


INNOSTORAGE IRSES-610692		Deliverable number:	D7.2
		Title:	Report on Staff Exchange – Management of complex projects

INNOSTORAGE – USE OF INNOVATIVE THERMAL ENERGY STORAGE FOR MARKED ENERGY SAVINGS AND SIGNIFICANT LOWERING CO₂ EMISSIONS

Beneficiaries:




Partners:




Report on Staff Exchanges

	Name and Institution	Date
Prepared by:	Cristina Domínguez Universitat de Lleida	April 5 th , 2014
Checked by:	Prof. Dr. Luisa F. Cabeza Universitat de Lleida	April 6 th , 2014
Approved by:	Prof. Dr. Luisa F. Cabeza Universitat de Lleida	April 6 th , 2014

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1 Objectives

The objectives of the secondment were:

1. Managing the project, studying how it was being managed overseas and learning from the University of Auckland.
2. Getting more funding by studying the opportunities of continuing with the collaboration between the universities taking part in the project, specially the opportunities that University of Lleida has in New Zealand.

The main idea was to strengthen collaborations between the partners, especially with New Zealand, as we have had previous projects such a Marie Curie which allowed Prof Dr Mohammed Farid spend one year in University of Lleida.

We need to foster the collaboration and open new lines of research.

2 Introduction

My stay took two months, started on February, 1st and finished on April, 2nd. The topic was “Management of complex projects” inside the Work Package 7.

During the stay I have been able to check how the managing of the project is being done overseas and to learn from the people responsible for the different areas of the University involved in it.

Moreover I have been studying future opportunities of funding and managing some issues of the project. I have had meetings with different services of the University of Auckland, I have also prepared a press release in the main Newsletter of the University of Auckland which arrives to companies, institutions, professors, researchers, staff of the University, old students and current students.


3 Description of work

Once I arrived to The University of Auckland I got in contact with the research office. I arranged meetings with them.

First of all I got information about which possibilities of funding do we have and I got involved in the office. I learnt about the methodologies of work in the office.

Denice Belsten, Haidee Watking and David Sauders met with me and they explained me how the research office works. How do they manage projects.

David Saunders, explained me how they ask for funding to the Royal Society of New Zealand, this institution, funded by the New Zealand Government funds the participation of researchers in overseas projects. So they asked for funding, to do the secondments in INNOSTORAGE. They signed an agreement. The amount received is limited and contestable, they receive 85% of the

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cost of the action, and the difference is funded by their own resources. It is not possible for us to take part in calls of them, only we would be able to get money for travelling expenses. They also have experience with USA and European projects. They are very interested in taking part in European projects.

We concluded on the opportunities for future collaborations, they can be found in:

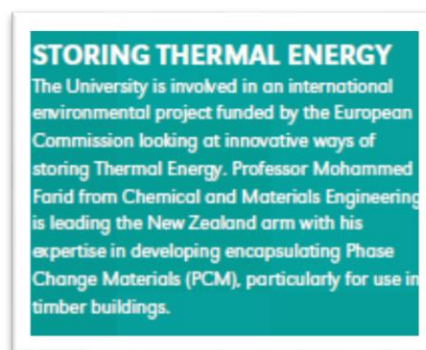
- European Projects
- USA (The proposal has to benefit them)
- Companies

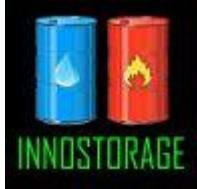
In the area of getting funding from companies, UniServices is the office responsible for it.

I had a meeting with Nic Pennington, Business manager in the office. He explained me about how the office works. They are responsible for managing and running contracts with companies. The procedure consists of signing an agreement between the researcher and Uniservices and another with the company and Uniservices.

Moreover I have been working on the project, organizing the Eurotherm Seminar 99 conference and the different training schools.

With the communications office we have released a press notice on the Newsletter of the University, UniNews, Vol 44, Issue 03, May 2014 (<https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/for/the-media/tm-publications/tm-uninews.html>)



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STORING THERMAL ENERGY

How can we maximise the energy efficiency of our homes and work places and significantly lower CO2 emissions?

This is the broad challenge of an international environmental project funded by the European Commission called INNOSTORAGE – Use of Innovative Thermal Energy Storage for marked energy savings – to which the University of Auckland’s Chemical and Materials Engineering Department, and in particular the work of Professor Dr Mohammed Farid, is a key contributor.

