

## Integrated manufacturing of REciclable multi-material COmposites for the TRANSport sector

[ Newsletter N° 4 ]

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[ RECOTRANS PROJECT ]



### Meet Tecnoclad

**Tecnoclad Laser Solutions** is a company based in Valencia established in 2016 after more than 10 years of experience in laser material processing R+D at university and technological institute level. Their work involves offering advanced services and solutions in all aspects related to the use of lasers in the processing of materials. They offer their technological assessment and know-how to companies interested in implementing lasers into their production lines, making use of their vast experience in the sector.

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### Meet Synthesites

**Synthesites** is a Greek company formed in 2008 for commercialising intelligent process monitoring and control technology in advanced composite manufacturing processes.

They develop and manufacture a wide range of electronic equipment, sensors and software related to composite manufacturing for a wide range of applications, including in the energy, aeronautics and automotive sectors. They currently have offices in Piraeus (Greece), Bristol (United Kingdom) and Uccle (Belgium), solidifying their position as the world leader in industrial intelligent process monitoring systems. Some of the systems they develop include equipment and software for monitoring the status, temperature and viscosity of resins, amongst various other variables.

They work in collaboration with major European research centres to further develop their technologies and adapt them to different industrial applications for various industries.

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### Compression RTM of reactive thermoplastic composites using microwaves and cure monitoring

Scientific papers publications give the opportunity of showing promising results of research. This is the case of the paper called "Compression RTM of reactive thermoplastic composites using microwaves and cure monitoring" published in the Scientist Direct journal. This paper shows the advantage of three key drivers: the thermoplastic resin (ARKEMA), the microwave (MW) curing technology (Fraunhofer-ICT) and the on-line monitoring curing control (Synthesites). The combination of these aspects brings about improvements on the current manufacturing process of composite parts which use thermoset resin and long curing process. Apart from that, the advantage of the on-line monitoring of the resin curing process allow to optimise the process itself and obtain a high-quality product.

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### RECOTRANS & ULTRALI

How important it is the cooperation between different European projects? This is a controversial question nowadays since the objectives and results of them could be merged in order to provide different solutions to the industry. This fact can be found in the ULTRALI and RECOTRANS projects. Both are funded by National and European initiatives (respectively) in which the Gestamp project is the leader of the manufacturing of a composite door panel. In the case of the ULTRALI project, the indoor panel will be manufactured, whereas the outdoor panel will be performed in the RECOTRANS project. Therefore, the execution of these two projects will help Gestamp to fulfil the market commitment and become a more competitive company.

Additionally, ARKEMA partner is also involved in both projects, which means that it will foster the cooperation between both partners not only within these projects but also beyond.

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### RECOTRANS at Composites in Rail 2019

RECOTRANS has been presented at the last Composite in Rail Congress in Berlin. This event met expert speakers from across the supply chain to evaluate and discuss the challenges and opportunities for composite materials in the rail sector.

The conference covered key topics across rolling stock and rail infrastructure applications. RECOTRANS was introduced in the Material sustainability including recycling and bio-composites section. Not only the scope of the project was shown but also how the project will contribute to accelerate the state-of-the-art and which barriers would need to overcome to reduce the time-to-market.

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