EPO Innovation case studies

- Over 35 case studies on how European SMEs/startups can create strategic value from patents
- How patents facilitate technology commercialisation by SMEs and tech transfer from European research institutions
- Diverse tech transfer & business model scenarios
- Good practices in IP strategy and IP management

SME case studies

SMEs show how they strategically use IP to their advantage and what IP management capabilities they need to achieve their goals.

→ Read more

Technology transfer case studies

Technology transfer journeys demonstrate the role that IP rights play when translating research results into commercially successful products and services.

→ Read more

High-growth technology case studies

Business leaders discuss their business success stories with global expert panels. They describe the challenges they have faced in terms of licensing, building to sell, growth financing and open innovation with a focus on the role of intellectual assets. The format is designed with key learnings for business decision-makers in mind.

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EPO Innovation case studies

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11 marino med
12 orcan The Efficiency Company
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21 LITHOZ Manufacture the future.
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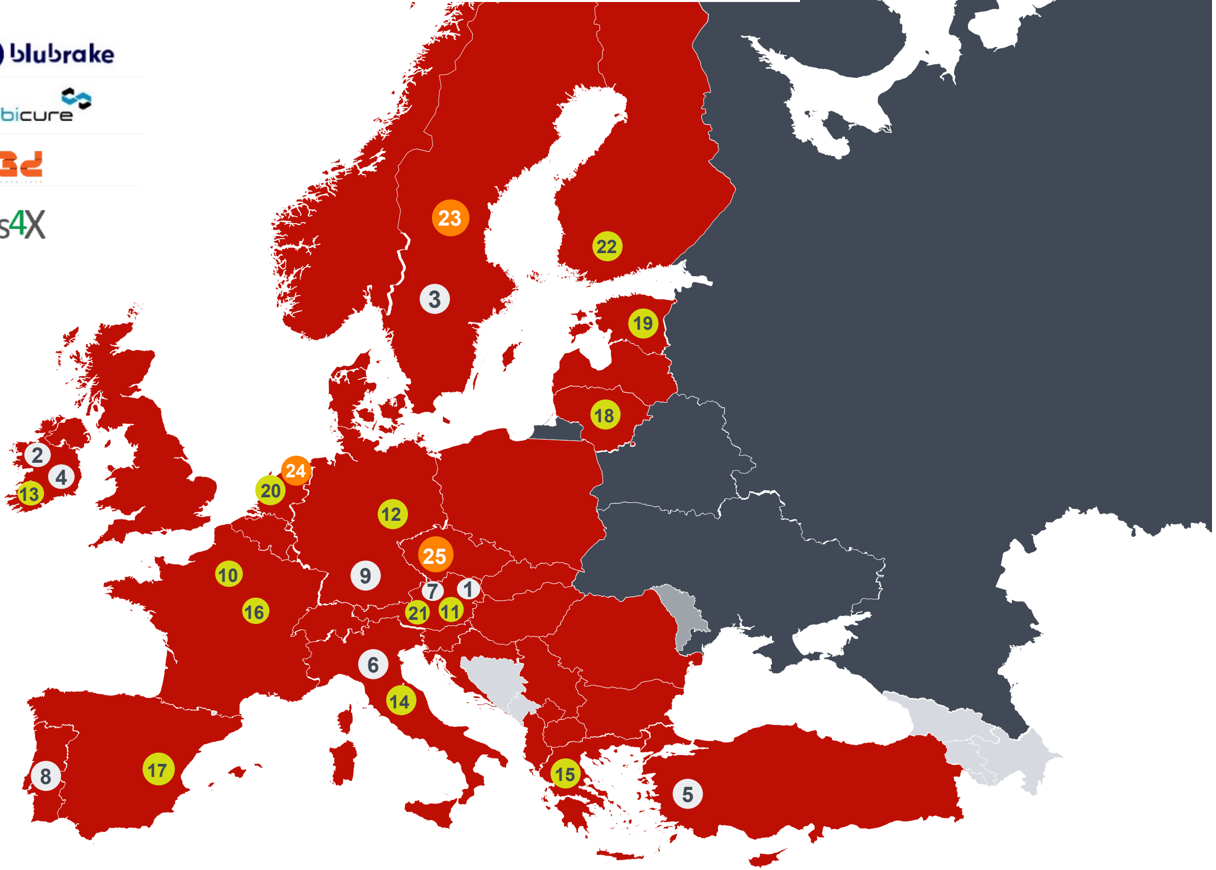
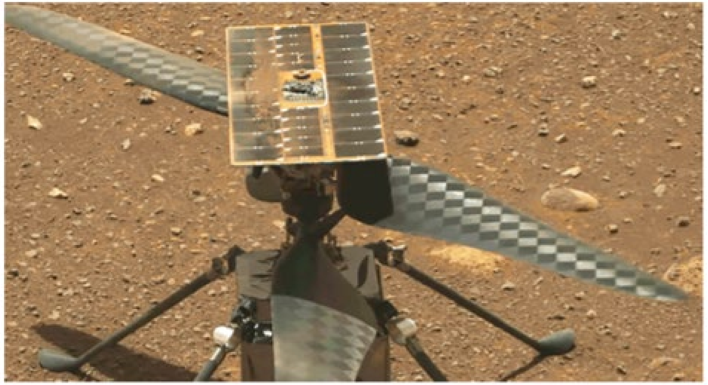


