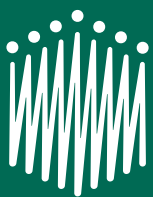


Flax-Linen & Hemp fibre composites

Press kit



**Alliance for European
Flax-Linen & Hemp**

JEC WORLD - 10-12 March 2026
Hall 5 Stand B71 - Bio-Materials Village



JEC WORLD

2026 The Leading International Composites Show

March 10-12  PARIS-NORD VILLEPINTE

Meet the key industry players and members of the Alliance's Technical Section at the JEC Bio-Materials Village [Hall 5]:

ALLIANCE FOR EUROPEAN FLAX-LINEN & HEMP – FR

HALL 5 - B71

www.allianceflaxlinenhemp.eu

Bringing together all players in the European Flax-Linen & Hemp value chain and supporting sourcing

BCOMP – CH

HALL 5 - B63

www.bcomp.ch

High-performance natural fibre reinforcements for sustainable lightweighting

BIOECONOMY FOR CHANGE – FR

HALL 5 - B74

www.bioeconomyforchange.eu

Network for the bioeconomy in Europe, bringing together over 500 stakeholders across the bio-based value chain

BIOFIBIX – BE

HALL 5 - B76

www.biofibix.be

Flax-linen nonwoven with proprietary treatment technology for technical applications

CIRCULAR STRUCTURES – DE

HALL 5 - C53

www.circular-structures.com

Manufacturing processes, life cycle analysis & industrial applications with European Flax-Linen

DEMGY GROUP – FR

HALL 6 - B31

www.demgy.com

Injection, thermoforming, and additive manufacturing solutions

DEPESTELE – FR

HALL 5 - C53

www.groupepepestele.com

100% Flax and prepreg untwisted rovings

ECOTECHNILIN – FR

HALL 5 - B64

www.eco-technilin.com

Natural fibre solutions for industrial markets

EMANUEL LANG COMPOSITES – FR

HALL 5 - B60

www.emanuel-lang.com

100% Flax 2D woven, UD - including colors

FLIPTS & DOBBELS

– **FLAXCO** – BE

HALL 5 - A77

www.flaxco.be

Thermoplastic prepregs with woven Flax fibre and Flax fibre composite panels

LIBECO – BE

HALL 5 - C73

www.libeco.com

100% Flax, 100% pre-washed, 2D woven & reinforcements for composites

LINIFICIO E CANAPIFICIO NAZIONALE – IT

HALL 5 - C59

www.linificio.it

Flax & Hemp roving & fabrics

NORAFIN – DE

HALL 5 - B72

www.norafin.de

Flax & Hemp spunlaced non woven

SAFILIN – FR

HALL 5 - C63

www.safilin.fr

Low-twist Flax roving and yarns as well as a range of Flax & Hemp

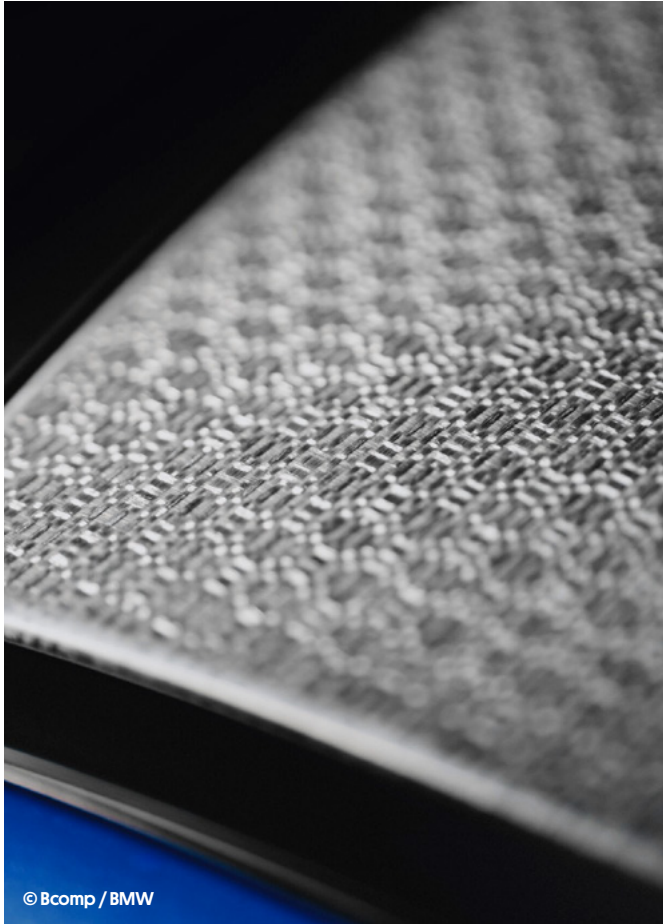
TERRE DE LIN – FR

HALL 5 - C69

www.terredelin.com

Specially selected and prepared Flax fibres and rovings for composites

JEC Innovation Awards 2026



WINNER

- **BMW Group | BMW M GmbH | Bcomp Ltd. | Cobra Advanced Composites Co. Ltd. | PPG Wörwag Coatings GmbH & Co. KG | SGL Technologies GmbH**

BMW M Natural Fibre Composites — The BMW Group introduces series-ready natural fibre composites from renewable Flax-based raw materials. A concrete example is the use of Bcomp’s ampliTex™ Flax fibre composites instead of carbon fibre composites in the roof panels of future models enabling a reduction in CO₂e emissions of around 40% during production plus addition end-of-life considerations.

Natural fibre supplier: Bcomp (ampliTex™ Flax fibre composites)



FINALIST

- **Stratiforme Industries | EcoTrain | Socofer | ClearSy | IMT Nord Europe | Syntony**

EcoTrain Self-Supporting Composite Cab Body — 100% composite self-supporting railway cabin structure in Flax/glass fibre, achieving 70% weight reduction and just 2 g CO₂/km; the first qualified use of Flax in a highly regulated passenger rail environment.

Natural fibre supplier: Safilin

Innovation Planets — Alliance Member Projects

CONSTRUCTION & CIVIL ENGINEERING PLANET

- **RAW Project | CITA | GROWNlab | CGtec | Terre de Lin | Safflin | Linificio Canapificio Nazionale | Manaomea**
Hemp Halo Canopy - A 3.3 m architectural hemp umbrella prototype using bio-based composites and CNC-knitted hemp yarn. The first lightweight architectural system made entirely from hemp, demonstrating structural integrity, design flexibility, and zero-waste fabrication.
Natural fibre supplier: Terre de Lin, Linificio & Safflin
- **Witteveen+Bos | Infra Composites | TU Eindhoven | Bcomp | POLYNT | Armacell**
Smart Circular Bridge, Ulm — The world's first Flax fibre-reinforced, bio-based resin bridge designed for traffic loads. An 8.5 m span with 42 FBG sensors and real-time structural health monitoring, delivering a lower CO₂ footprint than steel or concrete.
Natural fibre supplier: Bcomp (Flax fibre reinforcement)

DESIGN, FURNITURE & HOME PLANET

- **Terre de Lin (TDL Technique) | Selux | Chomarat | Groupe Pierman | Région Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes**
Selux Line Lin Outdoor Lighting Bollard — A public-space lighting bollard with a structural body manufactured from Flax-based composite, balancing mechanical strength, durability, and low-carbon impact for demanding public infrastructure.
Natural fibre supplier: TDL Technique (Flax roving) | Chomarat (Flax fabric)

