



ODIN Consortium

A chemometric and spectroscopic resource

Aim of the consortium

The Chemometrics and Spectroscopy Group, Department of Food Science, University of Copenhagen, Faculty of Life Sciences (KU/LIFE) wants to anchor its largest industrial partners in a consortium to provide for a structure and a platform for long-term collaboration. The ODIN consortium provides an efficient framework for dissemination of the latest research results while offering collaboration with an *á priori* defined organizational structure - ensuring a continued involvement of the industrial partners.

The core knowledge of the coordinating university group is R&D within chemometrics and modern multivariate models for data modeling in all relevant application areas; in particular where spectroscopic measuring techniques are involved. The group has, through its strategic combination of exploratory data modeling with spectroscopy, been able to provide for a continued and successful collaboration with medium and large sized companies in Denmark and Europe. The ODIN consortium is designed for formalizing the industrial collaboration to reduce the distance between academia and industry and to diminish the administrative elements of engaging in novel projects. Through the ODIN consortium, the university group will share its insights, experience and networks in the field of applied multivariate modeling and spectroscopy with the consortium members which will provide information on industrial hot-spots and financial funding to the university group.

ODINs operational purpose is to offer the industrial partners a path for efficient and rapid knowledge transfer through participation in already existing, but currently closed dissemination groups, e.g. symposia, workshops, courses etc., while increasing week-to-week interaction and providing the university group with inspiration for new research themes and national and international projects.

Consortium activities

The Technology Board is the strategic forum of the consortium. The Technology Board will be headed by the responsible university representative, Prof. Rasmus Bro. Each active industrial member of the consortium will have *one* seat in the

Board per membership. The Board will provide means for negotiating and agreeing on the conditions of the engaged activities between the university group and its partners. The university group has the decision power, as the university group is obliged to offer independent R&D to the service of the university and has to conform to the premises of other existing and on-going projects as well. The following types of activities are offered in ODIN. Specific examples can be found in news letters at www.odin.kvl.dk.

	Activity	
1	Seminars with face to face with "world experts"	Ad hoc
2	Access to the ODIN website www.odin.life.ku.dk	
3	Close access to research projects in MSc programs	
4	Courses	15 days/yr
5	One seat in the Technology Board	
6	Technology Board meeting on administrative issues and new activities	2/yr
7	Orientation on current and future relevant R&D projects and results	Ad hoc

The activities agreed to by the partners are contained in the following. The consortium aims at consistently providing a list of appealing and relevant interfaces over which the diverse and intense interaction can take place:

1. The academic group will, together with the Technology Board, arrange for one- or two-day arrangements where there may be invited external experts available for advice and expertise within relevant issues.
2. The ODIN web-site will be a collection of ODIN-related material. Newsletters, scientific results, and other information.
3. The participants of the consortium will be granted access to MSc/BSc projects with high priority.
4. Participation in minimum five annual courses will be granted for the industrial partners. The themes will vary between chemometrics and spectroscopy and there will be courses for first-time as well as experienced users. One course day is defined as one industrial person attending a one day course; it is guaranteed that the participating industries will be offered at least 15 course days per year and usually more. The number of participants at a course is restricted and the industrial contact person will be responsible for gathering information for ODIN on the number and identity of participants. Usually basic courses are of 2-3 days duration while specialized courses are often 1-2 days. Some courses and especially

workshops will be open for an unlimited number of participants. Most courses will have a limit of two persons attending per member.

5. Industrial members will be granted one seat in the Technology Board. It is the purpose of the Technology Board to coordinate the formal communication in the consortium between industrial members and the university group. The Technology Group is required to provide feedback and constructive input to the leader of the research group, such that the execution of the planned activities provides mutual gain in all collaboration areas. The chair of the Technology Group is appointed by the management of the academic research group, and is currently hosted by Professor Rasmus Bro.
6. The bi-annual Technology Board meeting forms the basis for the industrial members to share and synchronize their requests and visions on the future needs and focus areas of the Consortium. These meetings are used for long-term planning of the consortium activities, as the Technology Board meetings serves as a forum for formulating industrial feed-back that the research group can use for definition of new PhD/MSc/BSc projects, and, in its national and international relations.
7. The participating industries will be profiled at high level in relation to the research group's other activities. When relevant research themes are announced domestically or internationally, the respective partners will be contacted with the purpose of initiating new joint research projects.
8. The yearly membership fee is paid in advance for the coming period, no later than the first day in the period. The consortium calendar will July 1 – June 30. All transferred amount are parts of the planned activities, and are subject to overhead and administration, and will not be refunded.

The current activities of the Chemometrics and Spectroscopy Group can be found at www.models.life.ku.dk/.

Intellectual property rights

The members' freedom of operation in the fields of intellectual property rights and publication will be respected to the furthest extent. They will be dominated by the governing rules of KU/LIFE, where the research team members are employed. These conditions will be explained to the industrial partners and agreed to in the Board. Any inventions that involve resources from the academic partners will fall under the law of inventions made by publicly employed personnel, i.e. the employment conditions of KU/LIFE personnel.

Significances of the Consortium

The industrial partners' have internally motivated their participation using some of the following arguments:

- Participation will give access to a network of the largest industries in Denmark.

- The consortium is an obvious possibility for engaging with decision makers and strategic planners in multiple industries.
- The Technology Board of the consortium will be an important resource of information on future technologies and methods used e.g. in production and manufacturing.
- The Technology Board will be an invaluable resource of knowledge on process optimization and on-line measuring experience.
- It is required that the industrial employees are continuously educated and that the latest R&D results are disseminated into the industry. This will be provided by this industrial consortium with the proposed setup providing direct access to the most current scientific results.
- The course activities will build bridges between industrial project employees and the academic experts with long-term benefits for both parties.
- The Chemometrics and Spectroscopy Group at KU/LIFE is the largest chemometrics group worldwide and has contact to all major international researchers in the area. Direct contact to the KU/LIFE group thus provides global contact to important resources.

Comparable initiatives

There currently exists no national initiatives that resemble the structure and aim of the consortium, nor are there any centers or projects that cover the same objectives with this level of industrial appeal and broad partnering profile.

Want to join?

Send an inquiry to Rasmus Bro (rb@life.ku.dk) and ask for more information.