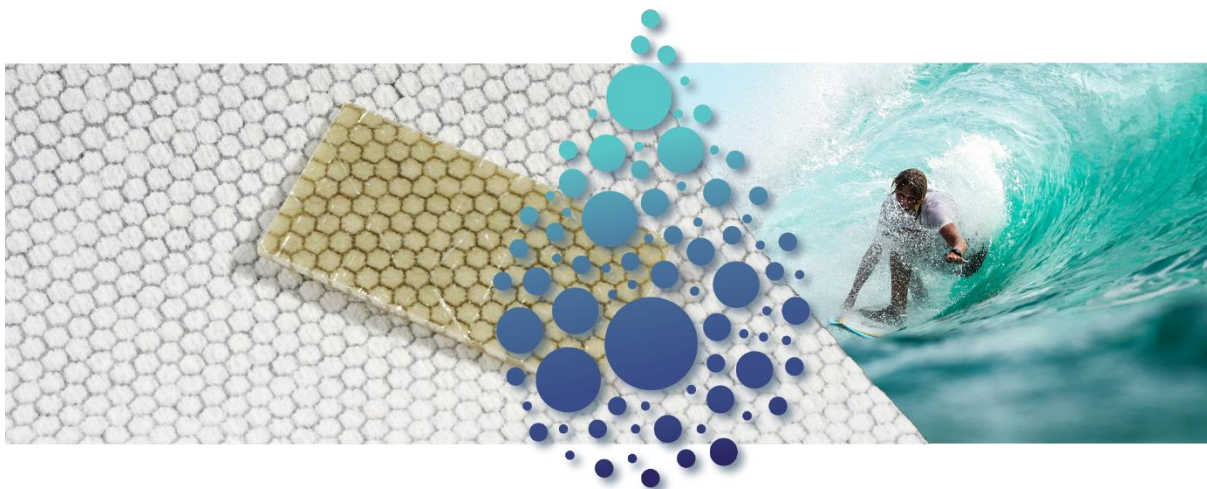


**Press Release**

**September 2019**

## **SeaBioComp project website goes live; businesses encouraged to sign up to Interest Group to tackle the use of harmful oil-based composites in the marine environment**



**SeaBioComp, the new collaborative project developing and producing novel bio-based thermoplastic composite materials for the marine sector, has launched its new [website](#) and online [Interest Group](#). The aim of the website is to disseminate information, updates, achievements and downloads throughout the project. Interested businesses, academia, public authorities, stakeholders and media are asked to subscribe to the [Interest Group](#) in order to be kept informed of the project activities and findings and receive invitations to relevant events and forums.**

SeaBioComp, is a collaborative project that has been launched to develop and produce novel bio-based thermoplastic composite materials to replace some of the conventional oil-based products used in the marine industries and to develop analytical protocols to evaluate their long-term durability and reduced ecological impact on the marine environment.

The overall objectives of SeaBioComp are:

- The development of alternative thermoplastic biocomposite formulations and processes which meet the expectations both regard to technical requirements,

SeaBioComp is an Interreg 2 Seas 2014-2020 project covering England, France, the Netherlands and Belgium. The programme is part funded by the European Regional Development Fund.

sustainability and ecological impact (50% reduction) compared to conventional oil-based composites. Four pilot products are envisaged.

- The realisation of a pilot production machine for additive manufacturing of fibre-reinforced thermoplastic bio-based composites.
- The development of test methods to determine sustainability and ecotoxicity including the impact of microplastics in the marine environment.

Anyone interested in this important and growing area of bio-based materials for the marine environment is invited to join the Interest Group at [www.seabiocomp.eu/interest\\_group/](http://www.seabiocomp.eu/interest_group/) Subscribers to the Interest Group will be kept informed of relevant events and forums, project activities, results etc. The aim of the Interest Group is to stimulate inclusive engagement of external stakeholders and interested parties including the triple helix of academia, industry and public authorities.

### Ends

SeaBioComp is a 42 month project financed by the European Union's Interreg 2 Seas Mers Zeeën fund. The project has 11 European partners: Centexbel, CETI (European Centre for Innovative Textiles), VLIZ (Flanders Marine Institute), ARMINES (Association for research and development of industrial processing methods), Poly Products, University of Plymouth, University of Portsmouth, Marine South East Ltd, EuraMaterials, IFREMER and REWIN. In addition, the project has 9 Observer Partners.

The partners in the project include research institutions, university research groups, SME's and specialist cluster organizations. SeaBioComp is led by Centexbel (BE) and combines experts in polymer research, textile and composite formation with marine institutes, sector cluster organisations and public authorities.



Co-financed by:



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