SPORTS, LEISURE & RECREATION PLANET

- **Ino'Hold's | GreenMix**
Hemp & Recycled PET Climbing Holds — High-performance climbing holds using eco-improved GreenMix resin with bio-based and hemp fillers, maintaining grip, strength, and safety while reducing raw material consumption and environmental impact.
Natural fibre supplier: Hemp fibre (GreenMix bio-based filler) from FRD-CODEM

AUTOMOTIVE & ROAD TRANSPORTATION PLANET

- **Nidaplast | Midipile | Novamotum | EcoTechnilin**
Midipile Truck Flaxbox — Thermoplastic sandwich panels with PP honeycomb core and short Flax/hemp skins for a lightweight urban delivery vehicle cargo box. At just 4 kg/m², performance matches fibreglass with a fully recyclable, 100% French-made construction.
Natural fibre supplier: EcoTechnilin (Short Flax & Hemp fibre, needle-punched)
- **Bond-Laminates (Envalor) | Fraunhofer IMWS**
Sustainable Thermoplastic Composite Child Seat — Flax fibre reinforced biobased thermoplastic composite child seat, achieving significant weight reduction over conventional PP injection moulding while delivering full recyclability and crash-safety compliance.
Natural fibre supplier: Flax fibre textile FLAXCO
- **Bcomp | Tras Ltd**
Natural Fibre Composites to Motorcycle Racing— Flax-based ampliTex™ and powerRibs™ technologies brought to motorcycle racing, offering up to 85% CO₂ footprint reduction versus carbon fibre with equivalent stiffness and improved ductile fracture behaviour for rider safety.
Natural fibre supplier: Bcomp (ampliTex™ & powerRibs™ Flax fibre composites)



© Midipile Ecotechnilin Nidaplast

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Working in partnership with the JEC Group, the Alliance is co-hosting a newly renamed and enlarged Bio-Materials Village at JEC World 2026 as well as launching two new technical guides advising on manufacturing and processing.

The new bio-materials village has grown by more than 30% compared to the last edition in 2025, expanding from 250m² to 333m² and features **14 Alliance members and partners** representing the full Flax-linen & hemp composites value chain – from fibre cultivation and processing through to resins, fabrics and semi-finished materials. This growth reflects a strategic evolution in how European Flax and hemp are positioned within the advanced materials landscape.

To support this growth -and in response to increasing requirements for transparency, innovation and regulatory alignment- the **Alliance for European Flax-Linen & Hemp is stepping up** to provide technical, scientific, environmental, and economic data for the industry and composite markets, backed by a strong, diverse, comprehensive, and evolving **scientific ecosystem**.

With the support of this European network -bringing together a **European Scientific Council (ESC)** composed of experts, as well as **agronomic and technical institutes and research centres**, the Alliance is proud to launch **two essential technical guides** at JEC World 2026.

The **European Flax-Linen Environmental Footprint Guide** delivers comprehensive LCA data for certified European Flax fibres and processing, including newly released processed fibre datasets developed with Alliance members, enabling brands and manufacturers to quantify and communicate environmental performance for regulatory compliance and market access.

The **Process Guide to European Flax-Linen & Hemp Composites Manufacturing**, by the 2025 renewal **Alliance's European Scientific Council dedicated to composite**, provides composite manufacturers with industry-tested expertise spanning agriculture through industrial processing, addressing key process sensitivities and best practices to support informed industrial development.

The 2026 JEC edition illustrates notable gains have been made over the past year in the automotive sector, and a key highlight at JEC World 2026 will be BMW Group claiming the Automotive and Road Transportation Parts Innovation Award for its series production of exterior parts made with Flax materials. In the automotive sector, stringent regulations on CO₂ emissions and lightweighting imperatives make Flax and hemp highly attractive, while its aesthetic qualities also suit visible interior and exterior components.

Many other advances in the field of transportation are being made, with Flax fibres being combined with glass reinforcements, for example, to achieve a weight reduction of around 70% in replacing metal in passenger rail cab bodies. Here, the Flax fibre integration also enables



the manufacturing of complex shapes through vacuum infusion while supporting an innovative embedded metal insert system that eliminates the need for drilling and secondary bonding, resulting in superior structural cohesion and durability.

In the wind energy sector meanwhile, hemp-based composite solutions are being incorporated into wind blades and have already demonstrated reduced carbon footprint, improved vibration damping, and end-of-life advantages, while meeting mechanical requirements.

DESIGN & LIFESTYLE

At the same time, through a growing network connecting agriculture, fibre processing, advanced materials engineering and end-use manufacturing, **the Alliance is enabling European Flax and hemp to move decisively beyond traditional sectors into high-value design and lifestyle applications.**

Establishing technical partnerships between designers, research institutions and industrial members ensures that certified European Flax and hemp fibres are being integrated into an expanded range of products – each calling for a perfect balance of performance, sustainability, and aesthetic value.

Illustrating how composite principles can translate effectively into fashion-led manufacturing, for example, 3D-printed structural footwear components are now being produced from PLA filaments reinforced with certified European Flax fibres. The Flax-filled PLA material replaces conventional plastics, resins and wood in the heels, anatomical insoles and shoe lasts, enabling complex internal geometries, improved shock absorption and lightweight structures, while supporting tool-free, on-demand production models which are increasingly valued within contemporary fashion and design.

The Alliance is further reinforcing the position of European Flax and hemp within advanced technical textile applications through a project bringing together more than fifteen partners to develop smart, sustainable e-textiles for sports and outdoor use.

MASTERS OF FLAX FIBRE™

The Alliance will spotlight its Masters of FLAX FIBRE™ certification scheme to ensure 100% European origin and controlled production as key criteria for composite applications.

Through its coordination of agriculture, fibre processing and downstream markets, **the Alliance certification reinforces the competitiveness of European Flax fibres, supporting scale, and innovation.**

“Flax composites have a unique advantage, with three quarters of world fibre production taking place in Western Europe. This localisation of the entire value chain – from growers and scutchers to spinners and weavers – places raw materials close to technology experts, including leading universities supported by the European Scientific Council, composite end users and other key processing suppliers.”

Bruno Pech

Innovation Project Manager
Alliance for European Flax-Linen & Hemp

“The Alliance’s strength lies in our comprehensive scientific ecosystem. Our European Scientific Council brings together leading experts from agronomic institutes and research centers across Europe to produce verified, industry-relevant data. The two technical guides we’re launching at JEC World 2026 represent this collaborative expertise: comprehensive environmental footprint data for regulatory compliance, and practical processing guidance drawn from real-world industrial experience. This is how we’re translating research into industrial application. Alongside our members, we are working towards a common goal – making Flax and hemp the preferred fibres worldwide, backed by verified scientific, economic and sustainability data that create powerful support tools that empower industry decision-making.”

Valentin Depestele

President of the Technical Uses section
Alliance for European Flax-Linen & Hemp



Key figures in Flax-Linen & Hemp fibre production

FLAX

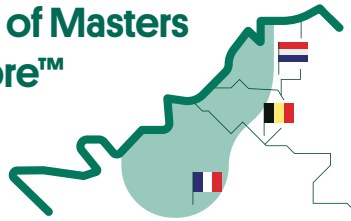
3/4 of the world's long fibre

are produced in France, Belgium and the Netherlands

+ 106%

increase in Flax growing area **from 2015 - 2025**

Europe, the #1 global producer of Masters of Flax Fibre™



1 hectare of European Flax =

900 kg of yarns

or 3,750 m² of fabrics

or 4,000 shirts

or 450 sets of bed linens

or 1,375 chairs made of Flax composite

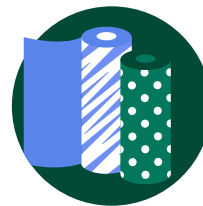
Today, Flax fibres* account for **< 0,5%** of global textile fibre production

*Long fibres + short fibres



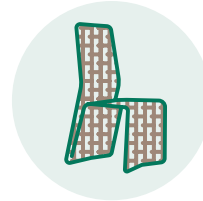
330,000 tonnes of fibres in 2025

[incl. 190,000 tonnes of long fibres]



200,000 hectares in Europe in 2025

[of which 88% in France: 176,000 hectares]



HEMP

Europe, #2 global producer

with **42,000 hectares** of Hemp for all uses in 2023



France #1 producer in Europe with around **23,000 hectares**

of Hemp for all uses, incl. **at least 1,650 hectares** for Hemp textile in 2025





**Masters of
FLAX
FIBRE™**

CERTIFIED FLAX OF EUROPEAN ORIGIN,
FROM FIELD TO FIBRE.

