Making the most of opportunities

The Institute of Mechanized Construction and Rock Mining was established in 1951. It is a state research and development body. The Institute is an authorised testing unit and EU Notified Body no 1454. Notification pertains to the directives: machine, electrical equipment, permissible sound level, electromagnetic compatibility, construction products with respect to products, and factory production control.

The Institute has highly qualified researchers, testing and engineering staff, as well as unique specialised laboratories, testing facilities with modern high quality measurement and testing equipment. The Institute is involved in EU funded projects, several government financed schemes and a number of target projects. Their results find applications in industry.

The scope of research and development activities includes:
- Mechanics of working, construction, road building, handling machinery, equipment and construction;
- Mechanics and automation of production processes;
- Automation of working processes;
- Mechanics of rock material mining and processing; research on new materials for construction;
- Systems methods and solutions for rational waste management, taking into consideration ecology and techniques;
- Technologies of rational waste management;
- Ecodevelopment and environmental management in processing raw materials and recycling of waste and recovery of valuable waste components;
- Engineering safety of machines and equipment.

The Institute co-ordinates the works of EEN Central Poland being a part of the Enterprise Europe Network, supporting innovativeness of enterprises and promoting international cooperation. EEN Central Poland offers support and advice to businesses, and helps them to make the most of the opportunities in the European Union.

Many projects conducted by the Institute are related to the subject of natural environment protection, including a key issue of EU policy. One of such projects, EUWAS – European Waste Sector Assistant – has been conducted by the Institute as a part of the European Commission programme e-Content. The main target of the project was the support of the European waste sector by establishing a multifunctional web based knowledge platform, which would provide up-to-date information regarding essential aspects of waste management. The project consortium comprised partners from Poland, Germany, Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia.

Currently, the Institute participates in Hard Coal Mining Waste Foresight, a project co-funded from the EU Operational Programme Innovative Economy. The project involves a technological and statistical appraisal of to-date progress in waste management and existing waste locations. The main goal of the project is to work out several scenarios for suitable waste employment together with appropriate technologies.

The Institute is also engaged in the projects aiming at promoting innovativeness and transferring technology such as ‘WasteTrans – Facilitating Technology Transfer in Waste Treatment Sector’. It supports the innovative solutions and technology transfer in the waste management sector for and from Polish and European companies.

Participation in EU projects, joined activities with manufacturers and enterprises in completing target projects for SMEs, allows the Institute to actively implement and promote new technologies. In recent years, the Institute concluded over 40 such projects and implemented for the industry various technology lines, technologies and special equipment for waste recycling. Many innovative solutions such as the technology of lightweight aggregate production have been honoured with gold medals at international fairs “Brussels – EuroExpo” and “Concours Lépine” in Paris. The Institute has been awarded twice with the title of ‘Market Leader’ and “Euro Leader. For its inventions and innovative activities, the Order of Innovativeness has been granted to the Institute by the Kingdom of Belgium.