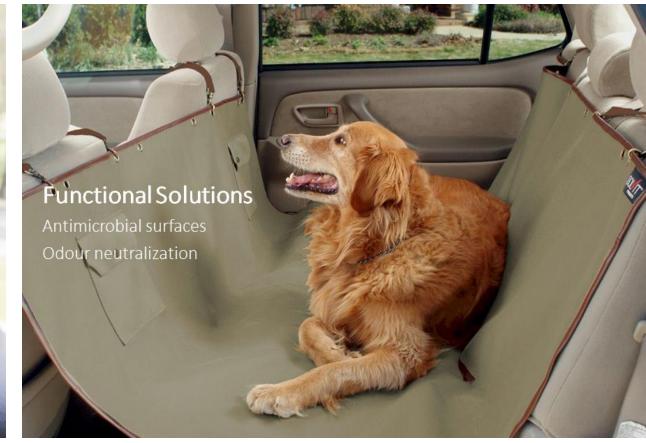
Personalize and Adapt Functionalized Comfort



Sustainable Structures

# Surface Functionalization







# Interactive Translucid Artificial Leather Structures



- Direct printing onto woven and non woven structures;
- Stretchable membrane integration is achieved via thermoforming at 80°C and/or 120°C (for fully encapsulated devices);
- Direct printing and lamination of mechanically stable and stretchable silver inks are feasible for thermoforming and hot-press lamination;
- Integration of RGB LEDs and other SMD components feasible for hot-press processes;









No modification of industrial fabrication process;

Integrate lighting and actuators directly onto IM component;

Replace wiring and embedded systems with printed and hybrid components;

Validation in industrial production conditions (at shop floor);

Ultimate Goal – Integrated an LED display directly on the structure of IM Component via IML;

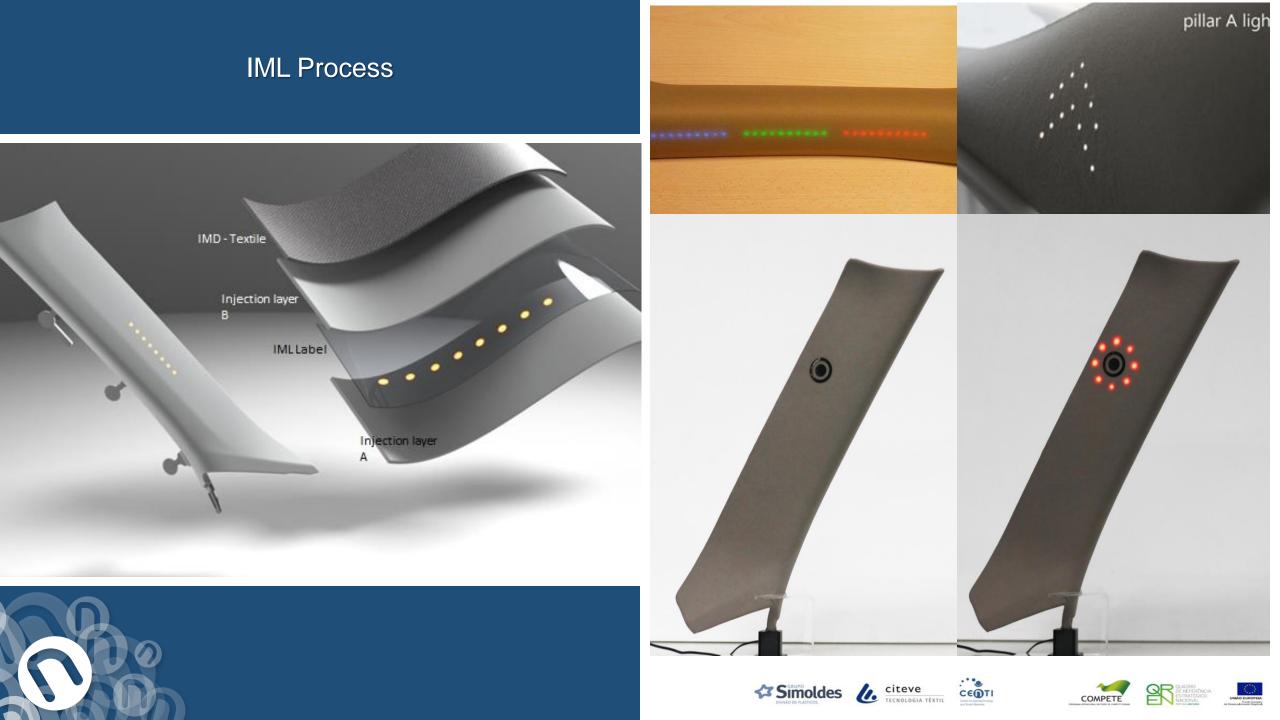












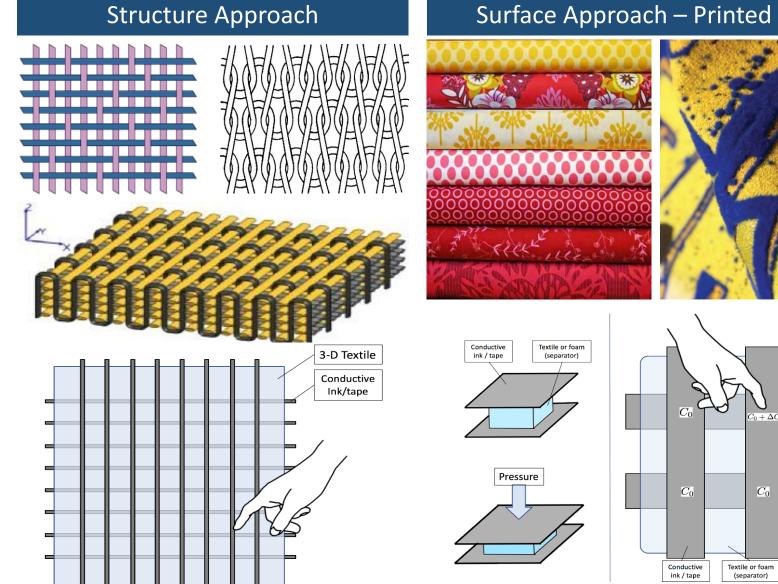


# **Textile Touchpad**





- Textile Functionalization;
- Single and Multi-touch;
- Gesture/trackpad;
- Pressure sensitive;



# Summary







- Integration of nanotechnologies into textile structures may be compatible and/or adapted to conventional high throughput processes;
- Adaptation or development of textile industrial processes may be achieved via pilot lines and/or pilot test beds to validate upscaling process;
- Continuous innovation in the field of materials engineering is key requirement for international competitiveness:
  - Digital process integration;
  - Digital product integration ubiquitous continuously connected devices;
  - Digital Sustainability;
  - Materials sustainability;

Centre for Nanotechnology and Smart Materials



# Thank you for you attention!

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