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Science Link: Cooperation between science and industry in the Baltic Sea Region

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Science Link is a European Union funded project which aims to support and encourage innovation and entrepreneurship in the Baltic Sea Region, to strengthen the region's competitiveness in a global context.

One way of encouraging innovation is by increasing the awareness about the existing research and scientific resources amongst industrial companies, as well as facilitating access to these valuable resources.

Science Link has created a network of synchrotron and neutron sources, physics research institutes and re-

gional development agencies, involving 17 project partners from eight countries in the Baltic Sea Region. During the project period 2012 – 2014, three open calls have been made for companies to apply for an experimental measurement at a synchrotron source like DESY or MAX-Lab. From a total of 66 received applications, 48 have been accepted from diverse fields including construction, material science, life science and agriculture, while to date 36 of the measurements have been carried out.

This presentation will describe the Science Link project, its network and its results so far, with an overview of the industrial measurements already performed. Examples include the use of synchrotron x-ray diffraction analysis for new fertiliser materials, x-ray absorption spectroscopy on industrial catalysts for green chemistry, small angle x-ray scattering for understanding the behaviour of dispersants in paints, pigments and dyes, photoelectron emission microscopy for analysis of solar cell materials and synchrotron infrared spectroscopy to investigate the relationship between urinary sediments and kidney stone formation.

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