

# I+D+i en Deporte

Caso de Éxito de PUKAS -TECNALIA:

**Sensorización de Tablas de Surf de  
Altas Prestaciones**



Jornada:  
“I+D+i en la Industria del Deporte”  
Valencia, 24 y 25 de noviembre de 2011

# TECNALIA

## I+D+i en Deporte

TECNALIA nace como un proyecto global.

Surgido de la unión de 8 Centros Tecnológicos (Cidemco, ESI, Euve, Fatronik, Inasmet, Labein, Leia y Robotiker), con un objetivo común:

**Generar y desarrollar  
oportunidades de negocio a  
través de la Investigación  
Aplicada.**



Somos la primera entidad privada de I+D+i en España y una de las más relevantes de Europa, con más de **1.500 personas** y una facturación próxima a los **125 millones** de euros.

**Una apuesta única,  
una oportunidad,  
un reto.**



## Organizados en Unidades de Negocio.

Trabajamos desde la **experiencia y la especialización** en cada uno de los mercados en los que operamos, con una actitud eficiente y proactiva.

# 16 Unidades de Negocio Sectoriales

## DESARROLLO SOSTENIBLE

Construcción  
Energía  
Medio Ambiente

## INDUSTRIA Y TRANSPORTE

Fundición y Siderurgia  
Sistemas Industriales  
Transporte

## INNOVACIÓN Y SOCIEDAD

Sistemas de Innovación

## ICT / EUROPEAN SOFTWARE INSTITUTE

Media  
Sistemas de información e interacción  
Sociedad de la información  
Software System Engineering  
Telecom

## SALUD

Biomateriales-Ingeniería Tisular  
Biotecnología y Pharma  
Tecnologías para la Salud

*Sostenibilidad*

*Internet del Futuro*

*Envejecimiento*

*Biociencias*

*Nuevos Alimentos*

## **Investigamos para superar los retos de la Humanidad.**

Con nuestra multidisciplinariedad y transversalidad podemos afrontar retos tecnológicos complejos y dar respuesta a los grandes desafíos a los que nos enfrentamos.

1

## MULTIDISCIPLINARIEDAD Y TRANSVERSALIDAD

Permiten ofrecer soluciones diferenciales, como por ejemplo, la aplicación de nuestros Conocimientos al Sector Deporte.





# I+D+i en Deporte de TECNALIA:

## TICs

- Sensórica y Realidad Virtual
- Simulación y Análisis de Datos
- Comunicaciones y Retransmisiones
- Meteorología

## Biociencias

- Alimentación-Nutrición
- Biomarcadores
- Prevención y Tratamiento de Lesiones
- Monitorización y Rehabilitación

## Materiales

- Materiales Inteligentes
- Nanomateriales
- Composites
- Prótesis e Implantes

## Infraestructuras Deportivas

- Entornos Inteligentes
- Eficiencia Energética

## Gestión I+D+i

- Agendas Estratégicas de Innovación
- Políticas I+D+i en Deporte



## TECNALIA Transforma Conocimiento en PIB

*Servicio de Consultoría Estratégica de TECNALIA, cuyo objetivo es la Identificación, Priorización y Desarrollo de Oportunidades de Negocio en las Empresas del Sector Deporte:*



La Metodología contempla varias fases:

1. Identificación de Oportunidades (elaboración de un Mapa)
2. Priorización de las mismas, en base a criterios de Negocio
3. Elaboración de un Plan de Negocio de la Oportunidad
4. Elaboración de un prototipo físico de dicho Plan( evaluación y rediseño.
5. Desarrollo de la Oportunidad: *En una primera fase, incluida en la Metodología, con un testeo del nuevo Producto o Servicio generado y simulación de su comportamiento en el Mercado.*

# I+D+i en Deporte

Caso de Éxito de PUKAS - TECNALIA:

## SurfSens

Sensorización y Caracterización de Tablas de Surf

# SurfSens

**El Surf** es un deporte que consiste en deslizarse sobre las olas del mar de pie sobre una tabla, dirigiéndola gracias a una o varias quillas situadas en la parte trasera de la tabla.

