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A team of students wins the IATHON of Monzón with a challenge proposed by Ercros

The winning project uses artificial intelligence to improve the color formulation of plastic compounds manufactured in Monzón.

- The winning team is made up of Computer Science students from the IES Mor de Fuentes de Monzón
- The contest brought together more than 100 participants and featured the challenges of seven companies in the area.



A team of Higher Level Vocational Training students in Computer Science from the IES Mor de Fuentes of Monzón has won the first edition of the IATHON Acelera Aragón, thanks to an artificial intelligence (AI) solution developed to solve a challenge posed by the Ercros factory in Monzón.

The event, organised by the Acelera Pyme Office of CEOE Aragón and Tecnara, the Cluster of ICT, Electronics and Telecommunications Companies of Aragón, recognised as an Innovative Business Group, brought together more than 100 participants, distributed in 11

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teams, who worked to respond to the technological challenges proposed by seven companies in the area.

Rafael Mancho, head of the Ercros factory in Monzón, was in charge of presenting the company's challenge, called "Going for color, without trial and error", which consisted of finding a solution to improve the color formulation process of the plastic compounds manufactured in Monzón. Currently, this process requires different tests and adjustments to be carried out until the desired color is achieved.

The winning team developed an AI-based tool that uses historical factory data to predict the most suitable pigment combination. This solution would reduce the number of tests needed, save time, and optimize raw material consumption.

The jury valued the innovation, development and application possibilities of the proposal, which could also be used in other companies in the industrial sector.

About Ercros

Ercros is an industrial group focused on the manufacture and sale of chemical and pharmaceutical products. The principles guiding its activities are the safety of its facilities and the health of people, respect for the environment, product quality, and dialogue and transparency with society.

The company operates across three business areas: the chlorine derivatives division, a strategic unit centred on chlorine; the intermediate chemicals division, focused on formaldehyde chemistry; and the pharmaceuticals division, dedicated to manufacturing active pharmaceutical ingredients. It has 10 production facilities employing approximately 1,350 people and exports nearly half of its output to around 90 countries worldwide.

Since 2026, Ercros is part of Bondalti, a leading company in the Iberian chemical sector belonging to the José de Mello Group.

For further information, please visit ercros.es or follow us on [LinkedIn](#).

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