

# Support to Nonwovens Innovation and R&D Working Group

## Terms of Reference

### **What is the Support to Nonwovens Innovation and R&D Working Group?**

The Support to Nonwovens Innovation and R&D Working Group provides EDANA member companies with a platform and pool of advice and expertise in the areas of innovation and R&D, of innovation and talent management, with a particular emphasis on technological expertise.

### **Objectives**

- Help create an overall positive climate for innovation in the nonwovens and related industries
- Improve the image and perception of the nonwovens industry in academic research and higher education institutes
- Stimulate the nonwovens industry's access to talent from the above institutes or from any center of excellence and help member companies recruit talent from such sources
- Anticipate future developments influencing the nonwovens industry's access to higher education, research funding, talent and human resources in general
- To encourage collaborative research activities and projects that benefit members in full compliance with general regulatory and competition law requirements, and to help identifying public funding opportunities for these activities and projects
- Support the Nonwovens Innovation Academy

### **Who should attend?**

Every EDANA member company interested in cooperating towards the above-defined objectives, as well as any EDANA member Institute (with research, testing or pilot plant services) can appoint one or more representatives of the appropriate senior management level (CTO, Head of R&D, Head of Innovation, Managing Director) to participate in this Working Group.

Participation in a group is subject to the EDANA guidelines.

### **Benefits/deliverables**

- Better climate for innovation
- Higher awareness of the innovation potential of nonwovens
- Tools for talent recruiting
- Mapping of capabilities of centres of excellence.

### **Related Groups**

This group operates within the remit of the Outreach & Growth Steering Group.

### **Chair**

- **Stephen Russell, Leeds University (UK)**  
E-mail: [S.J.Russell@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:S.J.Russell@leeds.ac.uk)

## Contact EDANA

- **Natacha Defeche**  
Marketing & Member Engagement Director  
T + 32 2 740 18 13  
E [natacha.defeche@edana.org](mailto:natacha.defeche@edana.org)
- **Anaëlle Schutz**  
Scientific Affairs and Training Coordinator  
T + 32 2 740 18 11  
E [anaelle.schutz@edana.org](mailto:anaelle.schutz@edana.org)

EDANA  
Avenue Herrmann-Debroux, 46  
1160 Brussels – Belgium  
T + 32 (0)2 734 93 10  
F + 32 (0)2 733 35 18  
[www.edana.org](http://www.edana.org)