



WOODCHEM


2017



Wood conquering chemistry

NANCY - FRANCE
December, 6th and 7th 2017

NEWSLETTER n°3
september 2017

 www.woodchem.fr

Editorial

Woodchem 2017 – the city of tomorrow and wood chemistry

Wood chemistry is a new term but one with a very long history. Let's not forget that the origins of coal, petrol and gas that we use today lie in biomass. But wood has not finished surprising us, offering potential for innovation that goes beyond its original applications in construction and energy.

For 20 years new sectors have been turning towards bio-based raw materials and gradually moving away from petroleum-based products. New biomaterials, bio-based chemicals and biofertilisers are becoming a permanent fixture in our daily lives, offering a sustainable response to our consumption needs. We are now finding 'green sectors' in perhaps the most unexpected of places: in cities. And what if the future of our population lay in 'green city life'? From green bitumen to bioplastics, the city presents a understated sober, sustainable modern face.

Many sectors have understood this well: the city of tomorrow is being built now. At the crossroads of many application sectors, Woodchem 2017, the first international conference on wood chemistry, invites scientists and professionals to come together and discuss the advances on which the future of our cities will be built. An ambitious objective: support these 'green sectors' in expanding their potential to develop and promote innovation in wood chemistry.

Come on the adventure! Join us!
contact@woodchem.fr



Jean-Luc Sadorge
Director of
Pôle Fibres-Energie



Philippe Gérardin
Professor at
Université de
Lorraine

3 good reasons to come to Woodchem® 2017

REGISTRATION

EARLY BIRD RATE BEFORE
30 SEPTEMBRE

- > Because sustainable transport is now about the very composition of roads, with biobased bitumen.
- > Because wood chemistry now forms an integral part of how we live whether in construction materials, cosmetics or what we eat.
- > Because 'neo-biomaterials' such as bioplastics are to be found in an increasing number of applications in our homes (packaging, mulch, objects, non-woven fabrics).

The success story of the month

SUBSTITUTING 65% OF PETROL WITH BIOBASED MATERIALS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY?

Soprema launches its green bitumen

Soprema, the specialist in waterproofing solutions, is putting the finishing touches to Mutatio, a research and development project aimed at reducing the use of petrol in the design of construction materials by using raw materials derived from biomass and recycling. Objective: to develop a waterproof roofing membrane in which 65% of the bitumen is replaced with biobased materials. After 6 years of work and a budget of €13 million co-funded by Bpifrance, the green bitumen, made from pine resin and vegetable oil, was brought to market by the Alsatian group in 2017. Challenge overcome!

<https://www.woodchem.fr/actualites>

And elsewhere, what's happening?

SUSTAINABLE BUILDINGS THE GERMAN COMPANY COVESTRO USES WOOD SHAVINGS FOR INSULATING MATERIALS

The supplier of high-tech polymer materials, Covestro, has succeeded in producing bio-based aniline in the lab. This molecule, which is usually derived from the fossil fuel benzene, is used in the manufacture of materials with applications in building insulation. The innovative technology uses a micro-organism as a catalyst and converts sugar derived in particular from wood shavings into aniline precursors. The German company has taken a new step towards "chemical and plastic industries that are less reliant on fossil materials and market fluctuations", explains Markus Steilemann, Chief Commercial Officer at Covestro.

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