

## ***USAGE OF INNOVATION TOOLS (EVENTS & PROJECTS) TO FOSTER THE COOPERATION OF UNIVERSITY AND INDUSTRY***

*Approaches & Experiences to foster the Cooperation of University and Industry by offering and running services & projects for the early phases problem analysis & idea generation of the innovation process*

Jürgen Jantschgi  
Industrial Liaison Department  
University of Leoben  
Peter Tunner Strasse 27  
A-8700 Leoben  
Tel.: 0043 3842 46010 0  
Fax: 0043 3842 46010 40  
juergen.jantschgi@unileoben.ac.at  
www.unileoben.ac.at  
www.ausseninstitut-leoben.at

### **Abstract:**

Strengthening the innovation power in European companies as well as encouraging sustainable development are two of the main future goals of the EU (see Lisbon goals, European Council 2000). One important issue for reaching these goals is an enforced cooperation between Universities and Industry. In the last years the Industrial Liaison Department of University of Leoben, Austria, was engaged in several projects both on the European and the regional level to encourage companies to learn and practice innovation – and creativity-tools in order to strengthen their creativity and innovation potential.

The idea of this paper is to give an over view about these projects and of the core methodology, which plays a central part in most of this projects – TRIZ (The Theory of Inventive Problem Solving).

The following projects & activities will be presented in short:

- “SUPPORT” & “European SUPPORT”– Development & Valorization of a Training Course on the topic Sustainability and Innovation Tools (TRIZ): Funding Programme Leonardo da Vinci.
- “SME’s Innotool” – An Innovation-Toolbox for SME’s: Funding Programme 5th Framework EU, SME’s & Innovation
- “Technofit” – A set of regional project to foster the use of methods and tools in the product development process by Styrian companies. Within this project awareness events and seminars are offered on a regular basis.
- World Conference “TRIZ Future 2005” (organized by the University of Leoben, the European TRIZ Association ETRIA and the Austrian TRIZ association) in November 2005
- “PEZ – Product Development Center Leoben” – A initiative to set up a central knot for a product development network in Austria

**Keywords:** Technology-Transfer, Innovation Tools, EU-Projects, Creativity, TRIZ (Theory of Inventive Problem Solving), Training Course, Sustainable Development,