Masters of FLAX FIBRE™
is a certification that ensures
integrated crop management
practices and highlights the
unique expertise of European
fibre producers.

Masters of FLAX FIBRE™
provides European origin
traceability from Flax fibre
to finished product,
for all end markets.


More information:
allianceflaxlinenhemp.eu

How Flax adds value to composites

Masters of FLAX FIBRE™ a certification of origin that meets all customers' expectations.


THE PROPERTIES OF MASTERS OF FLAX FIBRE™ [EX-EUROPEAN FLAX™]

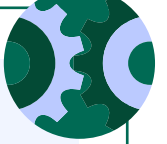
MAIN CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renewable resource • Proximity and traceability • Careful water management from sowing to harvest • Dew retting, without irrigation • Certified and GMO free⁽¹⁾ seeds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helps preserve soil quality grown in rotation: contributes to optimal soil structure and increases yield of the following crop⁽²⁾ • Limited use of inputs: reasoned use of pesticides and fertilizers⁽¹⁾ • Zero-waste fibre: 100% used 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scutching: fibre extraction mechanical process, without water or solvents • Biodegradation: after 7 weeks, Flax fibre is fully biodegraded under marine conditions⁽³⁾ • Human and technical know-how: embodied by agricultural expertise and skilled workforce
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FLAX-LINEN & HEMP FIBRE COMPOSITES FUNCTIONAL PROPERTIES

Unique functional and environmental properties aligning with current societal expectations.

TECHNICAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lightness • High specific stiffness • Vibration damping⁽⁴⁾ • Heat & acoustic insulation • Impact response 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Radiowave transparency • Hybridization • Moisture sensitivity guidelines⁽⁵⁾ 	 <p>Research & studies to scientifically validate the properties of the fibres</p>
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(1) Source : Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) of Masters of FLAX FIBRE™ (ex-European Flax™) Scutched Fibre, February 2022

(2) Source: Flax fibre: cultivation and processing. ARVALIS - Institut du végétal, 2013

(3) Source: Aerobic Biodegradation Test Seawater/Sediment Interface according to modified ISO 19679

(4) Source: *Vibration Damping in Flax & Hemp fibre composites* - Key facts, The enlarged European Scientific Council of Alliance for European Flax-Linen & Hemp, March 2023

(5) Source: *How to cope with Moisture Sensitivity in Flax & Hemp fibre composites* - Best practice & guideline, The enlarged European Scientific Council of Alliance for European Flax-Linen & Hemp, May

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Building evidence, performance, and innovation: The scientific ecosystem supporting European Flax and Hemp

The Alliance for European Flax-Linen & Hemp has structured a comprehensive scientific and technical advisory ecosystem to support the development, credibility and long-term trajectory of the European Flax and Hemp sector.

As the only European agro-industrial organisation uniting all stakeholders across the value chain, the Alliance acts as a reference body for technical, scientific, environmental and economic data relating to these fibres and their applications. Its role is to organise knowledge, coordinate expertise and provide verified information enabling the sector to meet industrial, regulatory and societal expectations.

The ecosystem has been progressively developed since the late 2000s, placing innovation and sustainable development at the core of strategy. Early work established traceability certifications and produced the first LCA (life cycle assessment) of a Linen garment according to ISO standards. The founding of the European Scientific Council for composites in 2009 strengthened innovation capacity, while the creation of the Bast Fibre Observatory in 2013 enabled the reliable identification of Flax and Hemp fibres in response to counterfeiting challenges. Over time, these initiatives have formed a structured framework capable of supporting transparency, evidence-based communication and regulatory alignment across the sector.

The Alliance's scientific organisation is built around three complementary pillars covering the entire lifecycle of Flax and Hemp – environmental assessment, textile performance and technical applications. Together, they support the transformation of agricultural raw materials into verified, traceable and high-performance products.

A MEASURABLE ENVIRONMENTAL TRAJECTORY

The environmental pillar mobilises scientific expertise to measure and continuously improve environmental performance. The Alliance coordinates representative agricultural data collection, collaborates with recognised databases and provides tools allowing manufacturers and brands to evaluate product impacts. The sector became the first agro-industrial industry to measure environmental impact according to the European Product Environmental Footprint methodology. **These results are integrated into international databases** and software platforms to support transparent environmental reporting and continuous improvement practices.

AGRONOMIC RESEARCH COMPLEMENTS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT.

Conducted with leading agricultural institutes, it addresses climate adaptation, crop protection and crop management practices. **European Flax cultivation is carried out with careful water management from sowing to harvest and field retting, without irrigation.**

It uses limited inputs and allows full plant valorisation through mechanical fibre extraction. This work underpins certification programmes such as **Masters of FLAX FIBRE™**, ensuring traceability, responsible production and measurable environmental performance across the value chain. The Alliance actively participates in European regulatory development, contributing to sectoral environmental frameworks for textiles and ensuring the specific characteristics of Flax and Hemp are recognised. **Through involvement in working groups and stakeholder consultations, it contributes data and methodology relating to durability, reparability and agricultural specificity, supporting harmonised and robust assessment rules for textile products.**

VERIFIED TEXTILE PERFORMANCE AND TRACEABILITY

The textile pillar focuses on the functional properties of Flax and Hemp fibres and their performance as essential reinforcement substrates for composites. Further research addresses product lifecycle and environmental behaviour. Marine biodegradability studies demonstrate that European Flax fibres biodegrade under aerobic marine conditions. Additional programmes analyse abrasion resistance and colour fastness in order to better understand durability and support alignment with environmental footprint methodologies. This work is providing benchmarks and improvement pathways while reinforcing the link between performance and environmental impact.

Traceability remains a central objective. Through collaboration with accredited laboratories, the Alliance has developed standardised methods enabling identification and quantification of bast fibres in textiles. These tools ensure product authenticity, correct labelling and reliable certification for **Masters of FLAX FIBRE™**.

FROM FLAX & HEMP FIBRES TO TECHNICAL MATERIALS

The technical pillar extends the use of Flax and Hemp beyond textiles into high-performance applications. Supported by the **European Scientific Council for composites**, research promotes integration into sectors including automotive, construction, design and advanced materials. The Council coordinates scientific studies, produces technical reference documents and facilitates knowledge transfer through conferences, technical days and open-source resources.

Flax and Hemp fibres provide advantageous mechanical properties such as lightness, stiffness, vibration absorption and favourable weight-to-performance ratios. By documenting these characteristics, the Alliance enables manufacturers to select fibres according to functional requirements and supports innovation-driven market development.

Across all activities, the Alliance disseminates scientifically validated data, develops practical tools and harmonises methodologies. Guides, databases, technical sheets and training programmes facilitate adoption by brands, manufacturers and industrial users. This shared knowledge base ensures consistency, transparency and reliable communication throughout the sector.