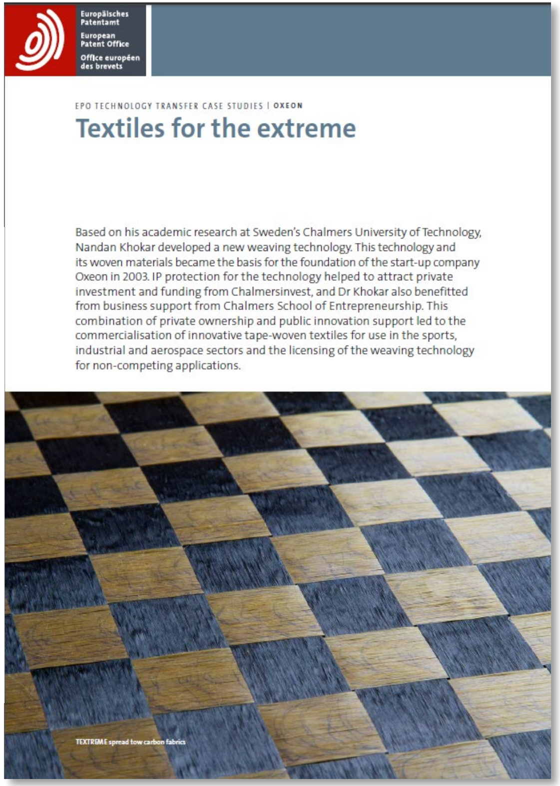
Technology transfers | SME | Investors

Example: Oxeon - textiles for the extreme

High-performance ski built with TEXTREME

Ultra-lightweight TEXTREME carbon fabric reinforcing the rotor blades of NASA's Mars helicopter Ingenuity





Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

EPO TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER CASE STUDIES | OXEON

Textiles for the extreme

Based on his academic research at Sweden's Chalmers University of Technology, Nandan Khokar developed a new weaving technology. This technology and its woven materials became the basis for the foundation of the start-up company Oxeon in 2003. IP protection for the technology helped to attract private investment and funding from Chalmersinvest, and Dr Khokar also benefitted from business support from Chalmers School of Entrepreneurship. This combination of private ownership and public innovation support led to the commercialisation of innovative tape-woven textiles for use in the sports, industrial and aerospace sectors and the licensing of the weaving technology for non-competing applications.

TEXTREME spread tow carbon fabrics

Source: epo.org/case-studies

USING PATENTS

What & Where to Patent?

- Only the material?
- Only the process?
- Both?

Factors to Consider

- Own needs
- Customers' needs
- Potential licensees' needs

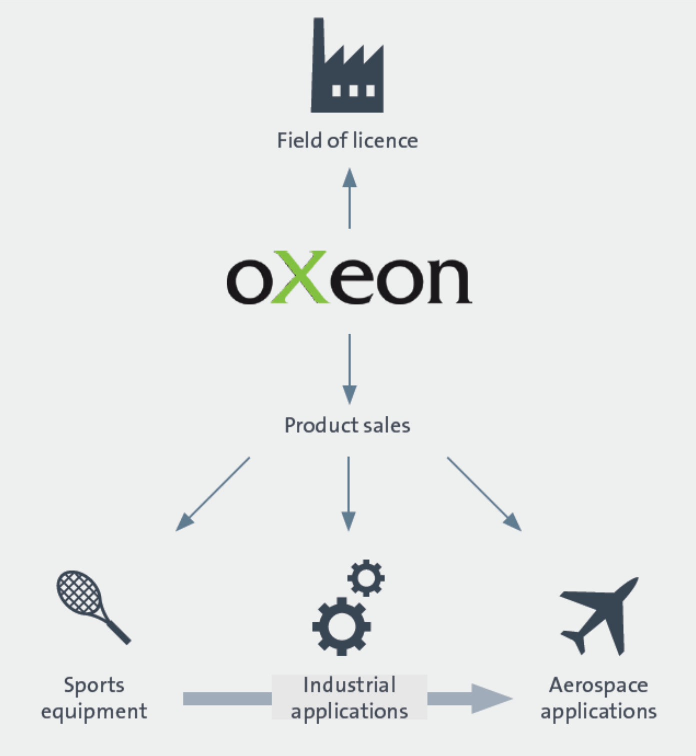
Two aspects:

1. **The material as such**

Oxeon's unique "spread tow" technologies provide better mechanical performance combined with very low areal weight (i.e. weight per unit area) and ease of fabric handling. Thus, different types of fibres and tapes may be used in the production process, which in turn results in a variety of products for different industries.

2. **The process for manufacturing** the material, weaving technology

APPLICATIONS



TAKEAWAYS

TAKEAWAY

STRATEGIC PATENT PROTECTION

Consider patenting further along the value chain, and protecting applications of a technology close to the consumer market, to increase the scope of protection and build a comprehensive control position.

TAKEAWAY

IP LICENSING

Licensing can complement the implementation of the main business strategy and be a means of co-funding the company at an early stage.

TAKEAWAY

IP PORTFOLIO

A portfolio approach that combines patents, trade marks and trade secrets provides complementary protection, facilitating both exclusivity and licensing of technology and IP assets.

TAKEAWAY

MARKETING STRATEGY

Capturing receptive niche markets to build sales and brand awareness is a useful entry into larger markets with higher entry barriers.

Deep Tech Finder

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Exploring deep technology in Europe
Free digital tool

62 tech fields — Localise startups in their **technological fields**

15 indus. sectors — Combine **business** information with **patent** information

Growth stage — Detect startups in their **development stage**

Funding — Identify **investors** in startups

European patents — Access to patent data on **Espacenet**

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Investor profiles & founding round

What's next

New App coming in **June 2025**

WITH THE EPO DEEP TECH FINDER YOU CAN ...

… find **startups and universities** in Europe with European patent applications

… filter for those active in **specific technology fields**
(e.g. offshore wind technologies) and more

… discover the **investors** supporting European tech startups

… save **lists** of startups and universities for later use