Se define una tabla como buena si a un surfista

**"le va bien",**

en base a sensaciones, ya que la información de las características mecánicas de las tablas es mínima.



**PUKAS**, uno de los fabricantes líderes europeos de tablas de surf,  
y **TECNALIA**, uno de los Centros de Investigación de  
Investigación Aplicada más importante de Europa, han abordado  
conjuntamente un proyecto de I+D+i, denominado **SurfSens** ...



## ... con un doble objetivo:

1. Caracterización del **comportamiento funcional** de las tablas de surf.
2. Caracterización y mejora de la **técnica del surfista...**

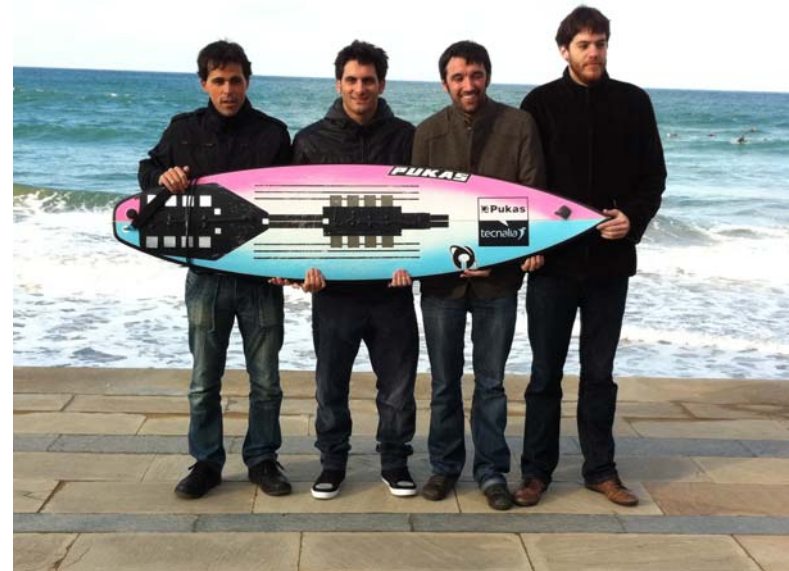
*... mediante el análisis de los datos de tablas sensorizadas.*



# Beneficios del Sistema SurfSens

- 1. El Fabricante:** posee todos los datos necesarios para diseñar y fabricar tablas de surf de comportamiento óptimo.
- 2. El Surfista:** obtiene datos como velocidades, aceleraciones, posición de los pies y comportamiento de la tabla que utiliza para mejorar su técnica de surf.

*En definitiva, poder ofrecer tablas con un comportamiento determinado a la medida de cada surfista.*





- **SURF:** Sponsoriza algunos de los mejores surfistas del mundo.
- **FABRICANTE DE TABLAS DE SURF:** Muchos años de experiencia, siendo uno de los referentes europeos.





<p>Robótica, Sensórica, Procesado, Materiales, ...</p>	<p>Sistemas Embebidos, Software, ...</p>	<p>Análisis de Datos, ...</p>

# El Sistema SurfSens

está compuesto de:

- Galgas extensométricas
- Sensores de presión
- Acelerómetros
- Giróscopos
- Brújula
- y GPS, que se incorpora a las tablas de surf en la fase de fabricación.

Data Acquisition Device



Strain Gauges

6 DOF Measurement Unit



LJTick In/Amp



Internal Antenna



Force Sensing Resistor



GPS Receiver

Li-Po Batteries



DC/DC converter



IGEPv2 Board

SD Card



USB 2.0 3-port hub



Integrating electronic sensors and recording devices into a high-performance surfboard offers a chance to measure and study surfers' techniques in ways not previously possible. Dr Urko Esnaola and Hector Marin-Reyes from Fundacion Tecnalia Research & Innovation, San Sebastian, Spain, analyses its benefits.

Surfing is still a feeling-based sport, and most improvements in surfboard manufacturing and technique analysis are based on visual information and the experience of shapers, surfers and coaches.

The coach films the surfer in a training session, then replays and analyses the images, trying to find ways to improve the surfer's technique. Similarly, in surfing competitions, the only feedback to the audience and judges is visual. As yet, no additional information, such as speed or acceleration, is available.