Through this coordinated scientific ecosystem, the Alliance is strengthening sustainability, innovation and competitiveness across the European Flax and Hemp industry. By guaranteeing traceable production, validated performance and measurable environmental impact, it positions these fibres as reference natural materials capable of supporting both the textile markets and advanced technical applications on a global scale.

European Scientific Council composition - 2026 dedicated to composites



Alain BOURMAUD
Université
Bretagne Sud - IRDL



Christophe BALEY
Université
Bretagne Sud - IRDL



Christophe BINETRUY
Ecole Centrale
de Nantes



Maria Asun CANTERA
University of the
Basque Country



Peter DAVIES
IFREMER



Jan IVENS
KU Leuven



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of Denmark



Bo MADSEN
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of Denmark



Véronique MICHAUD
EPFL - Lausanne



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City University of
Applied Sciences



Vincent PLACET
Université Marie
et Louis Pasteur -
FEMTO



Joris VAN ACKER
Universiteit Gent



**Aart Willem VAN
VUURE**
KU Leuven



Ignaas VERPOEST
KU Leuven

European Flax-Linen Environmental Footprint Guide

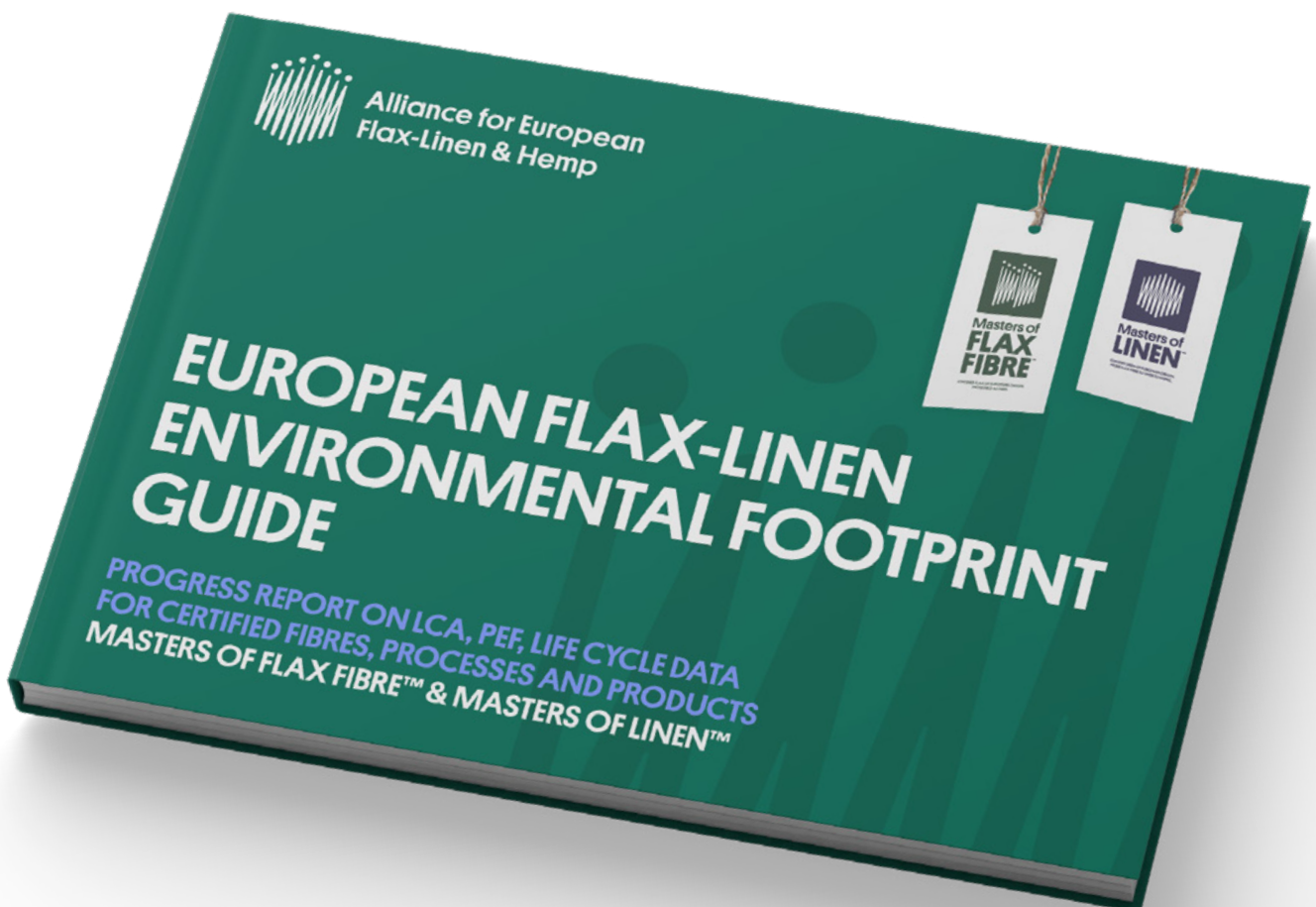
The Alliance for European Flax-Linen & Hemp is pleased to present the European Flax-Linen Environmental Footprint Guide, published at JEC World 2026.

As environmental footprint data becomes an increasingly essential prerequisite for market access and regulatory compliance, this guide provides brands, manufacturers and value chain partners with a comprehensive and practical resource covering LCA, the Product Environmental Footprint methodology, and lifecycle data for certified European Flax fibres and processing.

The guide brings together fibre and process datasets :

- **Raw material data**, already integrated into the three major reference databases — the European Commission PEF database, Higg Index and Ecoinvent ;
- **Data for processed fibres and yarns** just released after four years of co-construction work with Alliance members processors ;
- Guidance on the Alliance’s new Glimpact-powered calculation tool.

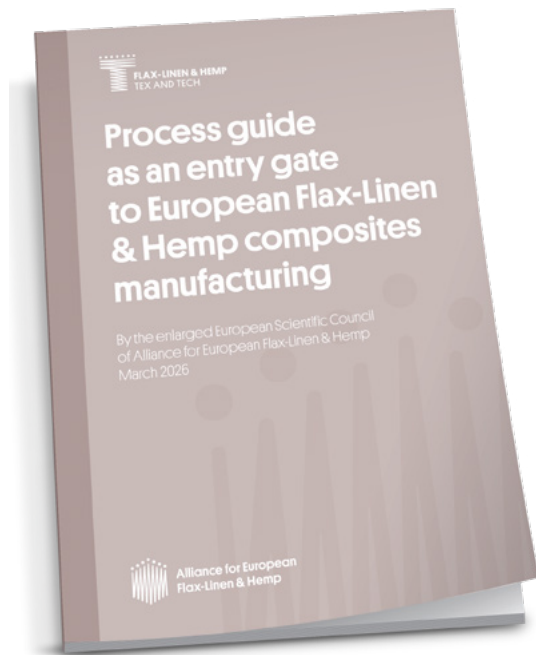
It is both a technical reference and a practical entry point for any organisation seeking to quantify, communicate and continuously improve the environmental performance of products made from certified European Flax.



Media library:

<https://allianceflaxlinenhemp.eu/en/european-flax-linen-hemp-media-library>

Process Guide as an Entry Gate to European Flax-Linen & Hemp Composites Manufacturing



The Alliance for European Flax-Linen & Hemp will also launch this new technical guide at JEC World 2026, as a practical resource for composite manufacturers and laboratories looking to work with European Flax and Hemp fibres.

Developed by the Alliance's European Scientific Council and its Technical Section users and partners, the guide draws on a collective, industry-tested expertise that spans the full value chain — from agriculture and fibre preparation through to industrial processing.

