

Baekelandmandates: is it possible for an SME?

Ruben Geerinck



3DWeaving

www.3dWeaving.com

Introduction

- Ruben Geerinck
- Engineer master in Textiles
- Graduated June 2014
- Currently at 3DWeaving, working on a PhD,
Funded by a Baekelandmandate



3DWeaving

- Small company
- 1 manager, Pascal Ghekiere
- 2 technicians
- Started fabricating fabrics for classical textiles industries
- Started switch to technical textiles in 2008^{I1}
- Need for research and extra manpower...



Dia 3

I1

klopt dit? Misschien nog een omzet cijfer toevoegen als Pascal dit goed vindt

Ilse; 30/11/2014

- Fotootjes van een paar textielen en toepassingen van 3DWeaving



What is a Baekelandmandate?

- Financing instrument by IWT
- Funds
 - Personnel cost 1 person (either on payroll at university or at company)
 - Project costs: 40kEuro per year
- Goal: obtain a PhD
- Cooperation between company and university
- Person works both at company and at university
- Duration: 4 year



What's in it for the company

- Possibility to invest in more fundamental research
- But still possible to be very applied and immediately relevant for company
- Training of personnel



How does it work?

- 2 calls per year, March and September
- Company and university define subject
- Look for suitable candidate e.g. Personnel from company, new personnel, last year student
- Write project proposal
 - Scientific part
 - Valorisation part



How does it work?

- Candidate defends the project
- Approval or project? (June or September)
- Project starts



How did we do it?

- 3D Weaving wanted to gain more expertise in
 - Development of new 3D woven structures
 - Use of these structures in composites
- 3DWeaving looked for expertise in composites
- The research group of prof. Joris Degrieck was contacted as promotor
- A suitable candidate was found: Ruben Geerinck, engineering student about to graduate and master thesis student at 3DWeaving



How did we do it?

- Proposal writing: started in January
 - Technical part: mainly written by UGent
 - Valorisation part: strong support by UGent in how to write, crucial input from company
 - Budget, administration, contract: coordinated by UGent
 - Submission: beginning of March
- Defense (in May):
 - Training of the candidate in 2 or 3 practice sessions organised by UGent (in April)
- Approval in June



Financially?

- Total project budget:
 - Cost of personnel for 4 years
 - 40 kEuro per year of cost for travel, consumables, ICT,
- Funding percentage
 - Medium sized company: 60 percent of total project budget
 - Small company: 70 percent of total project budget
- Hier nog iets over verminderde bijdrage kenniswerkers?



Start of the project

- September 2014
- lets over hoe het tot nu toe loopt?



Conclusions?

- PhD projects are also interesting for small companies
- The proposal writing is manageable with the University support



Contact

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