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The UJI promotes training in nanofluids to improve solar energy systems

The COST Action Nanouptake has brought together experts from twelve pioneering centres in Europe at the Polytechnic University of Rzeszów in Poland

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The Department of Mechanical Engineering and Construction of the Universitat Jaume I (UJI) promotes training in nanofluids to improve solar energy systems. More than 40 researchers and experts from 12 pioneering centres in this field in Europe recently met at the training school organized by the COST Action Nanouptake, coordinated by Leonor Hernández, lecturer of Fluid Mechanics at the UJI.



The Training School held at the Polytechnic University of Rzeszów focused on nanofluid applications in advanced solar energy systems. This meeting, in the words of Hernández, “has been a very good opportunity for the training of current doctorate students and future researchers in nanofluids for energy applications, since they have been able to attend seminars and practical classes by renowned researchers in this area”.

POTENTIAL IN ENERGY STORAGE

The three days of the Nanouptake Training School in Poland included lectures given by specialists from different universities, as well as a practical part within the laboratories of the Polytechnic University of Rzeszów. The topics addressed in the training school focused especially on the potential of solar nanofluids in innovative systems of capture, transport and storage of energy. The attendees highlighted and evaluated possible applications in which these materials can represent an advance for the generation and use of solar energy.

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COST Actions (European Cooperation in Science and Technology) are one of the most extensive collaboration frameworks funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 programme. The COST Action Nanouptake coordinated by the Universitat Jaume I focuses on the development of heat transport fluids and advanced thermal storage using nanotechnology (nanofluids), in order to create a European network to promote the use of these materials, thus increasing the efficiency of heat exchange systems. This European action involves more than 35 research groups from 25 countries with representation from universities, research centres and companies in the sector with the aim of developing nanofluids with applications for energy. The Nanouptake project started in May 2016 and will run until April 2020 with an approximate budget of 120,000 euros per year.

Nanofluids are one of the priority energy technologies of the European Union in the investigation of safer and cleaner energy systems, more efficient and respectful with the environment and the efficient use of resources and raw materials. Currently, there are some commercial applications, but most nanofluids are in a level of technological preparation that requires coordinated research to overcome the barriers of commercial applications.

More information about the Nanouptake project:

<http://www.nanouptake.eu/>

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