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### Successful SEAFRONT progress meeting at Fraunhofer IFAM, Bremen Germany



On June 26–27, 2014, all nineteen SEAFRONT partners gathered at Fraunhofer IFAM, Bremen Germany, for the first progress meeting since the start of the FP7 project on January 1<sup>st</sup> 2014. Prof. Mayer, director of Fraunhofer IFAM, welcomed all participants and acknowledged the excellent consortium and organisation of the project, of whom Fraunhofer IFAM is proud to be partner. The progress meeting started with a status update of project coordinator John van Haare highlighting the first successes. John was proud to announce that the SEAFRONT project is almost fully staffed making the near future an exciting and challenging period when initial results on novel environmentally friendly biocidal and fouling release coatings will appear. The SEAFRONT project performs according to plan, but faces a challenging period ahead with numerous deliverables to be completed and submitted by the end of 2014/early 2015. Five work package leaders followed up with presentations highlighting the first promising results of their work package ranging from novel academic concepts for antifouling coatings up to first steps into benchmarking performance of commercial fouling control coatings on end-user applications. Details of the initial progress of all partners were subsequently presented and discussed in parallel sessions resulting in vivacious and constructive discussions among different partners involved in each work package. The first progress meeting was closed by a General Assembly and an Executive Board meeting. Fraunhofer IFAM served as an excellent host of all SEAFRONT partners having all facilities close to their meeting centre. Finally, all participants experienced a nice social tour through the city of Bremen professionally guided by Fraunhofer coworkers. The next SEAFRONT progress meeting will be organised on 15–16 January 2015 hosted by the Newcastle University, School of Marine Science and Technology and School of Chemistry.

### 18th International Congress on Marine Corrosion and Fouling (ICMCF) in June 2016 in Toulon, France

The 18<sup>th</sup> ICMCF conference will be organised from 19 till 24 June 2016 in Toulon, France. Do not miss this conference as it is the place where latest developments on environmentally benign fouling control coatings will be presented and offers networking opportunities with internationally leading (marine) scientists. The EU SEAFRONT project will prominently be present at this conference by contributions from invited speakers, posters and, most probably, a summer school. The 18<sup>th</sup> ICMCF will be a prominent platform for dissemination activities of SEAFRONT well beyond the European borders. Therefore, also on behalf of the organising committee, SEAFRONT very much welcomes you at the 18<sup>th</sup> ICMCF. For more information please visit [www.icmcf.org](http://www.icmcf.org)

### Bluewater will launch first tidal energy device in The Netherlands



SEAFRONT partner Bluewater Energy Services will launch its first tidal energy device close to Texel, The Netherlands. The future launch of the BlueTEC device was broadcasted on the 8 o'clock Dutch news. The BlueTEC device will be coated with superior antifouling coating supplied by SEAFRONT partner International Paint, a department of AkzoNobel. [Please click here to watch the Dutch news.](#)

### Bio-On awarded as most innovative EU biotech SME 2014



This year, two companies have been announced as winners of EuropaBio's Most Innovative Biotech SME Award 2014. The award ceremony took place today in Brussels, as part of the 2nd edition of the European Biotech Week. Antti Peltomäki, Deputy Director General, DG Enterprise & Industry at the European Commission, who presented the award during the ceremony, named both French healthcare biotech SME Erytech Pharma and Bio-on, an Italian industrial biotech SME – as winners of the award.

The two winners saw off tough competition from three other runners up: Biosyntia (Denmark), Autifony (UK) and to-BBB (the Netherlands). The top five candidates were selected from a total of 35 applicants to this year's award, now in its 5th year. Entries were received from all across Europe. The five finalists presented their achievements in front of an audience of approximately 100 guests including Jos Peeters, Managing Partner at Capricorn Venture Partners, Kay Swinburne MEP, Philippe De Backer MEP, as well as other high-level policy makers, biotechnology CEOs and venture capitalists.

Bio-on (Italy) was recognized for designing and patenting the first fully biobased plastic PHAs obtained from agricultural waste, co and by-products through natural bacterial fermentation processes excluding chemical solvents. The resulting bioplastic is 100% naturally biodegradable in both water and soil and suitable for use in particularly demanding application areas such as: biomedical devices, automotive, food packaging and others.

[Click here](#) to read more.

