

6th e-newsletter, August 2018



AFTER 3 YEARS, ECOPULPLAST ENDS THE DEMONSTRATION PHASE AND ENTERS THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

Recycling pulper waste in a new, environmentally sustainable plastic product is possible! This is what LIFE ECO-PULPLAST has demonstrated in the last 3 years of intense research and study.

The project, funded by the LIFE programme of the European Commission, started in 2015 and is ending in a few days, at the end of August 2018.

The positive results obtained during the experimental activities, which ended in May, have convinced Selene to carry on the project and to proceed with the industrial phase already in the coming months, as confirmed by Marco Severini, CEO of Selene, during the Final Conference of Ecopulplast.

THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Ecopulplast has demonstrated the economic and technical feasibility of the innovative technology that allows to recycle pulper waste into new blends and products, thanks to the validation of the prototype line, which was developed and tested for the production of plastic pallets. Now, Selene bets in the development of the industrial project through a significant investment plan in machineries, installing a new complete production line a year, to reach a total production capacity of 1.2 million pallets per year.

At the same time, research activities will continue to improve the performance of the pallets, thanks to a new pallet design and modifications to the moulds. Furthermore, Eco-Pulplast, in collaboration with the LUCENSE and other Research Centers committee in waste recycling and industrial sustainability, is studying additional

applications of plastics derived from pulper waste, such as accessory products for logistics and transport, additives of asphalt and plastic granules.



The [final conference of the Life Eco-Pulplast project](#) was held on July 13, 2018, at Palazzo Bernardini (Lucca), headquarters of Confindustria Toscana Nord and Serveco.

The conference was the occasion to illustrate the results of the project and the prospects of industrial development of Life Eco-pulplast. An overview of the strategies and opportunities related to the circular economy was also presented, with a focus on the development of technologies and the sharing of concrete cases of recycling of heterogeneous plastics.



LUCENSE AND ECO-PULPLAST AT THE 49th NATIONAL CONGRESS OF ATICELCA

LUCENSE attended the 49° Congresso Aticelca – the Italian Paper Industry Congress – held on May 17th and 18th, 2018, at Villalta di Gazzo, Padova. *Aticelca, is the National Association of Technicians and Expert of the Paper Industry.*

“Technologies and prospects for recycling heterogeneous plastics and cellulose form pulper waste”, was the title of the presentation given by Simone Giangrandi, as part of the technical session on Circular Economy, which focused on project LIFE Ecopulplast and the results achieved at the time.

[Read the article on "Industria della carta" magazine](#)

**THE MONITORING TEAM OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION IN LUCCA TO VISIT
THE PROTOTYPE LINE IN SELENE.**



On May 28th, Selene and the Ecopulplast team welcomed the representatives of EASME, the Executive Agency for SMEs of the European Commission, for the last monitoring visit of the project. The monitoring team certified the progress of the LIFE project and expressed great satisfaction with their efforts and the results obtained.

[Read more](#)

VISIBILITY OF LIFE ECO-PULPLAST PROJECT

Still high visibility for Life Eco-Pulplast. In the past months, the project appeared on several media, i.e. online and printed newspaper, technical magazines and TV, which devoted attention to the concrete example of circular economy and environmental sustainability. For more information:

[NEWS](#)

[EVENTS](#)

[Articles and publications](#)

LIFE ECO-PULPLAST TAKES PART IN ECOMONDO 2018

Life Eco-Pulplast will be at the 22nd edition of Ecomondo, the International Fair for the recovery of materials and energy and sustainable development.



The results and industrial developments of the project will be illustrated in the afternoon of Thursday 8 November at the EASME stand, the Commission's executive agency that manages EU Life programmes for small and medium-sized businesses, in an area dedicated to Eco-Pulplast.

EASME participates in Ecomondo to enhance and give visibility to virtuous projects - beneficiaries of Life loans - in the field of circular economy such as Eco-Pulplast, with the aim of promoting its activities and future developments with major national and international stakeholders.

END-OF-WASTE MINISTERIAL DECREE

From the Policy point of view, a working group was established at the Ministry of Environment with representatives of Selene and Lucense, together with Assocarta (Paper Industry trade organisation), to elaborate a Ministerial Decree on end-of-waste for light plastics from pulper waste. The draft test is currently under technical evaluation by the experts activated by the Ministry of Environment.



The LIFE ECO-PULPLAST project aims at demonstrating the possibility to recycle pulper waste – the industrial waste of paper mills that use recovered paper – in the manufacturing of eco-sustainable plastic pallets.



Partner di progetto

selene

LUCENSE

Serv.eco



With the contribution of the
LIFE financial instrument of the
European Community



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info@life-ecopulplast.eu

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