

2nd Composites United Innovation Day

Composites/Materials in the Sports Industries



When: Wednesday, 17. September 2025

Where: carbovation GmbH *Lightweight*
Otto-Lilienthal-Str. 15
88046 Friedrichshafen

Language: English

Presented by: Composites United



After the highly successful initial event at Vaude in Tettnang at the end of January 2025, during which we saw many exciting presentations focusing on sustainability and production in Europe, we want to set the following priorities for the planned event on 17 September at Lake Constance:

- Recycling
 - o Status quo (end-of-life)
 - o Comparison of the mechanical performance of recycled composite materials with that of new fibre products
- Bio-resin systems (thermoset)
- Green C-fibres
 - o Manufacturer
 - o Applications
 - o Experiences
- (Mass) production of composite products for the sports sector in Europe – Is it (economically) feasible?
- Are there alternatives to carbon materials for high-performance applications in the sports sector?

Participation fee is 390 Euro, 90 Euro for CU-members

Speaker get 50% discount.

all prices are net prices, excl. tax

For all further details, the updated agenda and to register, please use this [link](#).

About the working group:

Our working group is dedicated to researching and optimising innovative materials, material combinations and production techniques. With a particular focus on performance, sustainability and synergy effects along the entire value chain, we pursue the goal of increasing the performance of sports equipment while fully utilising ecological and economic benefits.

Sustainability is a central focus of our work. We analyse and improve the entire life cycle of sports products - from material procurement, production and use through to disposal and recycling. The use of bio-based and recyclable materials helps us to reduce our ecological footprint and promote the circular economy. We also develop production processes that consume less energy and resources.

Another key aspect of our work is the utilisation of synergy effects along the value chain. Our working group networks material manufacturers, sports equipment producers, scientists and users in order to exchange knowledge and experience and jointly develop innovative solutions. Through this close co-operation, we achieve efficiency gains and cost reductions that ultimately benefit all those involved.

The use of composites in sport offers numerous advantages. The outstanding mechanical properties of these materials - such as high strength and low weight - improve the performance and safety of sports equipment. This leads to better athlete performance and a longer product life. Thanks to the adaptability of composite materials and our close contact with top athletes, we can also develop customised solutions for specific sports and requirements.

Our working group takes an interdisciplinary approach and combines expertise from materials science, engineering, sports science and sustainability research. Through close collaboration between industry partners and research institutions, we act as a catalyst for progress and sustainability and strive to take the sports industry to a new level of ecological and economic efficiency.

AGENDA

09:30 Welcome coffee

10:00 Welcome, news from CU Network and goal of the day
 Composites United

10:10 **Lightweight Wheels - History of 30 years in composites - From Aerospace & motorsports to Bicycle wheels**
 Borris Köpper, Vice President Murtfeldt Composites

Lightweight

10:40 **Thermoplastic Sandwich Moulding – enabling of automated mass production of lightweight high-performance board-like sports equipment**
 Ralf Schlimper, Business Unit Polymer Applications, Fraunhofer Institute for Microstructure of Materials and Systems IMWS

 **Fraunhofer**
 IMWS

10:55 **"Five Lives for One Ski" – Advancing Sustainability through Reuse in Winter Sports**
 Christina Neeser, Head Sport GmbH

 **HEAD**

11:10 **Coffee break**

11:30 **Overview of fiber-matrix separation technologies and effective downstream processing of recycled carbon fibers**

 **Fraunhofer**
 IGCV

Frank Manis, FIP-MIRAI@ICC Managing Director, Group Manager – Composite Recycling, Fraunhofer Institute for Casting, Composite and Processing Technology IGCV

11:45 **Thermoplastic films: The Key towards Recyclable Composites**
 Cornelia Stuckert, Pontacol AG

 **pontacol**

Julian Kupski, FHNW

12:00 **Lunch Break**

13:30 **CFRP bicycle frames/parts Made in Europe instead of Asia - An experience report**
 Christian Gemperlein, Founder & CEO, all ahead composites GmbH

 **BIKE
AHEAD
COMPOSITES**

14:00 **Euro-RTM in Bicycle Frame Building**
 Martin Fleischhauer, maniac&sane GmbH

 **maniac
&sane**
 SOPHISTICATED CARBON BIKES

14:15 **Play, Perform, Recycle – How Recyclable and Bio-Epoxy can enable sustainable Sports Composites**
 Nicolas Zschörper, CTP Advanced Materials GmbH (Aditya Birla Advanced Materials)

 **CTP
ADVANCED
MATERIALS**

14:30 **Introduction of the Sustainability Alliance of Sport Equipment Manufacturers «SASEM»**
 Theo Sandu, Composites United Switzerland

 **SA
SEM**

14:45 **Coffee break**

15:15 Pushing the Limits: Bio-Based Polymers for High-Performance Sports Composites

Sarah-Franziska Stahl, R&D Manager; Kristin D. Kamphuis, Sales Manager

Schill+Seilacher "Struktol" GmbH

**15:30 Rethinking Carbon Composites: Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainable Hybrid Fibre Technologies**Dominik Stapf, Institute for materials technology and plastics Processing (IWK),
OST Rapperswil**15:45 HiPerReF: Center for high-performance fiber-reinforced composites made from recycled reinforcement fibers**Hans-Jürgen Bauder; Stephan Baz; Miriam Preinfalck,
German Institutes of Textile and Fiber Research (DITF)**16:00 The best things in life are automated**

Michaël Callens, Founder & CTO, REIN4CED

**16:15 Outro**

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**16:30 Tour @Lightweight Production Line****17:30 Get together – Networking - End**

Please note that the available number of participants is strictly limited.

Don't miss your spot and register soon, using this [link](#).