### Bio-On earns USDA certified biobased product certification and label



Bio-on S.p.A. has earned the United States Department of Agriculture-USDA Certified Biobased Product Label for its PHA. The USDA Certified Biobased Product Label verifies that the products amount of renewable biobased ingredients meets or exceeds levels set by USDA. Biobased products are finished or intermediate materials composed in whole or in significant part of agricultural, forestry, or marine ingredients. All bio-based amount claims are verified by independent labs and monitored by the USDA. Consumers may feel secure in the accuracy of the bio-based amount and be empowered in making better informed purchasing decisions. Bio-on PHA has obtained a certificate of 100% bio-based content.

### AkzoNobel has revealed Intertrac



#### Pioneering software assesses worldwide fouling risk

AkzoNobel has revealed Intertrac, the shipping industry's first, patented applied for software system that enables ship owners and operators accurately to assess and predict the risk of hull fouling.

Development began in 2011 and the system has been trialled with customer partners since February 2013. Intertrac overlays a vessel's route, speed and location data with a comprehensive fouling challenge data set enabling coating specifications to be tailored specifically to suit an individual vessel's operations and trading routes. This ensures effective cost management for hull coatings, as well as maximizing a vessel's operational efficiencies.

Intertrac uses location data that is provided by a vessel's AIS – information that is available in the public domain – to establish operating profiles. A fouling risk profile is developed for each vessel, helping ship owners and operators to quantify the hull fouling challenge that a specific vessel has faced. The system divides the world's oceans and coastal waters into 64 "large marine ecosystems", each with its own fouling risk and characteristics.

Follow this link to read more:

<http://www.maritimejournal.com/news101/onboard-systems/monitoring-and-control/pioneering-software-assesses-worldwide-fouling-risk>

### I-Tech's Selektepe approved in China



I-Tech has been notified that Selektepe®, a marine biocide used to improve ship hull performance and reduce maintenance, has been approved for use in China. New chemical and notification Selektepe has been approved for use as an antifouling biocide by the Ministry of Environmental Protection of the People Republic of China. "We are pleased to recognize the Chinese authorities' approval of our antifouling technology following a rigorous environmental risk assessment. This marks a very important milestone in our efforts to provide the global marine sector with our unique technology", says Philip Chaabane, Managing Director of I-Tech. "We are confident that our enthusiasm is shared also by our customers and partners in the shipping industry as this is proof that Selektepe® can now be used for sea going vessels as well as other marine structures on the world's largest single maritime market." Selektepe had previously been approved in Japan and Korea and is under registration in EU.

[Click here](#) to read more.

### First multidisciplinary training of SEAFRONT PhD students at TU Eindhoven



As part of the Technology Integration Program SEAFRONT implemented a training scheme for PhD students working on the project. The training scheme aims at multidisciplinary education of PhD students in order to prepare them for a future career in the marine and maritime industry. The PhD students are required to study in laboratories of at least two other partners of SEAFRONT and have to be trained for a couple of months at one of the industrial partners of SEAFRONT. In addition, online courses are organised for the PhD students broadening their scientific and professional skills. From 10 till 15 November 2014 PhD students Anna Abramova (University of Gothenburg) and Henk Benschop (TU Delft) studied for one week in the labs of PhD student Sander Kemmeren at TU Eindhoven, The Netherlands. The PhD students learned the basics of polymer synthesis and physics, crosslinking chemistry and prepared patterned polymeric films themselves. Anna, Henk and Sander highly appreciated their stay and training at TU Eindhoven, which gave them an in-depth understanding of what polymer chemistry and physics could offer as development tool for novel fouling control coatings. The training scheme helps them to secure the further integration of technologies developed across the individual work packages of SEAFRONT. The next study will take in October/November 2015 at the TU Delft focusing on hydrodynamics. The Training Associate Program is supervised by Training Associate Manager Prof. Anders Blomberg of the University of Gothenburg.

Dutch Polymer Institute  
International Paint Ltd  
Fraunhofer IFAM  
I-Tech AB  
University of Newcastle upon Tyne  
  
Minesto AB

Solvay Specialty Polymers  
Delft University of Technology  
Eindhoven University of Technology  
  
University of Bristol  
Val FoU  
Biotrend  
BioLog

University of Gothenburg  
Bio-On  
Bluewater Energy Services  
  
Smartcom Software  
Solintel  
Hapag Lloyd

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