Whether you are taking your first steps with Flax & Hemp composites or are an experienced user seeking to consolidate best practice and address common misconceptions, this document offers a structured, transparent overview of current knowledge, key process sensitivities and practical boundaries. It is one part of a broader and evolving toolbox that the Alliance continues to develop in support of robust, well-informed industrial development.

Media library:

<https://allianceflaxlinenhemp.eu/en/european-flax-linen-hemp-media-library>

ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL REFERENCES

Open-source scientific publications

Moisture Sensitivity Technical Guideline outlines best practices for managing moisture sensitivity in Flax and Hemp fibres, detailing the impact of humidity and moisture absorption on composite performance.

Vibration Damping in Flax & Hemp Fibre Composites summarizes scientific findings on the vibration and sound damping properties of Flax and Hemp composites compared to conventional materials.

These technical documents were developed within the Alliance's Enlarged European Scientific Council and are available in the open-source library.



Media library:

<https://allianceflaxlinenhemp.eu/en/european-flax-linen-hemp-media-library/10/a-moisture-sensitivity-technical-guideline>

<https://allianceflaxlinenhemp.eu/en/european-flax-linen-hemp-media-library/3/vibration-damping-in-flax-hemp-fibre-composites>

Flax & Hemp market developments

AUTOMOTIVE

The automotive sector represents one of the most dynamic and diverse markets for Flax fibre composites, spanning from series production partnerships with global manufacturers to innovative applications in specialist vehicles. Industry leaders like **Bcomp** have established Flax composites in high-performance production programmes with Volvo Cars and BMW Group, demonstrating that natural fibres can meet the rigorous performance, consistency, and scalability demands of tier-one automotive supply chains. Simultaneously, pioneering smaller manufacturers such as Midipile's electric licence-free utility vehicles and Greenlander (**Circular Structures**), with their Sherpa off-road camper, are proving that Flax composites offer advantages for low-volume, design-led applications where weight savings, sustainability credentials, and manufacturing flexibility are paramount. Together, these diverse applications illustrate how Flax fibre composites are becoming embedded across the entire automotive ecosystem, driving innovation at every scale.



BMW Group's collaboration with Bcomp on natural fibre composites for series production vehicles has won the 2026 JEC Innovation Award in Automotive & Road Transportation Parts, marking a significant milestone in sustainable automotive manufacturing. Building on initial motorsport applications from 2019, the partnership successfully industrialized **Bcomp's ampliTex™ Flax composites** as direct replacements for carbon fibre in exterior and interior components of BMW series production cars. As an example, replacing carbon roof panel with Flax fibre panels can achieve approximately 40% CO_{2e} reductions in production plus additional end-of-life considerations while meeting the demanding aging, quality, and capacity requirements of large-scale exterior automotive parts.



The project saw more than 100 different material and fabric iterations being tested before a unique weave style and colour was created that matched the BMW Group's design intentions. Meeting a critical requirement for the adoption of Flax in series production, the new technology can also be transferred to existing production processes, with roof panel manufacturing now possible with fully automated RTM just like the carbon versions. In addition to the new visual look, BMW also wanted to see validated supply chains. To meet large-scale demand, **Bcomp** built a new manufacturing facility with planned expansion, ensuring reliable and scalable material supply. This racetrack-to-road success demonstrates that high-performance natural fibre composites can now be an alternative to synthetic materials in the most technically demanding automotive applications while delivering measurable environmental benefits.

Bcomp will highlight their automotive and motorsport expertise as they will also present the BMW M4 GT4 race car, a SUZUKI CN CHALLENGE GSX-R1000R motorbike, body parts from the Skoda Fabia Rally2 and a CUPRA Born VZ CUP Bucket seat alongside a next-generation BMW Group portfolio pre-development car roof developed for the award-winning project.

BIOFIBIX, a new exhibitor at JEC World 2026, has two novel projects on display. On the booth they share with **Fibryx**, they will display an SCA pop-top roof for a VW ID.Buzz developed in RTM Lite processed **BIOFIBIX Hypermat**. The 2.8x1.7m part uses existing tooling for the part and the specially treated isotropic Hypermat is used in place of fibreglass reinforcements.

On the Alliance stand, BIOFIBIX will also showcase a fully assembled hypercar rear wing moulded with their Hypermat and additional glassfibre plies. This demonstrator part confirms that isotropic mechanical performance, high fibre-content composites (up to 45%) and full traceability from field to fabric mean Flax really can support high-performance parts.

French honeycomb specialist Nidaplast, working with Novamotum, a French engineering consultancy specialising in functional materials, and natural fibre supplier Ecotechnilin, has developed an innovative cargo box for the Midipile, a compact, pedal-assist quadricycle designed for last-mile urban delivery of loads up to 300 kg. At the heart of the solution is a fully thermoplastic sandwich panel featuring a PP honeycomb core and skins of short Flax and Hemp fibres sourced from the French textile industry, needle-punched with recycled PP fibres. Measuring just 22 mm thick with a surface weight of only 4 kg/m², the panel delivers mechanical performance equivalent to fibreglass, while reducing the number of metal components, lowering assembly costs and simplifying end-of-life sorting. The box itself is formed from just two sandwich panels, cold-bent and bonded, making production elegantly efficient, and at end of life, the material can be granulated and reused in the same process. Produced entirely in France via a double-belt press, the Midipile will be on display on the Planets at JEC World 2026, with small samples of the honeycomb panels also available to examine on the Alliance booth.

Moving forwards with the Sherpa ultimate 4x4 expedition vehicle that they exhibited on the Planets (in 2024), Greenboats and their parent company Circular Structures, have also announced a Smart Frame concept that they believe will provide an intelligent utility platform for future EV and autonomous vehicles. By replacing a steel ladder frame chassis with a moulded natural fibre composite monocoque, they can deliver exceptional performance – both structurally and in terms of storage for water, batteries or access systems – whilst using low impact materials including Depestele Flax fabrics, recycled PET cores and Sicomin GreenPoxy bio-resins.



ARCHITECTURE & CIVIL ENGINEERING

As the construction industry intensifies its pursuit of lower-impact materials, Flax fibre is stepping decisively out of the interior and into the structure itself. Historically associated with insulation, non-wovens, and interior finishes, Flax has long been an appreciated but peripheral player in sustainable building. That position is shifting. The momentum gathered at JEC World 2025, where architects and manufacturers began seriously interrogating the structural potential of Flax, has carried forward into tangible progress.

Central to this evolution is the work now underway to establish genuine, reliable design data. The construction industry is, by necessity, a conservative one. For natural fibre composites to earn their place in structural applications, they must be supported by the kind of characterised, repeatable performance data that engineers can confidently rely upon. That work is happening, and its results are beginning to open doors that were previously closed to bio-based materials. **Flax is now contributing to structural elements where its combination of stiffness, vibration damping, and low embodied carbon makes it not merely a sustainable gesture, but a sound engineering choice.**



FIBRAS - Fibre-Wound Bio-Composites for Resourceful Architectural Structures – is a Research Team at the Eindhoven University of Technology established two-years ago and led by Professor Marta Gil Pérez. In her project FIBRAS, funded by the Dutch Research Council NWO, Professor Gil Pérez confirms that proving product safety is key to Flax being employed in building structures. The FIBRAS team addresses this by investigating the variability in the natural Flax fibres used and by employing a bottom-up material characterization. **The FIBRAS team has created filament wound lattice structures using Depestele Flax tapes with Sicomin bio-resins.**

Fibres are robotically wound around removable metallic frames. Large numbers of lattice components have been manufactured then tested to validate a multidisciplinary design workflow that targets a lower impact bio-composite structural concept for architectural applications including the relevant process and material variations. Another key research focus is that the bespoke winding process necessitates the development of process-specific handling and operating techniques for Flax fibre to maximise efficient material deployment.

