Econic Technologies
EnterprisePlus - helping Econic to grow

Econic Technologies became an EnterprisePlus member in late 2013 and have since won the Environment, Materials and Process Chemistry category at the Emerging Technologies competition in 2014. By developing unique catalysts for the alternating co-polymerisation of CO2 and epoxide, their technology can manufacture polymers from rigid plastics to elastomers and films. Rulande Rutgers Henderson, Customer Programme Manager for Econic, tells us how Econic have benefitted from winning the EmergingTech competition and being an EnterprisePlus member.

As a small company, one of the main challenges Econic faces is accessing expertise and relevant training to grow. Rulande explains that EnterprisePlus has expanded their network and exposure as a company. One way staff have specifically benefitted is from discounted RSC membership which has enabled them to attend RSC events and hear about other training opportunities including webinars.

"EnterprisePlus has given us a better understanding of the REACHReady programme. REACH was a black box for us but we now have a much better understanding of our timelines, the best first steps to take and the scope of our work."

Start-up business support offered as part of the Emerging Technologies process was the key motivation behind Econic’s entry to the competition. Rulande describes how it was useful to get feedback on their technology and get first glimpse at what others in the UK were doing.

"It has helped us reach out to a wider audience in diverse application sectors."

Econic also benefited from corporate mentorship from P&G and Croda as a result of the Emerging Technologies competition. Specifically addressing the challenges Econic had raised, industry input provided invaluable guidance and information in regulatory compliance, intellectual property and feedstock supply chain management tools.

"Winning the RSC Emerging Technologies competition has really enabled us to heighten our profile which we have used in our presentations internationally. It has created more awareness across the industry."

Rulande explains that Econic’s success in the competition has further encouraged their entry into other competitions including the Shell Springboard Award.

"We were one of the Edinburgh regional winners and received the Shell UK Chairman’s award at the finals which has further provided independent endorsement of our technology and underpins our credibility as a company."

The Royal Society of Chemistry has supported Econic to grow their company through EnterprisePlus; we’ve helped them raise the profile of their technology by facilitating opportunities to expand their network and access regulation. EnterprisePlus has enabled Econic to heighten their presence across the industry and make leaps towards a successful future.

Find out how EnterprisePlus can help you connect and develop your company to succeed in the chemical science industry: www.rsc.org/sme