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## EU SEAFRONT



The EU SEAFRONT project is now running for more than 18 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.

Still SEAFRONT is facing a challenging period ahead as more promising prototype fouling control coatings will be developed and a vast amount of physical-chemical and biofouling performance data will be collected in the databases. These data are of pivotal importance for the down-selection and upscaling of promising technologies downstream in the project. Moreover, life cycle impact assessment studies have already started and will be intensified in the next period in order to make sure that novel fouling control technologies have minimal to no impact on the marine ecosystems and the environment at large.

The partners of SEAFRONT gathered at Newcastle University (January 2015) and Gothenburg (July 2015, kindly organised by the Swedish partners I-Tech, Minesto and University of Gothenburg) for successful and fruitful progress meetings. The results are promising and the collaborative atmosphere in the consortium is excellent.

SEAFRONT proudly announces to organise a workshop on novel fouling control coatings and strategies jointly with EU project BYEFOULING ([www.sintef.no/projectweb/byefouling/](http://www.sintef.no/projectweb/byefouling/)). The joint workshop will be organised in parallel to the ICMCF2016 at Toulon ([icmcf2016.univ-tln.fr](http://icmcf2016.univ-tln.fr/)). The format of the workshop in combination with the ICMCF2016 programme will be elaborated in the next SEAFRONT newsletter.

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.seafont-project.eu](http://www.seafont-project.eu). Enjoy reading the latest newsletter of SEAFRONT.

## AkzoNobel's carbon credits methodology wins environmental award



[AkzoNobel's](#) landmark carbon credits methodology for the shipping industry has won the Best Offsetting Project award in the 2015 Voluntary Carbon Market Rankings.

Based on nominations from leading stakeholders within the voluntary carbon markets, the prominent award recognizes the efforts of AkzoNobel and development partners The FReMCo Group and The Gold Standard Foundation.

The first of its kind within the shipping industry, the carbon credits methodology is based on ship owners converting existing vessels from a biocidal antifouling system to a premium, biocide-free advanced hull coating such as AkzoNobel's Intersleek®, part of the company's International® range of marine coatings.

Intersleek coatings are proven to increase a vessel's operating efficiency and reduce CO2 and associated emissions by an average of 9 percent. Carbon credits are awarded based on the reduction in emissions, which can then be sold on the carbon markets.

"This award is recognition of the hard work and commitment from everyone involved in developing the carbon credits methodology," said Trevor Solomon, Intersleek Business Manager for AkzoNobel's Marine Coatings business. "We see this as adding further credibility to the initiative, which has seen a significant uptake in ship owners enrolling in the last year."

Added Oscar Wezenbeek, Managing Director of AkzoNobel's Marine Coatings business: "We are delighted that our efforts to develop the industry's first carbon credits methodology have been recognized. This is another significant step in helping and incentivizing ship owners to invest in clean technology and working towards reducing emissions and improving the sustainability of the shipping industry."

In the first round of claims, two ship owners are due to be awarded a combined total of nearly \$500,000 for 17 vessels in 2015. And based on the 100 eligible vessels already converted from a biocidal coating to the Intersleek range, there is a further estimated \$2.8 million available for ship owners and operators.

AkzoNobel's partners in developing the carbon credits methodology, FReMCo, also won the Best Project Developer – Energy Efficiency award in recognition of the initiative. The Gold Standard Foundation won the Best Voluntary Standard award.

## Selektepe voted for European Union approval



Selektepe voted for [European Union approval](#). The antifouling biocide Selektepe® has been endorsed by the EU Standing Committee on Biocidal Products and will be approved EU wide from the 1st of January 2016.

On the 8th of July, the European Union Standing Committee on Biocidal Products gave a positive vote for Selektepe to be approved under the EU Biocidal Products Directive as an antifouling substance for use in both professional and non-professional antifouling products.

"We are very pleased to receive the final confirmation that Selektepe complies with the demanding EU legislation for biocides. It has been a long process so we are very eager to take the next step towards having Selektepe-containing antifouling products on the European market" says Dr Cecilia Ohlauson, Regulatory Affairs Manager for I-Tech. Selektepe has already received regulatory approval in Japan, Korea and China and is currently under evaluation in the USA.

"The vote for approval under one of the world's most rigorous environmental standards is a huge achievement and sets an important milestone for our company", says I-Tech CEO, Mr Philip Chaabane. "We are particularly proud that we can now serve our customers in all key markets of the commercial shipping community as well as the important yachting market in the EU". Through the approval, Selektepe confirms its high efficacy and positive environmental aspects for a wide range of use within the marine sector.

Selektepe® – further improving antifouling paints Selektepe introduces for the first time ever a pharmacological mode of action to combat barnacle settlement. By temporarily stimulation of the octopamine receptor, the barnacle larvae's swimming behaviour is activated and the organisms are deterred from the hull. These ground-

breaking discoveries enable unrivalled power at very low concentrations, yet within the limits of rigorous risk assessments. Selektepe is an organic, non-metal compound with efficacy proven at 0.1% w/w.

