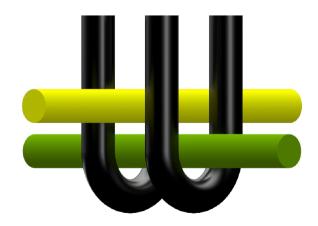
# Baekelandmandates: is it possible for an SME?

Ruben Geerinck



3DWeaving

#### 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
- Need for research and extra manpower...



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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Pascal Ghekiere