Another construction sector highlight in the Alliance display will be BastWave corrugated bio-composite panels, which have already been installed in prestigious buildings including the Young V&A Museum in London and are based on nonwovens by Ecotechnilin. Manufactured in the UK by Margent Farm from Hemp fibres and bio-resin, BastWave panels deliver high structural rigidity combined with a naturally low carbon footprint. Suitable for exterior cladding as well as interior architectural applications, the panels demonstrate how natural fibre composites are meeting both structural and aesthetic demands in contemporary design.

SPORTING & LEISURE

Flax fibre is now a consistent thread running through all Babolat's Pure Aero racquet line. The core benefit is always vibration dampening and improved feel/acoustics at impact, with placement varying by model (handle, throat, or 3/9 o'clock in the head) depending on where engineers judged it would be most effective for that racquet's intended playing style. The technology has evolved from the original NF2 Tech developed with Ecotechnilin Flax materials to NF2 Tech 2.0 (with unidirectional Flax for greater mechanical strength) and continues to be updated with each new generation of performance racquets. There is also a suggestion that Babolat may extend the Flax construction into other ranges, possibly adding Flax comfort to the Evo range for beginner/intermediate players too.

Beyond tennis, Flax fibre is also making inroads in padel, one of the fastest-growing sports in the world, with manufacturers increasingly turning to natural fibre composites to deliver enhanced player feel and reduce CO2 consumption in their raw materials.

Bcomp collaborated with Spanish padel brand Siux to develop the GEA racquet, which integrates Bcomp's ampliTex™ Flax fibre reinforcements on both the front and back of the racquet. The natural fibre delivers strong breakage resistance, vibration damping for better

ball control, and a lightweight yet durable construction — all with minimal environmental impact, as Flax is a CO2-neutral raw material. Launched as Siux's first racquet as a fully independent brand, the GEA is an advanced-level racquet that represents a strategic move to bring bio-based composites into the fast-growing padel market and open the door to wider natural fibre adoption across Siux's product lineup.



BIOFIBIX's specially treated isotropic Hypermat materials can also be seen in the latest 2026 padel racquets, with Belgium manufacturer FLAXX using the consistent, multidirectional mechanical properties that make Hypermat particularly well suited to the complex loading demands of a padel racquet. For FLAXX, whose entire production is rooted in Belgium, the partnership is a natural fit: using locally grown and processed Flax fibre aligns directly with their commitment to quality, craftsmanship and full control over the regionally grounded production process.





© Sicomin / Decathlon

Boardsports also confirm a key point on processing of Flax with regard to its moisture sensitivity. Careful design and optimised processing – with additional information available in the *Alliance Moisture Sensitivity Technical Guideline* – allow high-performance composite structures to be built for snow and for surf. **BIOFIBIX have recently collaborated with the Roundhouse Surf Co,** boutique surfboard manufacturers based in Brittany, France, to create **Hypermat laminated boards** that combine beautifully with the moulded EPS bio-sourced foam blocks that Roundhouse’s sister company builds. **Bcomp will present one of the latest Jones Snowboards on its booth at JEC 2026.** Jones uses a hybrid Flax-carbon tape that gives the board the pop and responsiveness that riders look for, balanced by the excellent vibration damping and softer feel from the low impact Flax.

Two projects at JEC World 2026 highlight the growing role of natural fibres in climbing hold manufacturing. **Ino’Holds in collaboration with FRD CODEM,** on display on the Planets, uses an eco-improved process (GreenMix) incorporating Hemp fibres (25%) as a bio-based filler with recycled polymer (11%) to produce high-performance holds that maintain the grip, strength and safety of conventional products while reducing environmental impact. On the Alliance booth, French startup D’Block Holds, five years in the making, takes a different approach, **using French Flax fibres as a local, ecological alternative to fibreglass composites.** The result is a hold that is lighter and easier to handle without compromising strength, while bringing a distinctive design aesthetic to climbing walls.

RAIL & AEROSPACE

While the rail sector remains cautious in adopting new materials, Flax composites achieved notable recognition when Stratiforme Industries’ EcoTrain self-supporting cabin structure earned finalist status in the 2026 JEC Innovation Awards Railway Vehicles & Infrastructure category.

The project, displayed at the Innovation Planet in Hall 6, demonstrates a **hybrid Flax-glass fibre cabin design developed for revitalizing small railway lines.** Developed with partners including **EcoTrain, Socofer, Clearsy, IMT Nord Europe/Alby, and Syntony,** and made using **Safilin Flax fibres,** the ultra-lightweight structure delivers a 70% weight reduction compared to conventional designs, translating to dramatically lower energy consumption (2g CO₂/km), reduced track wear, corrosion-free longevity, and enhanced passenger comfort through Flax’s natural acoustic damping properties.

In addition to the novel material combination, the new eco-design integrates metallic inserts directly during the resin infusion process, eliminating secondary assembly while achieving regulatory compliance for passenger and freight applications. This project marks a significant validation of natural fibres in highly regulated rail environments where safety standards and long service life traditionally favoured conventional materials.

© Flaxcomp® by DEMGY



DESIGN & LIFESTYLE

Beyond their impressive mechanical properties and sustainability credentials, Flax fibre composites offer designers a distinctive aesthetic advantage. The natural hues and organic textile patterns of Flax create visual warmth and tactile authenticity that synthetic alternatives cannot replicate. This inherent beauty allows designers to celebrate, rather than conceal, the material's sustainable origins, transforming technical performance into a design statement.

At JEC World 2026 – on the Alliance for European Flax-Linen & Hemp's booth – and around the show itself, this blending is clearly visible.

Highlighting the potential for Flax composites at the JEC Innovation Planets, Terre De Lin is proud to see its 300tex Flax rovings at the heart of the innovative outdoor lighting bollard, developed by SELUX in partnership with Chomarat, Groupe Pierman, and Région Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes. This project demonstrates how Flax-based composites can deliver the structural performance and durability demanded by public lighting standards while significantly reducing environmental impact. The bollard shows how a new generation of urban infrastructure can use natural fibres to deliver low-carbon alternatives that meet all technical requirements with no compromise on lighting quality, safety, or longevity.

Tras is a Japanese company that may be better known for its work in automotive and motorsports composites, but this year at JEC, the Alliance will showcase their CAURI business bag that uses Bcomp's ampliTex™ materials for a natural Flax finish. The lightweight composite shells are finished by the **Endo Luggage Co**, a 200-year-old bag making specialist based in Toyooka, whose artisans use leather and eco-suede to create a simple yet stylish business bag.

Bcomp has also supplied its ampliTex™ Flax fibre composites to French Chapoget for the creation of the Cabin Trunk, a piece that reimagines the spirit of the traditional travel trunk in a modern, responsible, and faithful companion. The Cabin Trunk is lightweight, shock-resistant, and fully recyclable.

AKONITE, the leading French creator of designer skis, sledges and skateboards will also present their latest push scooter on the Alliance booth. Led by composites expert, designer and engineer **Alexandre Fougea**, **AKONITE** brings together natural materials such as ash timber and leather with novel bio-composites such as epoxy moulded **Bcomp** Flax fibre. The uniquely designed scooter captures the eye and brings fun new design trend to urban mobility.

