

This year, the conference will be focused primarily on the results of work carried out in the international project Cornet 60+SHOE: "Development of a holistic footwear concept based on user-centred design and integrated self-management tools for elderly (60+)".

The project's aim is to develop a modern footwear for people in the age group 60+, equipped with an automatic lacing up device. This solution used in the innovative footwear improves convenience, comfort of use, safety and aesthetics, thus contributing to the enhance in the quality of life of older people.

Thus, the theme of the conference will be modern solutions for footwear addressed to people in the 60+ age group, but at the same time, the organizers will do their best to provide space and time in the program for scientific papers presenting various research achievements as well as for discussion on improving the innovativeness of companies through new projects implementation and creation of scientific and research consortia.

The conference will also be an open platform for exchange of views between representatives of the world of science and business regarding the development and implementation of products, process and organizational innovations that influence the development and competitiveness both Polish and European companies of the leather and footwear sector.

There will be also discussed the means to obtain financial support for realisation of projects by entrepreneurs. The biggest opportunity to obtain co-financing from EU or national funds, under the New Financial Perspective, have companies implementing projects in the area of RTD. Issues related to the so-called Domestic Intelligent Specializations, as well as Intelligent Specializations formulated for each of the provinces are particularly promoted.

## THE CONFERENCE THEME

- Modern design as well as product and technological solutions for footwear dedicated to people of 60+ age
- Research and development of improved, user-safe materials
- Innovative technologies for modifying the surface of materials, polymers and microelectronics and application in innovative footwear
- Improvement of quality of life due to improvement of comfort, safety and aesthetics of footwear
- Functionality and safety of therapeutic and special footwear
- Health aspects of footwear intended for various groups of users, including older people
- Mass customization - a new strategy for offering footwear tailored to the specific requirements of customers
- Tools and machines for improvement of the efficiency and quality of footwear
- Noxious substances in footwear industry products in the context of REACH regulation
- Funds for the implementation of RTD and investment projects in enterprises as well as cooperation between industry and research centers