



Profile

I3P, the Innovative Enterprise Incubator of the Politecnico di Torino, is a non-profit joint-stock consortium (S.c.p.a.) founded on 1999 by the Politecnico of Torino, the Province of Torino, the Chamber of Commerce of Torino, Finpiemonte, the City of Torino and Torino Wireless Foundation. I3P was established to *promote and support enterprise creation*, building on the innovative potential developed in research institutions across the territory.

I3P's mission is carried out through the following tasks:

- scouting of the knowledge-based business ideas with good growth potential and able to compete on the domestic and international markets;
- offering assistance free of charge to aspiring entrepreneurs, providing them with training and guidance for drawing up a high quality and effective business plan;
- providing a safety net for new start-ups in their early and more difficult years, offering them management and advisory services and fully furnished office space at the "Cittadella Politecnica", at symbolic prices;
- supporting national and international partners for the establishment of new hi-tech business incubators worldwide.

I3P's organization counts on 13 employees, 7 full time and 6 part-time. Since 2003, I3P's balance sheets got profit and for the last year the overall turnover reached 1.1M €.

I3P Numbers

- 10 years of activity
- 121 **innovative start-ups** supported
- 62 start ups successfully out
- 42 start ups currently hosted
- 2 start ups that have been acquired
- 15 start ups that closed their business
- 8 business ideas in pre-incubazione
- 600 new job places created
- 41 start ups patents
- 28 M€ the total turnover of the start ups (2009)
- 2 M€ the investments seed in 2009 done by VC or BA
- 1057 business ideas evaluated
- 358 business ideas coached to the business plans
- I3P managed 9 editions of the "**Start Cup Torino Piemonte**" competition, the major business plan competition in Italy for innovative projects;
- I3P manages the didactical activities for "**Entrepreneurship and Business Planning**" courses at the Politecnico of Torino.

National networks

- In 2004 I3P promoted and founded the **PNI Cube** association (www.pnicube.it), the Italian Association of University Incubators, with more than 42 member Universities;
- I3P established the “**PNI Award**”, the National Innovation Award, the annual event for awarding the best business plans coming from the 17 Italian regional Start Cup competition. Since 2007 the main sponsor is Vodafone.

International networks

- Since 2002 I3P participates to **GAP** (Global Access Program, www.anderson.ucla.edu/x1294.xml) at the Anderson School of Management at UCLA (Los Angeles, USA), the annual programme coordinated by Torino Wireless for developing acceleration plans for international markets with the support of MBA students;
- I3P is member of **Gate2Growth** (www.gate2growth.com), the European network that gathers about 120 incubators for developing new tools and practices for supporting enterprise creation;
- I3P is full partner of the **ACHIEVE More** partnership (<http://eandix.ning.com>), the ICT sectorial initiative under **Europe INNOVA** (www.europe-innova.org) network to help 400 European SMEs to access the best tools and funding they need to accelerate their growth.
- I3P is intermediary partner of **IMP³rove** (www.improve-innovation.eu), the project within the **Europe INNOVA** (www.europe-innova.org) program to improve innovation management performance of SMEs with profitable growth.
- I3P participated to the **PAXIS** European project, within the HIGHEST framework (France, Sweden, France, Germany, Switzerland and Italy) as workpackage leader for developing and benchmarking best practices in the pre-incubation and incubation activities of innovative start-ups;
- I3P is founding partner of **EOS** (www.eurooffice-services.eu), an EC funded project under the **PRO INNO Europe** (www.proinno-europe.eu) initiative which objective is to test, exchange, support and promote sets of services aiming to internationalize the markets for innovative SMEs. The EOS networks bring together more than 80 organizations from 33 different countries worldwide. Since January 2009 EOS is a self-sustainable network and I3P is member of the management board;
- I3P with the Politecnico of Torino belongs to the **CLUSTER** network (www.cluster.org), within the Entrepreneurship taskforce, which bring together the major technology universities in Europe with the objective of fostering and stimulating the entrepreneurial culture inside the academic environment;
- I3P participates to the **EURO-LATIN AMERICAN FORUM** (www.forumtorino.org), the platform which aim is to strengthen cooperation links between innovative regions of Europe and Latin America, coordinating the theme of regional innovation systems.
- I3P is the unique intermediary organization in Piedmont for the EU pilot project **ERASMUS FOR YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS** (www.erasmus-entrepreneurs.eu)

Achievements

- In 2003 the Torino Area has been awarded by the European Commission with the “**Award of Excellence for Innovative Regions**” thanks to the work done by I3P within the PAXIS network;
- In 2004 in Oxford, I3P won the III edition of the “**Best Science Based Incubator Award**”, the international incubator contest promoted by Science Alliance, NBIA, UKBIA and Gate2Growth;
- In 2008 during the Europe Innova Conference in Lyon, I3P was awarded by Mr. Durvy (director of Innovation Policy, DG Enterprise and Industry) as most active partner within the EOS network.

