



6. Mater. FAD Materials Centre

MUNICIPALITY

Barcelona

HEADING

Mater, the FAD Materials Centre, opens its doors.

Since November 2008 businesses, professionals and technology and university centres have had a centre of reference where they can get information and advice on new materials and their associated technologies for use in innovative projects.

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

Mater is a materials centre founded in Barcelona by FAD (Fostering Arts and Design) to provide services to businesses, professionals, technological and university centres. Mater provides the information and advice on materials and their associated technologies required to carry out innovative projects.

With an exhibition room containing a thousand samples of innovative or unusual material on the third floor of the FAD building, a database with 3,500 samples of new material and a specialist technical team, users have access to a dynamic and multisectorial centre dedicated to technological transfer between sectors as different as biotechnology, construction and textiles, among others.

Mater draws its strength from the knowledge created by agents who spend all their time in this field. It forms part of matériO, the European network of material centres, with centres in Paris, Anvers, Prague and now Barcelona.

A prime example of Mater's educational activities is the exhibition "Mater in progress. New materials, new industry", presented in Barcelona between 8 February and 28 April 2008 in the FAD exhibition room, with the cooperation of experts from the CDTI, CSIC, General Directorate for Industrial Development of the Spanish Ministry of Industry, Tourism and Trade, the Cotec Foundation, and members of FAD.

In 2009 the exhibition "Mater in progress. New material, new industry" will be shown at the Zaragoza History Centre between 19 March and 17 May, with updated content because, as its name indicates, materials technology is constantly evolving. The exhibition will then transfer to Madrid, the Sala Arquería in Nuevos Ministerios, in the second half of 2009.

MAIN ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL FIGURES

- Mater consists of:
 - 200 m² exhibition room at FAD headquarters.
 - A thousand samples of new materials.
 - On-line database with more than 3,500 entries.
- Mater in progress: educational activity that displays 347 projects, behind which are 225 agents for innovation, the result of ongoing research and observation initiatives pursued from the centre.

PROJECT ADDRESS

www.materfad.com

www.fadweb.org/premsamater

RESPONSIBLE

Georgina Curto, Head of Mater, the FAD Materials Centre.