

A strong current of innovation_

Nexans conducts extensive R&D work within its specialist departments and laboratories. It thus constantly anticipates the market demands and implements high-performance solutions adapted to each specific need. Innovation is also concerned with enhancing the level of safety and the operation of products in extreme conditions. Nexans' engineers invent the materials, products and services of the future.



enhanced through alliances with universities and external research centres.

Specialized skills centres

Nexans also performs applied research work in its eight skill centres in France and across Europe. These centres are specialized per product range and have their own Research & Development resources. They are tuned in to the needs of the customers and major industrial production sites, and staffed by teams of skilled specialists.

The multicultural nature of these teams and their initiative-taking ability enables them to anticipate needs and develop fruitful partnerships with local customers.

Integrating the marketing aspect

Nexans' R&D structure is organized per activity and is

A constant Research effort

To invent and develop new products and systems, to use new technologies, to patent inventions and to foresee customers' demands, such are the foundations of Nexans Research & Development strategy. The Group devotes an annual budget of some 38 million euros and over

400 people (scientists, engineers and technicians) to specific programmes relating to both fundamental and applied research.

Cutting-edge research into its core activities

Nexans conducts fundamental research in the major areas of its activities. It carries out

scientific research based on the expertise acquired through its numerous industrial sites, its global presence and its vast portfolio of customers. As a result, it is spearheading innovation in areas such as superconductors, polymers, data cables, power cables and plastic optical fibres. Its research potential is further

On December 31, 2000_

400 research scientists,
engineers and technicians_
8 R&D centres
across the world_

An annual budget of
38 million euros devoted
to R&D_
Numerous projects in partner-
ship with industry_

Cutting edge positions
in superconductors, plastic
optical fibres and cable
sheath materials_

finely tuned to the company's marketing strategy, in order to respond precisely to customers' demands. Thus, the Energy Division focuses its work on high-temperature superconductors, techniques for insulating high voltage cables, and non-polluting fire-resistant polymers. The Telecom Division concentrates above all on increasing data transmission capacity. As for

the Electrical wires Division, it devotes its efforts to increasing productivity and developing new value-added products, particularly in the field of winding wires.



The specialities of Nexans' 8 skills centres

Halden, Norway

Submarine cables and umbilical cables for oil platforms.

Calais, France

High voltage cables and extruded insulating materials.

Brussels, Belgium

Cabling systems.

Lens, France

Metallurgy-copper, aluminium and alloys.

Chauny, France

Electrical wires.

Nuremberg, Germany

Polymers and cable components.

Erembodegem, Belgium

Power cable accessories.

Bezons, France

Telecommunications components.



320 patent families

Nexans considers the protection and management of its patents portfolio to be an essential part of its activity. At present the Group holds a portfolio of about 320 patent families, and applications for resgistration are currently being made in connection with an additional 180 patent families. They aim at ensuring the effective protection of Nexans' R&D work in a particularly harsh competitive environment.