

Partnerships for better  
**innovation support**



**Eco-Innovation**

**REMake**

# **REMake**

**Recycling and Resource Efficiency driving innovation in  
European Manufacturing SMEs**

*S. Galant*

*President of Greenovate!Europe,  
CEO TECHNOFI*

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Safety and sustainability in handling chemicals  
in metal working and surface treatment  
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**European Commission**  
Enterprise and Industry

## Outline

- **The REMake project goals and targets**
- **Barriers to Recycling & Resource Efficiency**
- **The voucher concept and tests**
- **Benefits for SMEs**
- **Benefits for Europe**
- **Conclusion**

## The REMAke project goals

- **To design targeted support services for eco innovation based growth in manufacturing SMEs, based on Recycling & Resource Efficiency approaches**
- **To test the support services in several Member States**
- **To prepare replication EU-wide**

## The REMAke targets

- **Five member states: France, Germany, Italy, Spain, UK**
- **Sub-sectors of the manufacturing industry: metal products, plastic products, surface finishing, mechanical engineering, electric and electronic equipment**
- **Six public innovation agencies**

## The barriers to Recycling & Resource Efficiency

- **Access to external technical and non-technical innovation knowledge**
- **Improvement of internal technical and non-technical innovation skills**
- **Better cooperation within the whole supply chains**
- **Use of innovation-enabling standards**

## The voucher concept and tests

- **Involve external expertise to support SMEs using change management and learning by doing**
  - *What must improve/change (indicators from irrefutable assessments-LCA based)?*
  - *What are the change goals and by when?*
  - *What are the first steps towards success ?*
- **Get external financial support to accelerate: the voucher from public innovation agencies**

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Innovation  
expertise

Industry needs  
SME access



Technological  
knowledge



Six national or regional  
innovation  
agencies



## Benefits for SMEs

- Implement eco-design, life-cycle assessment and eco-innovation management (trainings) at moderate costs
- Uptake eco innovation enabling standards and regulations to reduce costs in the end
- Manage eco innovation processes across the company

## Segmented SME learning benefits

- **Non eco innovators** (no innovation with environmental benefits)  
*Learn to grow through innovation at own's pace*
- **Slow eco-adopters** (adoption when proven by industry leaders)  
*Learn to become a strategic eco-adopter for sustained growth*
- **Strategic eco-adopters** (implement eco-innovations acquired as lead user)  
*Learn to develop eco-innovations in-house and manage fast growth*
- **Strategic eco-innovators** (active in innovative eco equipment & services development often sold to other firms)  
*Learn to expand in new technologies and markets and manage fast growth*

## Conclusions

- **REMake: a robust and resilient partnership**
- **Experience in other voucher approaches allows cross fertilization**
- **Life long experience of professional associations in bringing external support**
- **Real life implementation to start early 2010**