In surfing, it is important to control feet position and the weight applied with each foot to have the centre of mass just right at each moment. It is vital to use the surfboard rails as much as possible, so lateral inclination of the board must always be under control. Timing is also crucial, which means that, for surfing manoeuvres to succeed, forces must be applied in the correct place at the correct moment. But using a video source only as a guide, it makes it difficult, if not impossible, to determine these parameters.

#### Torsion and flex

Experimentation with design, materials dimensions and construction techniques has resulted in some new approaches to surfboard manufacturing but the subsequent optimisation of a surfboard's behaviour has mostly been through trial and error.

This behaviour is characterised by the board's response to flexion (called 'flex' by the surfing community) and torsion forces. Two boards of the same design and dimensions, but built from different

materials have individual mechanical properties, which results in markedly different sensations for surfers riding them.

Experience says traditional surfboards – manufactured from a polyurethane foam core with an outer shell of fibreglass cloth and polyester resins – are still the ones that perform best in competition. They are the common choice for surfers participating in the World Championship Tour. There have been attempts to improve surfboard performance using different materials, but, so far, no such initiative has completely succeeded. The main reason being that it has not been possible to measure flex and torsion properly to improve surfboard performance.

#### Making sense

The SurfSens solution aims to provide the missing information to surfboard manufacturers and users. A surfboard has been developed that incorporates sensors to measure the appropriate parameters, while preserving the board's performance properties. The SurfSens board incorporates strain gauge sensors for flex and torsion measurement, accelerometers, gyroscopes, a compass and GPS for movement characterisation. Pressure sensors also record position.

The components carried on the SurfSens board (see diagram top right) include an IGEPV2 embedded computer to process and store sensor data on an Secure Digital (SD) memory card, two U3-UV data acquisition devices, a three-port USB hub, one DC-DC converter, several LT101C-InAmp signal-conditioning modules to handle strain gauge signals, a xsens MTI-G 6 DOF measurement unit, a

GPS receiver antenna, 16 force-sensing resistors, eight strain gauges and two lithium-polymer battery cells. The electronics acquires data at 100Hz – an acceptable rate for characterising torsion and flex.

SurfSens is claimed to be the first board in the world that can simultaneously measure flex, torsion, acceleration, speed and the position of the board and the surfer's feet while riding the waves.

All the sensor data are stored in the PC's SD card while in the water, before being transmitted wirelessly to a remote PC.

Some tools have been developed to visualise and interpret this information. The Robotic Operating System has been chosen as the base framework. It is widely used in the robotic science community and offers many tools to develop data analysis algorithms.

Tools have also been developed to synchronise SurfSens data with surf session videos recorded by an external camera (see screenshot right, middle).

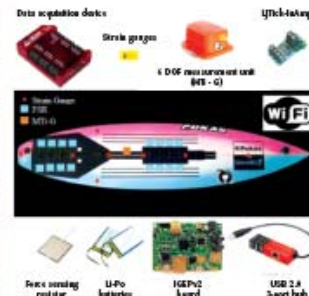
#### On the seas

Real-world tests (see photographs right) with professional surfers Ariz Aranburu, Hodei Collazo, Mario Azuza and Kepa Azero have validated the SurfSens solution in varying conditions.

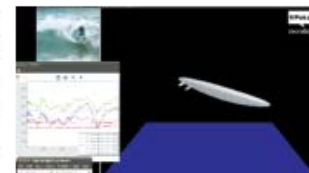
Analysis has shown that data acquisition is accurate enough to enable deeper analysis to map the surfboard's critical points and help improve techniques.

This opens a promising new research field for the surfing community and provides the tools to measure information that was unknown until now. Proper testing and data analysis will make it possible to find the key properties that directly affect a surfboard's performance. This is expected to drastically influence manufacturing by making it possible to include new material combinations at localised points on the board.

