

LIFE-FLAREX

Mitigation of environmental impact caused by Flame Retardant textile finishing chemicals studying their non-toxic alternatives

PRESS RELEASE

Terrassa, January 9th 2019



LIFE-FLAREX met in Italy for networking and to assess safer flame retardants for the textile industry

LIFE-FLAREX is a LIFE Programme project that aims to reduce the impact on the environment, human health and workers' safety, of current harmful Flame Retardants used in the textile industry and their alternatives, by analyzing their environmental impact and technical functionalities and promoting the best practices for the sector

The LIFE-FLAREX consortium traveled to Italy on December to participate in the Boostalps networking event in Milan on December 18th and to hold the project midterm meeting on December 19th and 20th in Biella.

At Boostalps, representatives from AEI Tèxtils and POINTEX participated in the networking session aimed at finding synergies between the textile industry and the automotive industry for a more prosperous future. The topic of huge relevance for the LIFE-FLAREX consortium.

The next days, the consortium met at Citta Study in Biella, home of the Italian cluster POINTEX where the consortium reviewed in depth the progress of all the actions of the project. Several points were treated with utmost detail; particularly, the pre-industrial trials of the different alternative flame retardants highlight the potential of some of them. The complete results will be available by the end of February with the first industrial trials during the first half of 2019. Several industrial demonstrators are already confirmed including Bonditex and Pertex in Spain, TF2000 and Giordanetto in Italy.

Other important aspects discussed during the meeting were the strategic plan for promoting substitution towards safer chemicals in the textile finishing process. It was decided to define a joint strategy for all the regions involved in the project and to seek regional synergies with ongoing programs and authorities. It is important to highlight best practices and experiences that companies



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can relate to in order to make an effective communication that can engage other companies to follow and lead.

Lastly, the meeting included a review of the different dissemination and communication activities that have been performed during the first half of the project. It is noteworthy the presentation of the project at several international conferences including ECOFRAM, SETAC, avniR and the 8th international conference on applied research on textiles.



LIFE-FLAREX team during the 4th project meeting in Biella



LIFE-FLAREX was present in the roundtable of Boostalps networking event in Milan



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The project coordinator is AEI TÈXTILS, the Catalan cluster of technical textiles. Six additional partners complete the consortium: two Spanish technological centers/research institutes: LEITAT and the Institute of Advanced Chemistry of Catalonia (CSIC), both members of AEI TÈXTILS, the Belgian textile research center CENTEXBEL and three technical textile clusters: ATEVAL from Spain, POINTEX from Italy and CLUTEX from the Czech Republic.

LIFE-FLAREX's objective is to reduce the impact on the environment, human health and workers' safety, of the current flame retardants used in the textile sector, and their future alternatives, by identifying which are the best technologies available, both from the performance and from the sustainability point of view. This will be achieved with the development of the analysis of their environmental impact and functionalities in order to promote the substitution amongst the manufacturers.

For more information: www.life-flarex.eu



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