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**EU SEAFRONT**



The EU SEAFRONT project is now running for more than 36 months. Since the start of the project on January 1<sup>st</sup> 2014, a lot of work has been dedicated to the synthesis of new building blocks for next generation fouling control coatings. New processes and methods have been developed to improve fundamental understanding of biofouling, adhesion strength of marine organisms and hydrodynamics. Settlement assay tests are now routinely performed against a large number of benchmark coatings.

The partners of SEAFRONT gathered in Milan (September 2016), kindly organised by the Solvay Specialty Polymers Italy, for a successful and fruitful progress meeting. The results are promising and the collaborative atmosphere in the consortium is excellent.

In October a positive report of SEAFRONT's mid-term review was released. The reviewers concluded the project shows good progress. The project has achieved most of its objectives and technical goals for the period with relatively minor deviations.

During 2017, the final year of the project, the focus will be on completing field testing and basic understanding of fouling related phenomena, as well as on paying attention to further exploitation and dissemination of results. Progress on these points will be discussed during the next round of meetings in February 1-2 in Portugal.

Finally, when you are interested in the performance of the SEAFRONT project, in particular or in fouling control coatings in general, please visit our website [www.seafront-project.eu](http://www.seafront-project.eu). Enjoy reading the latest newsletter of SEAFRONT.

**Bio-on makes a "leap forward" and launches production of special biopolymers at its new "Production" division.**



Bio-on will begin producing its own special biopolymers at a new 1,000 tons/year plant to be completed in 2017 with an expected investment of €15 million Euro.

The news is part of a new 2017-2020 industrial plan, which Marco Astorri, Chairman and CEO of Bio-on S.p.A., outlined to the financial community and the press in Milan on Tuesday 22 November 2016. Entering the innovative sector of high-margin special bioplastics production adds to the company's existing research and development of 100% biodegradable biopolymers and the production licensing on which it has developed since its foundation in 2007.

The PHAs bioplastics developed by Bio-on are made from renewable plant sources (such as sugar beet and sugar cane production waste) with no competition with food supply chains. They are completely eco-sustainable and 100% naturally biodegradable. The research conducted and the new patents registered by Bio-on demonstrate that they can also be used successfully in medicine or to make cosmetics products, because their biocompatibility makes them completely safe for human health.

Bio-on now controls the entire technological chain for the production and use of various grades of PHAs bioplastic. The new Production division will exploit the new patents and products developed particularly for cosmetics (bioplastic microbeads to replace the microplastics contained in cosmetics, which cause pollution and have already been banned in some countries, including the United States with the Microbead-Free Waters Act of 2015).

The full press release can be found here: [http://www.bio-on.it/immagini/comunicati-finanziari/CS\\_71\\_BIO-ON\\_piano\\_industriale\\_22\\_11\\_2016UK.pdf](http://www.bio-on.it/immagini/comunicati-finanziari/CS_71_BIO-ON_piano_industriale_22_11_2016UK.pdf)

**AkzoNobel acquires BASF's Industrial Coatings business**



AkzoNobel's acquisition of part of BASF and thus coatings for offshore wind power generation

AkzoNobel strengthens position as global number one supplier in coil coatings. AkzoNobel has finalized the acquisition of BASF's global Industrial Coatings business, which supplies a range of products for industries including construction, domestic appliances, wind energy and commercial transport, strengthening its position as the global number one supplier in coil coatings.

The transaction includes relevant technologies, patents and trademarks, as well as two manufacturing plants in the United Kingdom and South Africa. Approximately 400 employees from BASF's Industrial Coatings business join AkzoNobel, bringing expertise to innovate and serve an expanded customer base worldwide.

**Team AkzoNobel to compete in Volvo ocean race**



November 25, 2016

Skipper Simeon Tienpont is set to sail into the Netherlands as team AkzoNobel begins the next phase of training for the Volvo Ocean Race.

"It's great to welcome Simeon and the team to the Netherlands because it's a wonderful opportunity for all our Dutch supporters to join in the excitement," said Conrad Keijzer, AkzoNobel's Executive Committee member responsible for Performance Coatings. "Hopefully the team will visit more cities over the next few months and give people a chance to share in what promises to be an incredible journey."

For more information and to follow team AkzoNobel, visit [www.teamAkzoNobel.com](http://www.teamAkzoNobel.com)

**Bio-on announces new multi-license maxi agreement for revolutionary PHAs bioplastic**



BOLOGNA, ITALY, 22 December 2016

Bio-on announces it has signed a new multi license contract worth 55million Euro with a major multinational company and leader in its sector. The goal of Bio-on's new client is, within the next 3 years, to replace conventional plastic with biodegradable biopolymers made from agro-industrial waste using Bio-on's revolutionary PHAs bioplastic. Thus transforming waste into raw material, using a new plastic with a positive impact on people and the planet.

You can read more [here](#).

**AkzoNobel awards shipping industry's largest ever number of carbon credits to Grimaldi Group**



October 27, 2016

Leading global logistics company **Grimaldi Group** has received the largest number of carbon credits to have been issued through a landmark initiative developed by AkzoNobel's marine coatings business. Grimaldi – who specialize in maritime transport – were presented with a total of 109,617 carbon credits through the award-winning program, which rewards ship owners for converting to sustainable hull coatings, such as those available in AkzoNobel's International range.

Each carbon credit represents the avoidance of one ton of CO<sub>2</sub> being emitted to the atmosphere. The credits can either be sold on the carbon markets – where they are valued in excess of \$500,000 based on current prices – or can be used to offset emissions from other parts of an organization.

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|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Dutch Polymer Institute           | Solvay Specialty Polymers          | University of Gothenburg  |
| International Paint Ltd           | Delft University of Technology     | Bio-On                    |
| Fraunhofer IFAM                   | Eindhoven University of Technology | Bluewater Energy Services |
| I-Tech AB                         | University of Bristol              | Smartcom Software         |
| University of Newcastle upon Tyne | Val FoU                            | Solintel                  |
| Minesto AB                        | Biotrend                           | Hapag Lloyd               |
|                                   | BioLog                             |                           |

The SEAFRONT project is part of the FP7-OCEAN-2013 program, and is known under Grant Agreement Number 614034.

