

# BYDGOSZCZ INDUSTRIAL CLUSTER TOOL VALLEY

BYDGOSZCZ IS A LARGE INDUSTRIAL CENTRE  
IN POLAND

The local economy is based on industries such as tools, plastics processing, electro-machinery, transport, arms and aviation, furniture and agriculture. The industry companies constitute about 10% of all economic activities, employing 50% of all the workforce in Bydgoszcz.

The region concentrates a large number of companies operating in the tools and plastics processing industry. It is a large industrial centre in Poland – known as the Tool Valley. It houses approximately 900 companies engaged in polymer materials processing and about 50 toolmakers.

The BIC was established in 2006 with the aim of creating optimal development conditions, stimulating cooperation and integrating plastics processors and moulds manufacturers in the sector. Cluster members offer services of the whole value chain – from the supply of raw materials to recycling.

## MISSION

*The mission of BIC is to create optimal development conditions, stimulate cooperation and integrate processors and toolmakers of the plastics sector in the Kuyavian-Pomeranian Region.*

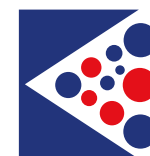
## VISION

By 2027, as an effective and dynamic organisation, Bydgoszcz Industrial Cluster Tool Valley will have created favourable conditions for the development of enterprises, especially those of the plastics processing industry, recycling and manufacturing of tools with the participation and involvement of mutually co-operating entrepreneurs, R&D units, business-related institutions and local authorities.

## WE ARE OPEN

We are open to business cooperation and joint projects in the field of R&D, innovation, knowledge transfer to the business sector, circular economy, industry 4.0 and vocational education.

## MEET US



**BYDGOSZCZ  
INDUSTRIAL CLUSTER**  
TOOL VALLEY

## CONTACT US

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**BYDGOSZCZ INDUSTRIAL CLUSTER**



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# MEMBERS

161  
Cluster  
Members

85%  
Companies  
85% SMEs  
15% Large Companies

10%  
Other  
Members

5%  
R&D units

## INNOFORM

BYDGOSZCZ AND ITS SURROUNDINGS ARE THE POLISH TOOLS VALLEY – THE AREA OF THE PROCESSING INDUSTRY AND PRODUCTION OF INJECTION MOLDS.

Since 2017 BIC is organizing the only trade fair for this industry in Poland. INNOFORM is more than an arena for presenting innovative products and the latest technological solutions in an international group. An additional value is an opportunity to participate in events dedicated to the industry: conferences, training and presentations at the stands, allowing you to gain a competitive advantage. Accompanying INNOFORM is the Brokerage Event, which is a space for business talks.

Bydgoszcz Industrial Cluster Tool Valley incorporates companies of the toolmaking and plastics processing industries, as well as plastics recyclers, and a range of business-related institutions, including universities, research and development units, public authorities, entrepreneurs' associations and financial institutions. The majority of companies in the processing and toolmaking industry are small and medium-sized enterprises. Their activities are highly flexible. The enterprises of the Cluster offer high-quality moulds and other processing tools and also deal with the manufacturing of plastic products for various branches, i.a. automotive, household appliances, furniture production, medical disposables just as pharmaceutical, cosmetic and food packaging industries. The members of the Bydgoszcz Industrial Cluster Tool Valley constitute a chain of suppliers. The processors manufacture a variety of products by means of injection moulding, extrusion and blow moulding. For these producers, other members supply both polymers and additives: masterbatches, fillers and modifying agents. For toolmakers who manufacture a complete range of tools for plastics processing, mainly moulds but also blow moulds, extrusion heads, and rubber injection moulds, along with machining tools such as blanking dies, stamping dies and forging dies, the suppliers within BIC offer steel, standard and special parts, hot runners systems and auxiliary equipment.



## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES OF BYDGOSZCZ INDUSTRIAL CLUSTER TOOL VALLEY

- The development of the organisation of the Bydgoszcz Industrial Cluster Tool Valley
- The promotion of the cluster concept, cluster members, marketing activities
- The acquisition of a new workforce and increasing competencies and knowledge of the future and present staff of BIC's members
- The increase in the innovation level of BIC's companies and the stimulation of new investments
- Internationalisation of BIC's members into foreign markets and strengthening cooperation
- Promotion of technical knowledge on every level of education starting with visits in kindergartens, through visits of primary school pupils in companies and cooperation with vocational schools and universities

## INTERNATIONALIZATION

The Cluster is a member of five international networks: Inmoldnet, MERGEurope, European Lightweight Cluster Alliance (ELCA), European Composites, Plastics and Polymer Processing Platform (ECP4) and DIH2. It cooperates with many clusters from all over Europe.

The activities aimed at the systematic development of cooperation with foreign partners include economic missions, study visits and international projects. The Cluster is a partner of the following international projects: AMULET (H2020), Better Factory (H2020), INDUSAC (Horizon Europe), AIBC EUROCLUSTER (SMP COSME), and DiAlForm (CORNET).

## BENEFITS

 <b>industry integration</b> - exchange of information and direct contacts within a prestigious organization	 <b>access to project financing at national and international level</b>	 <b>collaborative displays at trade fairs</b>
 <b>contacts within international networks</b>	 <b>savings within existing purchasing groups</b>	 <b>opportunity to participate in industry trainings</b>
 <b>conjoint implementation of orders</b>	 <b>access to cluster laboratories on preferential terms</b>	 <b>impact on the curriculum of training newly hired staff</b>

## MORE INFORMATION

In December 2022, the BIC once again obtained the status of the Key National Cluster, which is awarded as a part of the competition organized by the Ministry of Development and Technology. A Key National Cluster is "a cluster of significant importance to the domestic economy and of high international competitiveness". Key National Clusters are identified on a national level on the basis of the analysis of six key areas of cluster functioning: human and organizational resources, financial and infrastructure resources, economic potential, creation and transfer of knowledge, action for public policies and customer orientation. The Status is granted for three years and every cluster can apply for its recertification. Our organisation has been recertified and extended the status of the Key National Cluster until 2025.

In July 2022, the BIC for the second time obtained the Silver Label Certificate, i.e. a silver quality badge of the Cluster's operation granted by the European Secretariat for Cluster Analysis (ESCA). The ESCA promotes the excellence of cluster management by conducting benchmarking of clusters and granting them certificates - brown, silver or gold. Obtaining the Silver Label Certificate was preceded by receiving the Bronze Label Certificate twice in previous years.

## BIC TIMELINE

<b>2006</b> Signing the agreement on the establishment of the Bydgoszcz Industrial Cluster	<b>2007</b> First participation in Plastpol fair as an exhibitor	<b>2013</b> First international mission	<b>2016</b> Membership in MERGEurope Lightweight Innovation Network	<b>2018</b> Membership in European Lightweight Cluster Alliance network	<b>2020</b> Implementation of the first international project from the Horizon2020 program	<b>2022</b> Implementation of the first international project from the Horizon Europe program
<b>2007</b> Entry in the register of National Court Register	<b>2008</b> Participation in the Euromold fair in Frankfurt as an exhibitor	<b>2016</b> Obtaining the status of the Key National Cluster	<b>2017</b> 1st edition of the INNOFORM fair	<b>2019</b> Obtaining the Silver Label Certificate awarded by The European Secretariat for Cluster Analysis	<b>2021</b> I Report "Analysis of tool industry regarding polymer processing"	<b>2023</b> Creation of the first cluster laboratory in the formula of distributed laboratories