

European project CoPro met in the cradle of science



The CoPro consortium met for the 4th plenary meeting at the Centre for Research and Technology Hellas (CERTH) in Thessaloniki, Greece, on 15-16 November 2017.

The meeting was hosted by the group of Prof. Michael Georgiadis on the premises of CERTH. One important item was the finalization of the detailed specifications of the CoPro use cases that are provided by the end users Covestro, Frinsa, INEOS, Lenzing and Procter & Gamble. Also, first results of the collaborative work in CoPro were presented and discussed.

CERTH presented a generic solution for the scheduling of production plants in the food processing industry which will be applied to the tuna packing facility of partner FRINSA in Spain. Also progress on the modelling and optimization of the unfreezing and sterilization processes was reported by partner CISC. TUDO presented a scheduling solution that optimally assigns maintenance slots in the production of consumer goods, taking into account the availability of maintenance personnel which addresses the needs of partner P&G but can be applied to other production facilities as well.

The energy efficiency of the production of cellulose fibers at LENZING, Austria is improved by the optimization of choice of evaporators and optimal scheduling of cleaning operations using methods that are being developed by the academic partners UVA and TUDO and are already being tested at the plant.

Looking into novel ways how to optimally allocate shared resources in chemical sites and chemparks, TUDO presented recent research on marked-based coordination algorithms when discrete decisions (shutting on or off pieces of equipment) are present and when connections to external resource networks have to be included.

The consortium is looking forward to discussing future results and their exploitation at the next consortium meeting which will be organized by partner inno TSD in Nice, France, in February 2018. Thereafter, the CoPro project will discuss its approach to enhance the energy and resource efficiency of the process industry with the CoPro Industrial Stakeholder Panel (ISP).

Further information can be obtained from the project coordinator by writing to coord.copro.pdm@tu-dortmund.de