

PRESS RELEASE

19/12/2022

VIBES promotes its developments on the recyclability of thermoset composites

VIBES is a research & innovation project that aims to provide a sustainable and bio-based solution for the inclusion of thermoset composites into the circular economy. The project has a duration of 48 months and a budget of almost 5.3 million Euros, having received funding from Biobased Industries Joint Undertaking (JU) under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101023190. The JU receives support from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme and the Bio-based Industries Consortium.

On the 15th of December 2022, the VIBES partners met together at the premises of the German Institutes of Textile and Fiber Research (DITF) in Denkendorf, to present and discuss progress and achievements, as the project is on its 18th month. In particular, the consortium focused on the development of innovative recyclable bio-based bonding materials (BBM) by examining three different approaches, in order to explore combinations and synergies and upscale the best BBM. The agenda also included a discussion on the development of component materials that will conform to the intrinsic recyclable thermoset composites. The activities for the sustainability and economic assessment, as well as the exploitation and IPR management of the key exploitable results of the project were also discussed.

In addition, VIBES participated in COMPOSIFORUM 2022, the third edition of the International Industrial Forum on composite materials and their applications, organised by AITIIP on the 17th of November 2022, at the Paraninfo Building of the University of Zaragoza in Spain. This edition focused on the sustainability and circularity as strategic axes of the new economy, bringing together experts from the Universities of Cote D'Azur and Zaragoza and research centres, such as AITIIP Technology Centre, as well as representatives of top companies in the market. Mr Julio Vidal, senior researcher from AITIIP, presented the VIBES project by giving a lecture titled "Bringing thermoset materials to a circular economy through recycling technologies", where two different approaches of tackling the recyclability of thermosets were analysed.



Furthermore, the project partners participated in various events, such as the “Sustainability in Composites challenges and opportunities” conference in Composites Campus of Girona, the Advanced Manufacturing Madrid 2022 Fair, the 2022 edition of EMPACK within the Mandala’s project final conference and the 2022 European Summit of Industrial Biotechnology (ESIB) that took place in Graz. Additionally, the project was hosted online at the episode of the Energy Trends in the podcast broadcast and at the INDUSTRY TALKS platform.

Meanwhile, the training programme of the project, scheduled to start in May 2023, has already been designed. It aims to provide knowledge and skills on the topic of new recycling technologies for composite materials and the circular economy to potential industrial collaborators and stakeholders of the VIBES project, and to science and engineering students.

You may find more information about the project and keep up to date with its progress and developments, by visiting the VIBES website (www.vibesproject.eu), subscribing to the VIBES newsletter and following VIBES on social media.

Disclaimer

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