Depestele is proud to have supported the groundbreaking LENEFIN project, supplying Flax fibres for innovative bio-composite packaging that will also be displayed on the Alliance for European Flax-Linen & Hemp booth at JEC World. Developed by **Maison de Parfum Berry** in collaboration with the SMS Laboratory at the University of Chemistry in Rouen, UniLaSalle, and Arturass, this pioneering concept pairs a natural perfume extracted from Flax flower molecules with luxury packaging manufactured from woven Flax fabric and Flax shive-reinforced cement composites.

Flaxcomp® lightweight panels and organosheets from DEMGY will also be on display. Flaxcomp® clear by DEMGY is a thermoplastic composite solution reinforced with natural fibres that can be optimised for composite markets such as automotive, sport and luxury goods. The technology is 100% recyclable, with the fully transparent finish enhancing the visual appeal of the fibres and giving a depth effect to the part.

While much of the Alliance's work is focused on driving technical advancement and industrialised adoption of European Flax and Hemp fibres across high-performance composite applications, its remit extends equally to the smaller-scale needs of the highly skilled and qualified artisans and craftspeople working with these materials. The Alliance is well placed to help coordinate access to fibres, knowledge and expertise for those working at a more artisanal scale, a reminder that natural fibre composites are as relevant to individual makers as they are to large manufacturers.



© Chomarat / Selux / Terre de Lin



© Bcomp / Sunreef

MARINE

The marine industry has often pioneered the adoption of natural fibre composites, with Flax-based solutions being seen across commercial ferries, high-performance luxury vessels, racing yachts and recreational craft. At the premium end, Sunreef has recently demonstrated Flax composite's capabilities by incorporating Bcomp materials into their 100-foot performance power catamarans, and Greenboats has announced a collaboration with ILCA, with a long-term sustainability improvements strategy for one of the world's most popular small sailing dinghies. From ocean-going luxury vessels to grassroots sailing classes, Flax fibre composites are reshaping marine manufacturing, offering boat builders genuine alternatives to traditional materials while addressing the industry's growing commitment to environmental stewardship.

International Laser Class Association (ILCA) coordinates and oversees the activities of the ILCA dinghies around the world. More than 215,000 hulls built, make the ILCA one of the largest fleets afloat. **Now Greenboats and ILCA have formed a strategic partnership to reduce the environmental impact of the world's most popular one-design sailing dinghy through natural fibre composites.** The collaboration pursues both long-term development of a low-emission

ILCA concept and near-term trials of sustainable materials on isolated components, with **Greenboats** leading technical research and prototype development while ILCA ensures class rule compliance and stakeholder engagement. JEC visitors will be able to learn more about this project on the Alliance booth, as Greenboats demonstrate how Flax composites can be integrated into highly regulated, performance-critical racing craft where design consistency and competitive fairness are paramount.

Bcomp's Flax fibre composites feature prominently throughout the Sunreef's 100 Power catamaran, with their ampliTex™ material selected for key areas including the forward cabin, bar, outdoor cooking zone, and helm station. Beyond its lower environmental footprint, the Flax composite delivers significant performance advantages, including increased stiffness compared to traditional composite construction and improved vibration damping and noise reduction throughout the vessel. The natural fibre surfaces demonstrate how sustainable materials can align with the exacting aesthetic standards of luxury yacht clients. The collaboration positions bio-based composites as a serious option for premium marine interiors, with both manufacturers exploring opportunities to extend Flax applications into load-bearing structural elements of future Sunreef designs.

WIND ENERGY

Building on its predecessor project that established European Hemp fibre supply chains and bio-based epoxy systems, the Ssuchy-Next initiative, exhibiting at JEC World 2026, is advancing natural fibre composites toward industrial-scale deployment across wind energy and other sectors. The project targets development of high-performance resins with up to 95% bio-content while simultaneously scaling Hemp fibre production capacity, with ambitious demonstration plans including a certified 13-meter wind turbine blade, hybrid wood-Hemp structural beams and façade panels. By targeting technology readiness level 7 and conducting comprehensive lifecycle assessments of recyclability and environmental performance, Ssuchy-Next aims to validate that plant fibres can match or exceed synthetic materials in demanding technical applications.

Also looking at natural fibres in place of traditional composite reinforcements, a German research initiative led by Kiel University of Applied Sciences (HAW Kiel) and boatbuilder Nuebold Yachtbau is developing fully renewable rotor blades for small wind turbines using Flax with balsa wood and paulownia cores. Supported by funding from the Schleswig-Holstein Energy and Climate Protection Agency, the project aims to deliver a working prototype by 2027 that will address the wind energy sector's growing end of life situation for composite blades. The team is conducting load-bearing tests on natural fibres, using computer simulations and wind tunnel testing to optimize blade design, with preliminary work already demonstrating Flax's potential to replace fibreglass while offering inherent recyclability at end-of-life. This initiative represents a strategic shift toward circular design principles in wind energy, where material selection considers the entire lifecycle from manufacture through to decommissioning.

INNOVATIVE PROCESSES

Natural fibre composites are rapidly evolving beyond traditional hand lay-up and simple infusion processes, with advanced manufacturing techniques unlocking new performance and application possibilities. These manufacturing advances position natural fibres, and especially Flax-Linen & Hemp, not as alternatives for low-performance applications, but as serious contenders across demanding industrial sectors where precision, repeatability, and performance are paramount.

Thin-ply prepreg technologies from specialists like NTPT now enable Flax rovings from Depestele to be processed into ultra-lightweight, high-performance structures with improved damage tolerance through the 'thin ply effect,' while automated prepreg systems and back-injection moulding streamline high-volume automotive production.

Coreless filament winding represents one of the most technically demanding frontiers in natural fibre composite manufacturing — using robots to precisely wrap resin-impregnated Flax fibres into complex three-dimensional structures without traditional moulds, minimising material waste while achieving structurally optimised geometries that would be impossible through conventional processes. The FIBRAS project at Eindhoven University of Technology is pushing this technique further still, with the team developing process-specific handling methods for Flax roving to address the challenges that natural fibre variability introduces at this level of manufacturing complexity.





University of Stuttgart ICD/ITKE continues its tradition of innovative manufacturing process development with natural fibres, and thanks to support from Safilin, pioneering students have developed an intriguing Con[knit]uous Rubble knitting process that encases unprocessed concrete demolition waste in seamless Flax fibre containers. Using continuous circular knitting technology, the team deposits rubble-filled textile tubes layer-by-layer to create self-supporting compression structures, including arches and columns, without requiring crushing, binders, or mortars, enabling complete disassembly and material reuse. While currently operating as a dry granular system, the team envision future iterations incorporating bio-based resins to enhance weatherproofing and structural performance for architectural applications.



Continuous Flax fibre-reinforced 3D printing has emerged as a viable manufacturing route, with researchers achieving mechanical properties comparable to traditional composite processes by co-extruding Flax yarns with thermoplastic matrices like PLA, opening pathways for rapid prototyping and customised structural components. More conventional 3D printing, using compounded Flax fibres, is now becoming a serious technical option for manufacturers. In 2025, French designer Alyssa Cartaut won the City of Hyères Prize for Fashion Accessories at the 40th International Festival of Fashion, Photography and Accessories with her shoe collection «The Cushion Issue». The award-winning footwear collection features structural components 3D-printed using PLA filament infused with European Flax-Linen fibres, replacing conventional resin, plastic, and wood materials with a bio-based composite alternative. The Alliance for European Flax-Linen & Hemp supported Cartaut's project by facilitating access to certified European Flax fibres and connecting her with Nanovia, a French company specializing in natural fibre-reinforced 3D printing filaments.

