

For immediate release

FINNANO PRESENTS SUCCESS STORIES OF FINNISH NANOTECHNOLOGY

Nanotech still holds huge untapped potential for Finnish industry

Helsinki, Finland - April 16th 2008 - Finland is a forerunner in nanotechnology, and the fast-growing field has already produced strong results. The 70-million euro **FinNano** programme, currently in its third year, has launched companies and new business throughout the country. Applications of nanotechnology are in widespread use in the key areas of Finnish industry.

Finland's nanotech development has produced numerous success stories. For example, **Nicanti** technology helps combat product forgeries through marking genuine products with invisible codes; **Nanocomp Ltd** produces diffractive optics; and US-based specialty chemicals company **OM Group** has transformed an old foundry in Finland into a state-of-the-art product development center.

“The number of Finnish nanotechnology companies has grown rapidly over the last few years. Nanotechnology is applied throughout Finland's key industries, and the country has enjoyed notable success in commercialising its nanotech innovations,” said Mr. **Markku Lämsä**, Programme Manager, Tekes.

The most well-known Finnish company conducting research in nanotechnology is Nokia. The company cooperates with leading nanotech research universities. In February, Nokia unveiled the Morph concept that explores the use of stretchable and flexible materials in a mobile communications device.

“When looking at these success stories, we must remember that we have so far explored only a fraction of the possibilities of nanotechnology. The field still holds a wealth of untapped potential for the key areas of Finnish industry,” said Mr. **Pekka Koponen**, CEO, Spinverse Ltd.

Nanotechnology has been developed in Finland for over 30 years, and it is seen as the key technology of the current decade. The market for nanotech applications is expected to grow very fast in the next few years. For instance, Lux Research has estimated the value of nanotech-related goods and services at €1,800 billion in 2014.

The rapid growth of Finnish nanotechnology in recent years has been significantly supported by the Tekes FinNano programme, which strengthens Finnish nanotechnology research in selected focus areas and accelerates the commercial development of nanotechnology in Finland. The programme emphasises effective use of research results and promotes close collaboration between research and industry.

Since 2005, the number of Finnish nanotechnology companies has tripled from approximately 60 companies to between 150 and 200. The Tekes programme is carried out in close collaboration with the Academy of Finland's €9.5 million Nanoscience Research Programme. Worldwide investments in nanoscience research and development are estimated at €7,500 million for 2006.



The Functional Materials programme is presented at the NMP Finland Conference, held on the 16th and 17th April 2008 at Helsinki Fair Center (Messukeskus), Helsinki, Finland.

The NMP Finland Conference is organised by Spinverse Ltd. The company commercialises emerging technologies by combining scientific, industrial and investment expertise with a broad contact and knowledge base. Spinverse Ltd. coordinates the Tekes FinNano and Functional Materials programmes. The NMP Finland Conference is expected to attract over 400 experts from over 14 countries. A large number of companies will have a presence in the Materia 08 exhibition, the largest technical event in Finland.

For more information about the event, please visit www.nmpfinland.net.

Additional information on the FinNano programme is available at:
www.tekes.fi/finnano (link to English site in upper right-hand corner)

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Tekes, the Finnish Funding Agency for Technology and Innovation, is the main government financing and expert organisation for research and technological development in Finland. Tekes finances industrial R&D projects as well as projects in universities and research institutes. Approximately half of Tekes funding is channeled through its diverse range of programmes.
www.tekes.fi

Spinverse Ltd. specialises in commercialising emerging breakthrough technologies. The company brings together leading industry innovators by coordinating the Tekes FinNano and Functional Materials programmes, as well as by organising the annual Nanotech Northern Europe event. Spinverse Ltd. was founded in 2004 and is located in Espoo, Finland. www.spinverse.com