Led by Universitat de Lleida (Spain) and with main researcher Professor Dr Luisa F. Cabeza, known internationally for her research in Thermal Energy Storage and in renewable energies, the project includes collaborations and staff and PhD student exchanges between the partners: University of Auckland, Auburn University in USA and University of South Australia with beneficiaries Universitat de Lleida, Universitat de Barcelona (Spain), Université Lyon 1 Claude Bernard (France) and Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (Israel).

The focus of the research is Efficient Thermal Energy Storage (TES) using Phase Change Materials (PCM). Over four years, researchers will test different energy storage systems based on materials such as paraffin, salts and fatty acids, which store temperature (heat or cold) during their change from a solid state to a liquid state. Their use in efficient thermal storage systems is very interesting since they can accumulate very large amounts of available energy at a narrow temperature range, says Dr Cabeza. Implementing such systems can amount to significant energy saving and CO2 emission cuts. As part of the first stage of the project, which

is expected to run for four years, Dr Albert Castell Casol, a researcher and associate professor from Universitat de Lleida and Cristina Dominguez, project manager for INNOSTORAGE, visited the University of Auckland during the first semester. Cristina has been fostering links and gaining experience in managing the project from another country while Albert, who is here until 2 May, has been working on concepts developed in both Auckland and Spain for capturing and storing solar energy inside buildings themselves.


“In Spain we have a system for heavy concrete buildings so I am now trying to develop it here for timber buildings using phase change materials,” he says.

In 2010 Mohammed spent one of his sabbatical years in Universitat de Lleida, funded by a Marie Curie Project from the European

Commission. He has expertise in developing and encapsulating PCM, particularly for use in timber buildings and has developed an innovative micro-capsule that can be inserted inside polymers or gypsum to absorb and release heat, minimising indoor temperature variation and reducing energy needed for heating and air-conditioning.

The benefits of INNOSTORAGE will be to exchange information and knowledge between world leaders in energy storage, aiming to innovate in energy savings and environmental improvements, says Cristina.

In May a Eurotherm Seminar 99 conference will be held in Lleida. For more information visit the website <http://www.eurotherm-seminar99.eu/> In June a Training School also related to the project will take place in Universitat de Barcelona: www.innostorage.eu/joint.php



Albert, Mohammed and Cristina with innovative Phase Change Materials (PCM) developed at Auckland.

This press release will help with the dissemination of the project and may create interest towards the project on companies from New Zealand.


As I have been the first person involved in the project travelling to New Zealand I also prepared the “Reception Plan” a document which will help out the other members of the project who will second in New Zealand.

Finally, I have been helping with setting up responsibilities and creating an effective communication between the management and the research team. I attended some of the technical meetings.

4 Results

The results have been:

1. A press release, it disseminates information about the project, it will arrive to companies and the network of the University.

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2. Two meetings with broad possibilities of future collaborations.
3. David Saunders (Fund. Specialist, International business growth Advisor) will meet with Prof. Dr. Luisa F. Cabeza, Prof. Dr. Mohammed Farid in The University of Auckland during Luisa's secondment in The University of Auckland.

The researchers will explore the possibilities of funding. They will have a look at the different opportunities they have to apply, the researchers will think on the topic of research that would fit in the call. All with the aim of continuing the collaboration.

After taking decisions on the topics we will prepare proposals to submit in these different calls. Having strengthened our relations and having learnt about our capacities and knowledge of each other we will be able to prepare proposals for HORIZON 2020.

4. Nic Pennington (Building Manager, Uniservices) Luisa F. Cabeza and Mohammed Farid will have a meeting to discuss the possibilities of finding an industrial partner in New Zealand.
5. The meeting between Svetlana Ushak from Antofagasta University, Luisa F. Cabeza and Mohammed Farid to discuss topics of research for future collaborations.
6. The Preparation of the 1st Training School of the project and preparation of the Eurotherm Seminar 99 conference.

5 Outcomes or future work

Future work will be preparing consortiums and proposals for European projects and continuing with the management of the project.

6 Assessment

The secondment has been fruitful in different ways.

- We have new opportunities of future collaborations thanks to my knowledge of the management in The University of Auckland and my research done.
- I have had the opportunity to develop my career in another country, getting used to new ways of working and to use the English language.