From a training point of view, SurfSens could also make it possible to classify and model each of the different surfing manoeuvres using artificial



Left: SurfSens' components – an embedded processing unit (IGEPV2), data acquisition devices, signal-conditioning modules, lithium-polymer batteries, DC-DC converter, strain gauges and measurement unit, plus (on top) GPS antenna and force-sensing resistors



Left: Screenshot of the data visualization application, where images are taken from a video camera and synchronised with the movement visualisation tool and the strain-gauge signal graphics



Left: SurfSens test sessions with professional surfers Ariz Aranburu, Hodei Collazo, Mario Azuza and Kepa Azero

intelligence mechanisms. It is anticipated that future developments of the SurfSens board will enable the transmission of real-time data about the quality of the manoeuvres being performed during surfing competitions.

#### Further information

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The screenshot shows a Vimeo video player interface. At the top, the Vimeo logo is on the left, and a navigation bar contains 'Join vimeo', 'Log In', 'Explore', 'Help', and a search box. The video title is 'Pukas - Tecnalia Surfsens project' by Pukas Surf, posted 9 months ago. The video thumbnail shows a man in a wetsuit holding a surfboard with 'Pukas tecnalia' branding. The video player controls show a play button, a progress bar at 01:20, and an HD icon. To the right of the video are buttons for LIKE, LATER, SHARE, and EMBED. A 'More' section below the video lists other videos from the channel, including 'Tim Boal. A few words from Olatu, Pukas.', 'Pukas - Tecnalia Surfsens project', and 'Pukas - Inspiration'.

Surfing is still a sport governed by feelings. The driving forces behind this joint project, PUKAS and TECNALIA, aim to “turn feelings into facts and figures” and provide as yet unquantified data that can be directly applied to improve the features of surfboards, the technical performance of surfers and/or measurement of parameters during competition.

SurfSens by Aritz Aranburu and Odei:  
<http://vimeo.com/20197603>



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## VIDEO: VIDEO GALLERY



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### More to surfing than good vibrations: scientists (2:07)

Apr 27 - Researchers in Spain have teamed up with a surfboard manufacturer to unravel the scientific mysteries of surfing. It's thought to be the first time that the dynamics of a surfboard have been analyzed in such detail and the researchers hope it will lead to the design of better boards in the future. Stuart McDill dropped in for a look. ( Transcript )



Me gusta



Share

#### MORE VIDEOS



Indebted Spain looks to tourism Thu, Apr 7 2011 (01:47)

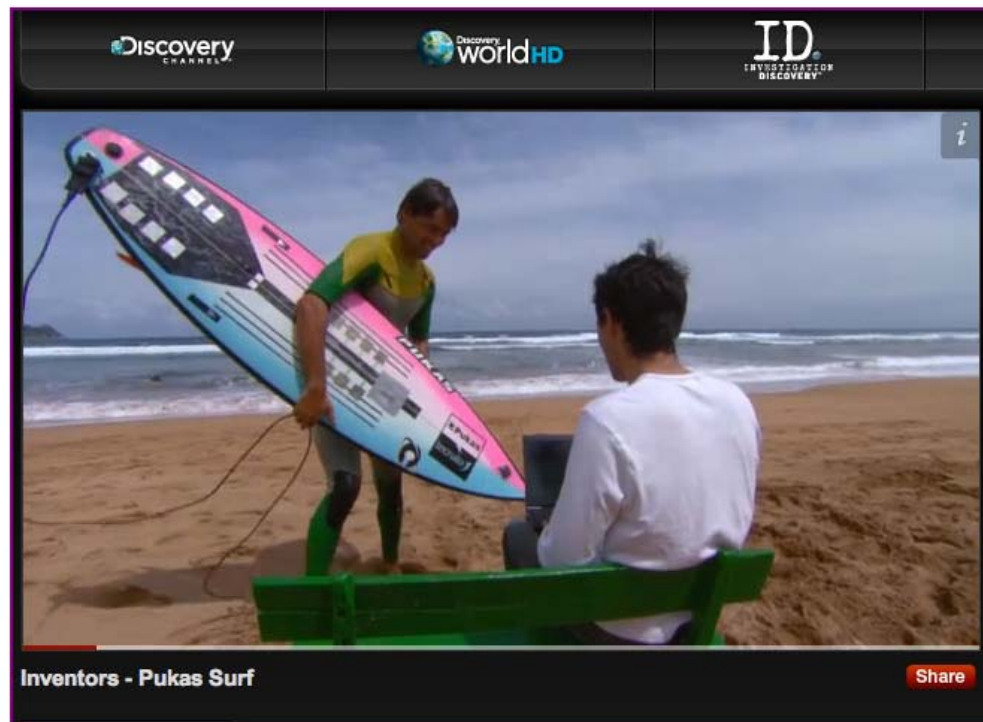
Video de Reuters:

