

## Composite Fibre Technology Survey

Quotec undertook a technology intelligence study of new fibre technology in Europe on behalf of a major Japanese industrial company. The study involved a detailed and intensive internet search and review of many publications, together with targeted interviews with key players across Europe.

Fibres, and particularly high technology and nanotechnology fibres are a key component of high value composite structures and systems, and the market for supplying these is global and highly competitive. Undertaking technology intelligence studies is an important part of a technology strategy for major technology based companies. Quotec is fortunate in having a good track record and reputation in materials amongst a number of Japanese companies which leads them to outsource such work to us.

This particular study was conducted against a tight timetable and a restricted budget. We also needed to keep the ultimate client identity confidential. The report was delivered on budget and on time and the client was very pleased with the work, stating ***“Quotec achieved in three months what had previously taken 2 years to do”***. The client has since requested two additional studies in similar areas.

The work included analysis of the work of many academic and industrial research teams across Europe. It included a number of SME/start-up based technologies as well as major established research groups, and covered metal, ceramic and organic fibres and their properties. Project deliverables included a draft and final report; a database of information and two workshops/presentations to the client, including one halfway through the study. Eight major investment opportunities were identified in the study.

Key elements of ensuring a successful outcome to this work included: detailed discussions with the client (including language translation) prior to project start, in order to specify in some detail what would and what would not be covered by the project; and careful and comprehensive surveying of the subject area (including documents in several different European languages).