About I-Tech I-Tech is a Gothenburg based company with global reach, holding all IP and regulatory rights to its all new antifouling agent Selektepe (generic name, medetomidine). Relying on academic research in Gothenburg, I-Tech has since 2006 successfully transformed the scientific invention into a commercially ready and available antifouling agent. I-Tech has had several listings as top start-up company and is now an entirely commercially driven company. I-Tech is a privately held company, supported by Swedish Energy Association, the European Innovation Initiative Eco-Innovation and FP7 SeaFront. The company is a member of the Astra Zeneca BioVentureHub.

## Agreement to realise the first France-based facility for producing PHAS BIOPOLYMERS from sugar beet co-products



Paris - Bologna 28 July 2015 -

An agreement signed today by **Bio-on** and **Cristal Union** will see France's first facility for the production of PHAs bioplastic from sugar beet co-products. The two companies, operating in sustainable biochemistry and sugar, alcohol and bioethanol production, will work together to build a production site with a 5 thousand tons/year output, expandable to 10 thousand tons/year.

Requiring a 70 million Euro investment, the facility will be located at a Cristal Union site and will be the most advanced biopolymers production site in the world. The new factory will create 50 new jobs specialised in fermentation to produce this revolutionary bioplastic.

PHAs, or polyhydroxyalkanoates, are bioplastics that can replace a number of traditional polymers currently made with petrochemical processes using hydrocarbons. The PHAs developed by Bio-on guarantee the same thermo-mechanical properties with the advantage of being completely naturally biodegradable.

Click [here](#) to read more. download [PDF](#)

## Carisbrooke shipping ltd choose Intersleek 1100SR as their coating of choice for the Jasmine C



[Carisbrooke Shipping Ltd choose Intersleek 1100SR as their coating of choice for the Jasmine C.](#)

**Intersleek 1100SR offers a reduction in hull roughness improving hull efficiency, reduction in vessel fuel consumption, option to be included in the Carbon Credit initiative where International Paint is the only Marine Paint Company to qualify for the Gold Standard.**

International Paint Ltd part of Akzo Nobel used the benefits of Intertrac with Carisbrooke Shipping, a way to demonstrate the operational fouling challenges, analyse the activity of the in service period of each vessel. Using all data and analysis, Carisbrooke Shipping's Technical Director, Martin Henry decided upon a combination of high performance self-polishing co-polymer (SPC) Intersmooth 7460 and a hybrid SPC Interswift coating, to improve the efficiency of the vessels.

March 2015 saw a key operational decision to award all the their remaining 6,000 DWT K Class vessels to International Paint, allowing also for a 12,927DWT vessel the 'Jasmine C' to be coated with Intersleek 1100SR a patented fluoropolymer coating offering significant in service enhancements for Carisbrooke Shipping Ltd operational requirements. This is the first time Carisbrooke Shipping has used this patented technology and is a milestone for both companies and demonstrates continuous fleet improvements to the fleets' performance.

## Agreement for developing and producing a molecule for green chemical industry



## Bioplastics research accelerates thanks to new investments by HERA in Bio-on technology Bologna

13 July 2015 – Bio-on S.p.A., the leader in eco-sustainable chemical technologies, and Hera S.p.A., Italy's leading multi-utility provider, are renewing and strengthening their partnership launched last year. The aim is to identify a new type of organic material from which the revolutionary bioplastic developed by Bio-on can be made using sugar beet processing waste.

"The agreement signed today," explains Tomaso Tommasi di Vignano, Executive Chairman of Hera S.p.A., "is the natural continuation of the collaboration launched with Bio-on in 2014 which enabled our company to assess the technology necessary for transforming the biogenic waste produced in the territories covered by the Group into latest-generation bioplastics". PHAs, or polyhydroxyalkanoates, are bioplastics that can replace a number of traditional polymers currently made with petrochemical processes using hydrocarbons.

PHAs guarantee the same thermo-mechanical properties with the advantage of being completely naturally biodegradable. "We are extremely proud," explains Marco Astorri, Chairman of Bio-on S.p.A., "because this agreement helps find new uses for some of the products collected by HERA, using a new industrial technology already being studied at our laboratories". The agreement between the two companies has arisen from the research and development conducted at the Bio-on laboratories which, with HERA's support, is aimed at developing a new industrial process for the production of PHAs from organic material waste.

Click [here](#) to read more.

## BlueTEC Texel platform inaugurated by Mayor of Texel



World's first floating tidal BlueTEC platform ready for electricity generation  
BlueTEC Texel platform inaugurated by Mayor of Texel

Den Helder; April 9, 2015 – Today the first BlueTEC Tidal Energy platform was formally named by the Mayor of Texel, the Netherlands. The floating platform, which holds tidal turbines below the sea surface, will soon be positioned near the island of Texel – supplying clean electricity to the Dutch grid.

This first BlueTEC will serve as a demonstration platform targeted at remote locations world-wide, such as islands in Indonesia, Philippines and the Pacific.

It is also the start of further development of higher capacity tidal energy platforms, to be deployed in large farms.

The bottom of the BlueTec has been coated with a fouling release coating applied as benchmark in the SEAFRONT project in order to monitor its performance over time under stationary conditions. The BlueTec platform is one of the end-user field test sites of the SEAFRONT project.

Click [here](#) to read more.

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

Solvay Specialty Polymers  
Delft University of Technology  
Eindhoven University of Technology

University of Bristol  
Val FoU  
Biotrend

University of Gothenburg  
Bio-On  
Bluewater Energy Services

Smartcom Software  
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Hapag Lloyd

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