<http://www.reuters.com/news/video/story?videoId=205683551>

## Discovery + Pukas + Tecnalía

(25.09.2011)

Pukas Surf has always had innovation in mind. One of the paths followed by our team has been the SURFSENS project, developed with Tecnalía and which results were revealed in a press release in February 2, 011. Discovery Channel flew to the Basque Country right away and learnt about the project to let viewers enjoy and understand the Pukas SURFSENS program.



Discovery Channel.:  
<http://www.pukassurf.com/new.php?id=1061>

You can watch the episode [HERE](#).

*Providing key data for manufacturing surfboards*

**PUKAS AND TECNALIA WORK TOGETHER TO DEVELOP THE  
WORLD'S FIRST SURFBOARD WITH INTEGRATED TECHNOLOGY**

# El Sistema SurfSens

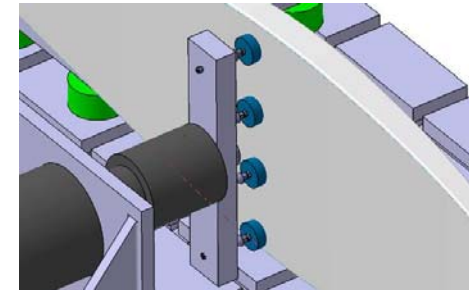
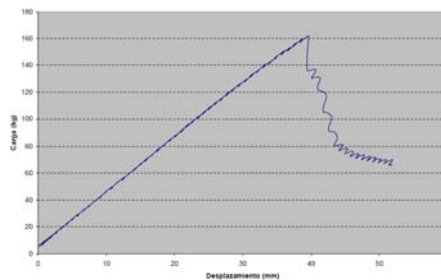
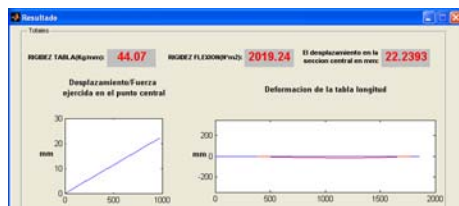


*“The first high-performance surfboard in the world with integrated electronics for movement, flex/torsion and feet-position measurement”*

<http://www.ros.org/news/2011/02/robots-using-ros-surfsens-high-performance-surfboard-with-integrated-sensors.html>

# El Sistema SurfSens permite:

- **Obtener información del movimiento de la tabla** (como aceleraciones o velocidad) y de la posición de los pies del surfista. Esto lo convierte en una herramienta muy útil para analizar y mejorar la técnica del surfista.
- **Definir ensayos en Laboratorio** que permitan cuantificar la rigidez/flexibilidad de las tablas así como su resistencia a rotura.
- **Identificar y Modelizar** los elementos principales de refuerzo y de esa manera optimizar/ personalizar el comportamiento funcional/ mecánico de la tabla.







- Los nuevos diseños de tablas incluyen inclusiones de fibra de carbono, gracias al análisis de las anteriores.

- Gracias a SurfSens, hemos identificado **3 líneas de investigación** hacia aplicaciones reales:
  1. Mejora de la construcción de las tablas con diferentes materiales que permiten fabricar las tablas con un “Flex” localizado en la parte de la tabla que el fabricante o cliente quiera.
  2. Productos que sirvan para el entrenamiento de surfistas (pisada y reacción a la misma: velocidad, fuerzas G...) o enseñanza en escuelas de surf.
  3. Medición de parámetros para competiciones.

***Ignacio Abaitua, Director de Producción de PUKAS***



“PUKAS y TECNALIA han sido capaces de poner números a las sensaciones”.

*Aritz Aramburu, Surfista Profesional*

***“En TECNALIA, transformamos el Conocimiento en PIB, generando y desarrollando oportunidades de negocio en las Empresas a través de la Investigación Aplicada”***