Taking this a step further, 4D printing adds a time-based dimension — using specialist materials that respond to a specific stimulus such as heat or moisture to change their shape, properties or function after printing. Professor Antoine le Duigou of the Institut de Recherche Dupuy de Lôme at the University of South Brittany is a leading voice in this space, collaborating with composite automation specialist Coriolis Composites on bio-inspired materials developed through additive manufacturing for decarbonisation applications.

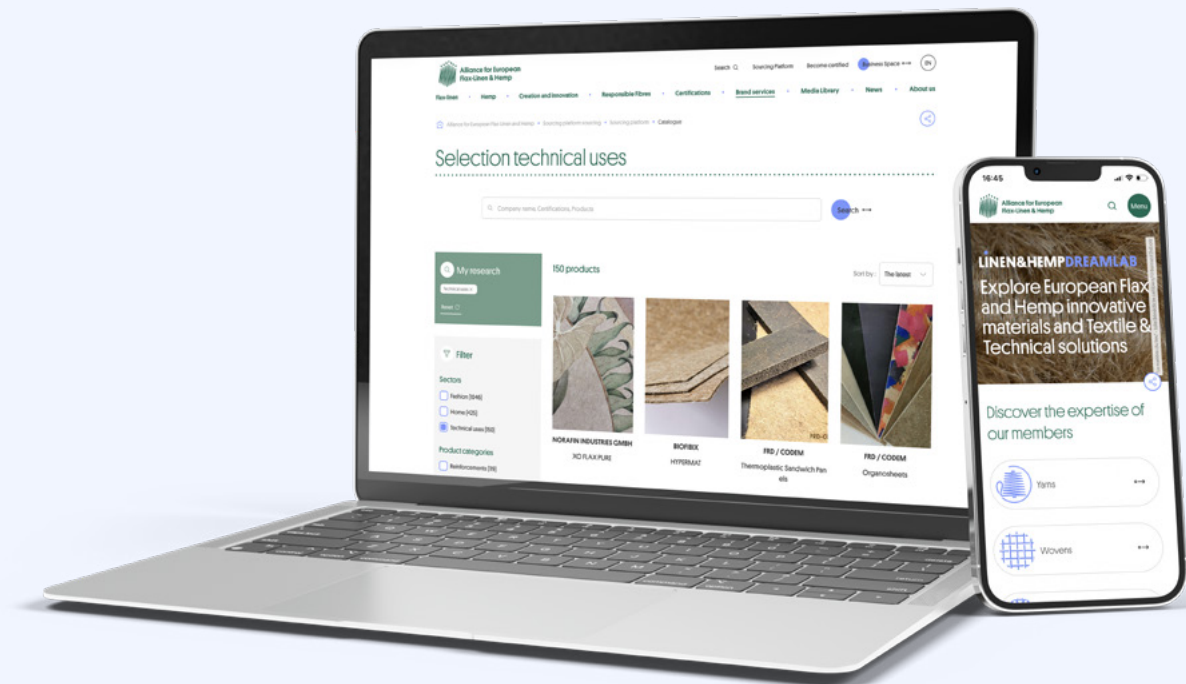
Recent advances in long-fibre Hemp processing have now made high-strength Hemp pultrusion a viable manufacturing route, and the Hemp Halo Canopy — a 3.3-metre architectural umbrella prototype developed within the EU-funded RAW project — puts this capability on striking display. The full Halo structure, on display at the JEC Planets, combines pultruded Hemp profiles with CNC-knitted Hemp yarn surfaces to create a fully bio-based composite system, with the consortium of CITA, GROWNlab, CGtec, Terre de Lin, Safilin and Linificio Canapificio Nazionale demonstrating how these process advances enable waste-free fabrication of lightweight, structurally sound architectural components.

Finally, Composites Edge GmbH has developed a next-generation adaptive sound insulation – a sub-1 mm thin panel made from natural fibres and thermoplastic resins that can be laid up using AFP. Their solution was recognised as a finalist in the CAMX awards most creative application category and is fully recyclable, waterproof and able to absorb up to 95% of low-frequency noise.

Flax and Hemp material formats for composites

Alliance members work with a broad range of Flax-Linen and Hemp fibres to create raw materials and intermediate products including yarns, rovings, technical textiles [two-dimensional woven, hybrids, unidirectional, non-crimp, warp knitted and non-woven], preregs, consolidated panels and laminates.



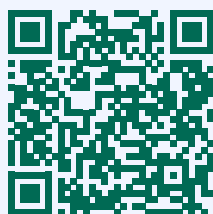


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and customers



WE SUPPORT

The European
ecosystem
and know-how



WE PROMOTE

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OPEN EXPERTISES

European Scientific Council:

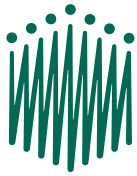
- Harmonization
- Standardization
- Dissemination

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- Technical support
- Directory of members and solutions
- Marketing tools, trainings
- Traceability: Masters of FLAX FIBRE™ certification and ISO standard identification method
- Sustainability: Environmental footprint trajectory: Life Cycle Data
- Economic Observatory

OPEN PROMOTION

- Tradefairs
- Technical days
- Publications
- Professionnal & general public events



Alliance for European Flax-Linen & Hemp

The Alliance for European Flax-Linen & Hemp is the only European agro-industrial organization that serves as a global reference and brings together all players in the European Flax-Linen and Hemp value chain.

A platform for reflection, market analysis, dialogue, and strategic orientation, the Alliance for European Flax-Linen & Hemp presides over an industry of excellence in a globalized context. It encourages dialogue with national and European public authorities.

The Alliance for European Flax-Linen & Hemp creates an environment that fosters competitiveness of industrial businesses as part of its three-fold mission of informing members, brands, and consumers, supporting the European ecosystem and European expertise, and promoting European Flax-Linen and Hemp as the preferred sustainable premium fibres worldwide.

It connects 10,000 businesses in 16 European countries and bases its work on the values of solidarity, innovation, scientific validation, and respect for people and planet.

It promotes, initiates, and organizes strategic reflections and research on its fibres to be able to provide all of its interlocutors with evidence-based economic data, environmental information, and reliable scientific evidence.

The Alliance for European Flax-Linen & Hemp strives to increase the international visibility of its fibres, whose technical and environmental properties inspire global creation and open new opportunities for industrial innovation. It guarantees the traceability of Flax fibre thanks to the Masters of FLAX FIBRE™ (ex-European Flax™) and Masters of LINEN™ certifications.

With its Technical Section and the European Scientific Council, Alliance for European Flax-Linen & Hemp helps its members move towards the future to discover new opportunities such as high-performing composite products. This Section brings together fibre and semi-finished product suppliers, preparers and processors, serving as a bridge between the requirements of the multi-segment industry and the value chain's industrialization capacity for technical Flax and Hemp applications.

The Alliance for European Flax-Linen & Hemp is the new name of the CELC, an association founded in 1951. Western Europe is the number one Flax-producing region in the world (France, Belgium, and the Netherlands account for 3/4 of production).

Masters of FLAX FIBRE™ (ex-European Flax™): A certification that ensures integrated crop management practices and highlights the unique expertise of European fibre producers. Masters of FLAX FIBRE™ provides European origin traceability from Flax fibre to finished product, for all end markets.

As the technical authority which unites the European Flax-Linen & Hemp industry, our success is built on transparent communication and the open democratization of our expertise, technical services, and marketing promotion. Innovation and CSR are also key strengths of the Alliance, with our experts available when further information is required. Visits to the Alliance for European Flax-Linen & Hemp showroom *Linen & Hemp Dream Lab* in Paris are also possible on request.

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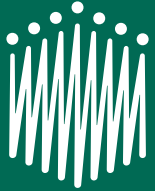
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