



🌐 [www.atim.ie](http://www.atim.ie)

✉ [c.mordan@atim.com](mailto:c.mordan@atim.com)

## OCTOBER NEWSLETTER



### MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Irish Water Jet Profile is a leading supplier of cut rubber parts, gaskets, skirtboard, conveyor belting associated conveyor parts. Established in 2003. IWPL have invested significantly in CNC waterjet cutting, die cutting and punching technology,





## OPEN HOUSE Business Trip to Portugal

For medical device, mould makers and tooling companies

The aim of this trip is to visit 6 leading businesses, attend and exhibit at an International mould conference and engage in business-to-business matchmaking opportunities to support further development of the Medical & Well Being Market

November 22nd-24th



Following the successful visit from the Portuguese companies and clusters to Ireland in June, Irish medical device, tooling and moulding companies are invited to participate on a business trade mission to Portugal.

Attendees will visit 6 leading tooling and moulding organisations, attend a networking evening and the 23rd International Mould conference on 24th November, during which Ann O'Connell from IBEC will deliver a keynote address on the opportunities in the Irish medical device sector.

**Register before 3rd Nov**



**Register for trip to Portugal**



**3rd November**



**Mullingar Park Hotel**

With over 1,500 public votes received, the cluster is a finalist for this year's Mullingar Chamber Awards 2023 in the category 'Business Representative Organisation of the Year'.

Our application primarily focused on the successful pilot of the Dreambig programme.

We are honoured to be in this category alongside esteemed organisations including Westmeath Local Enterprise Office, Permanent TSB and AIB



On 5th October, 10 cluster members attended the Lean Made Simple site visit to Seating Matters, Limavaddy.



### Site Visit to Seating Matters

We had the opportunity to experience how lean was adopted as a mindset and how it has transformed this Northern Irish based company. All attendees agreed that it was a very worthwhile trip.



Ryan Tierney has set-up Lean Made Simple to share his insights via You Tube channel and offers tours of the Seating Matters facility <https://www.leanmadesimple.com/>

**If you are interested in visiting Seating Matters in Q2 2024, please contact Caitríona Mordan**

**One simple take away: fix what bugs you!**



Register your interest in Q2  
site visit



## Dreambig APEX Programme

The Dreambig APEX (Applied Placement Engineering experience) Programme supports businesses connect with undergraduate, post-graduate and research students for work placements with TUS, Midlands.

From January 2024, undergraduate students in TUS across business, marketing, software, mechanical, polymer faculties are seeking a 20-week work placement.

On 6th October we held a workshop in TUS, Athlone. During this session, attendees learned about the range of schemes available to support organisations integrate people with relevant skills to support their organisation progress.

If you are interested in finding out more about placements and research schemes, please complete the link below.





## Business Mission to Lyon

 Lyon, France.

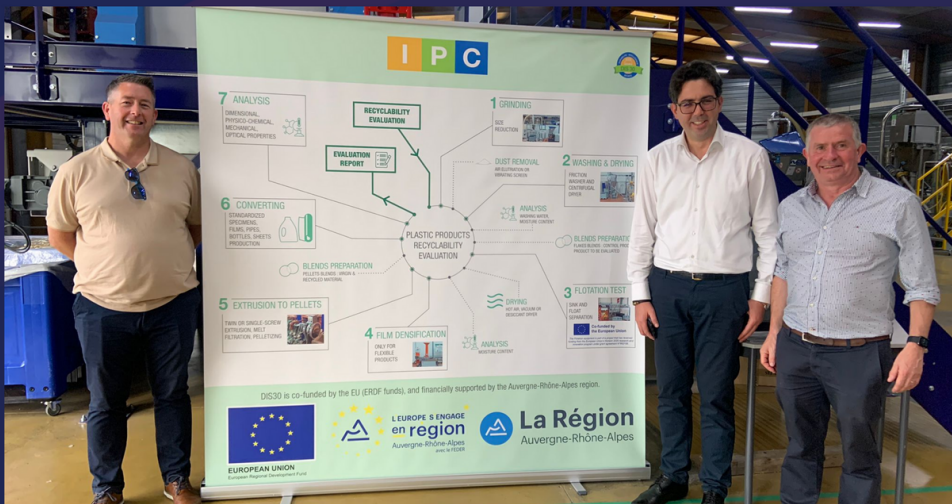
 10th - 13th October



The atim cluster in partnership with the competitiveness clusters in France (CIMES and Polymeris) organised a field trip to Lyon.

We were thrilled to be joined by senior leaders from Shabra and Total Plastic Solutions (TPS) for this overseas trip.

In addition to members attending Pollutec, the leading event for environmental solutions for manufacturers, cities and territories, our members participated in site visits to SMP Group and Innovation Plasturgie Composites.



We look forward to supporting continued collaboration between these organisations.

 **Summary of Recent Events** 



**ATIM signs Memorandum of Understanding with leading French Polymer and Smart Manufacturing Cluster**

On the 11th October, the Irish Consulate in Lyon, [Ciara De Mora](#) hosted an evening reception for atim cluster and Irish visiting companies.

Stakeholders of the atim cluster including members of the European Commission, cluster managers from Denmark, Portugal as well as French SMEs were in attendance for this enjoyable evening.

During the reception, the ATIM Cluster manager signed Memorandum of Understandings with the CEO of Polymeris, the

Memorandum of Understandings with the CEO of Polymers, the French Cluster for polymers with over 500 members and with Deputy CEO CIMES, the Smart Manufacturing Cluster, Arnaud Bocquillon which also represents 500 members in the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region.



**Caitríona Mordan, Cliare Mercier Enterprise Ireland (Lyon), Brian Finnegan (Shabra), Jason McLaughlin (TPS), Ciara De Mora- Irish Consulate General**

These agreements highlight the commitment for our organisations to foster collaborative and innovative opportunities which enable both regions to progress.

Thank you to Claire Tobin Mercier, Enterprise Ireland, Lyon for her support in organising the reception.

If you are interested in exploring opportunities in Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, please contact Caitríona Mordan on +353 86 0883275



**Patrick Vuillermoz (CEO Polymeris), Caitríona Mordan (ATIM Cluster) and Ciara De Mora (Irish Consulate General)**

**Arnaud Bocquillon (Deputy Director General CIMES), Caitríona Mordan (ATIM Cluster) and Ciara De Mora (Irish Consulate General)**





On 29th September, 160 cluster members joined us for inaugural Gala Dinner in Bloomfield House Hotel, Mullingar.

This evening brought together manufacturing companies and solution providers from micro-enterprises to multinationals based in the Midlands and beyond, under the one roof for a night of learning, networking and socialising.



Following the welcome reception, we were treated to a fantastic fireside chat, expertly led by Ronan Berry, Midlands 103 with Liam Sheedy, Vice President Teneo Performance and RTE Pundit. During the engaging conversation, our guests gained valuable insights into the intricacies of leadership

within both corporate and sporting contexts. We explored the significance of surrounding yourself with knowledgeable individuals and forming the right connections to gain that essential 'edge.' We delved into the daily practices that foster a culture where teams can truly thrive. This thought-provoking chat provided us with ample material for discussion throughout our meal and well into the night.

A sincere thank you to the cluster Chairperson, Tony Woods (Midland Steel) and the cluster Steering Committee for all their support in turning the Gala Dinner from a concept to reality. Thank you also to TUS and to our funders, Enterprise Ireland

We will be in contact with the dates for our Gala Dinner 2024 shortly!







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Our mailing address is:

Cmordan@atim.ie

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