



## **Factsheet Innovation Platform “Soft Surfaces”**

### **Objectives and procedures Innovation Platform Soft Surfaces (IPL SoftS)**

The Innovation platform Soft Surfaces (IPL SoftS) of the NTN Innovative Surfaces is applied research-oriented. Functionalized soft surfaces are key elements in a large number of applications, since they determine the product properties and thus their usefulness. As a rule, the "structures on the mesoscale, that is, on the submicron scale, which makes the structuring of the system challenging and therefore offering potential for sustaining competitive advantages.

In recent years, for instance, important progress has been made both in the production organic surfaces with tailor-made properties and in the development of new analytical techniques to characterize them. There is still a considerable potential for innovation, which can only be achieved with scientific support.

### **Content Innovation Platform Soft Surfaces (IPL SoftS)**

An exemplary subject area is biomedical technology, which has a "pacemaker" function. The development of functionalized soft surfaces requires a high understanding of the interactions at the interfaces between biological and polymeric materials, as well as hard, crystalline structures.

### **The management of the Innovationplatform Soft Surfaces (IPL SoftS)**

Participation in the IPL Soft Surfaces is possible by invitation of the NTN Innovative Surfaces. It is connected with a contribution to costs and includes 3 to 5 workshops per year. The next kick off meeting is intended to be held in Q2/2017 and will be broadly announced.

Candidates interested in contributing actively to the activities of IPL SoftS can apply to Jörg Güttinger manager of the NTN Innovative Surfaces. ([joerg.guettinger@innovativesurfaces.ch](mailto:joerg.guettinger@innovativesurfaces.ch)).

### **2017 activities of the Innovationplatform Soft Surface (IPL SoftS)**

Workshop Schedule: **“We’re starting soon”**