

# newsletter



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## Editorial: News from Brussels

### RFCS

Just recently the [RFCS call](#) for 2015 was published. ESTEP is deeply involved in the discussion with the commission about changes within RFCS. The information package contains all information about writing, submitting and evaluating RFCS-proposals.

For proposers there are many changes which they have to pick up while reading the whole information package. There is no summary of changes against last year, included in the document. Hereinafter a list of changes we found by first reading:

- The information package refers to a new cost model according to a new RFCS model grant agreement. Amongst others payment via the coordinator and the consortium agreement (p. 11)
- The calculation of productive hours has changed (p.14)
- Depreciation is no longer fixed (p. 16)
- There are substantial changes in handling linked parties and subcontractors;
- Section 3.3 on third parties (linked or affiliated parties and subcontractors) is completely new (p.17). It has also become a sort of eligibility criterion- Forms B2, A3 and B3 need to have their information included! All information has to be put in the forms with the beneficiary and all their effort has to be accounted for in the Technical Annex. To be admissible it requires at least 3 partners (p. 35)
- The number of evaluation criteria have been reduced to 4 (p.36) with revised evaluation forms (Annex IV, V and VI)
- Fractional scores are allowed (p.36)
- Cascading mechanism modified and budget as last criterion (p.38)
- Threshold of 3 points on all criteria (p.37).
- Complaints and appeal procedure introduced (p.40-42)

- Proposal forms have been modified. You cannot reuse the old ones.

### Steering Committee of April 1<sup>st</sup> 2015

The 12<sup>th</sup> ESTEP's steering committee was held in Brussels in the premises of Eurofer. As usual all ESTEP's stakeholders attended or were represented for this annual meeting, including three representatives of the EU Commission.

Among other topics the following two were discussed.

The High Level Group of Steel will not be continued and instead the steel sector is part of the High Level Expert Group of energy intensive industry.

We discussed again about the importance of a better support by the European Commission of high TRL projects like Hlsarna.

### European Steel Day of May 28<sup>th</sup>

The European steel day was a big success even if many registered participants were not able to attend due to the strike of the Brussels airport. ESTEP had a booth at the European Steel Day presenting its Strategic Research Agenda and recent publications.

### Steel replaces Aluminium

The famous Atomium of Brussels is finally made of steel.

"Over time the aluminium skin lost its sheen, steel components began to rust and joints leaked. Because of its excellent material properties, grade 1.4404 stainless steel was chosen for the new cladding material. This grade of chromium-nickel-molybdenum steel has high corrosion resistance and good formability. The 2B mill finish of the stainless steel was then electrolytically polished. As a result, the smooth, reflective surface attracts less dirt, and it has a self-cleaning action when it rains. "

<http://www.euro-inox.org>

## EMIRI

The Energy Materials Industrial Research Initiative (EMIRI) promotes materials for the energy sector and steel is one of them. EMIRI achieved a high visibility even if becoming a PPP is not likely in the near future. Nevertheless there are clear signals that the commission will dedicate funding to the roadmap of EMIRI in the H2020 calls of 2016 onwards.

## SPIRE

Regarding SPIRE 2014, the steel community took part to several projects and as a sector was the second, behind chemistry. All the projects are listed and described on the SPIRE webpage ([www.spire2030.eu](http://www.spire2030.eu)) where you also can sign up for the SPIRE newsletter. In 2015 the situation changed. Only one project, EPOS (related to energy management and that brought together steel, chemistry and cement), is funded. Now many ESTEP members are in preparation to answer the next calls of 2016. There was good attendance and information exchange at the brokerage event at the end of June.



## ESTEP GOVERNANCE NEWS

- David Valenti (Riva Forni Elettrici) replaced Emilio Riva in his role as Vice-Chairman of the ESTEP Steering Committee
- Luc Chefneux (ArcelorMittal) became the new Vice-Chairman of the Support Group, replacing Hans Ferkel who remains member of the Support Group
- The WG1 sub group I2M became a new ESTEP working group and it is chaired by Harald Peters
- Mr. Chai Uei Jan now becomes the new chairman of the WG2, replacing Oliver Hoffman.

## Klaus Peters, the new Secretary General, introduces himself



I joined ESTEP as Secretary General on July 1st 2015. I am a German engineer, seconded from ThyssenKrupp Steel Europe, where I have worked since 1998 in various areas like quality, production, sales and last but not least R&D.

In 2011 I joined the ESTEP community as WG1 member and became more and more engaged in European activities related to steel industry by SAG, SPIRE, EUREKA "Metallurgy Europe" and many other groups of Eurofer and ESTEP, e.g. steering committee, support group, and research committee. Participating in info-days and summits of the European Commission increased my familiarity with the EU research sphere.

I am looking forward to our joint activities in order to continue our successful work of ESTEP, which is well established and widely recognized due to its strong community of people, devoting their time to the benefit of the European steel industry.

With your contributions and the leadership of our Chairman Heribert Fisher, ESTEP should continue to proceed forward with pride, imagination and success for the next years.

*K. Peters*

*Klaus Peters is 50. He is married and his home town is Krefeld, Germany. His hobbies are travelling, cooking, chess and reading.*

## WG1 PROFIT



A first positive aspect to highlight is the sustained effort of the members to contribute to the work of the group, notably through the renewal of the participants from the major stakeholders (Steel companies, research organisations, technology suppliers,...).

It confirms their interest for the topics covered that are focused on the sustainable processing technologies applicable in the steel sector and the metallurgy in general.

From the end of 2014, a dedicated exercise has been launched to revisit and redefine the role and mission of the working group(s) as well as to prepare the updating of the strategic research agenda in order to remain well aligned with the evolution of the industrial and economic environment and the initiatives of the European Commission.

In that prospect, a particular attention is placed on the contribution of ESTEP representatives to European instruments promoting the research and innovation like "SPIRE" showing a more direct interest with the technical items covered by the group. It is also the reason why this working group also actively contributes to follow and support the RFCS program and its evolution.

*C. Marique*



As announced in the last newsletter, the year 2015 started with the involvement of the I<sup>2</sup>M-working group in the new SPIRE WG regarding „Information and Communication Technologies“ (ICT). Luc Chefneux, Costanzo

Pietrosanti and Harald Peters represented the steel industry in this ad hoc founded working group of SPIRE. In a very busy time period of 4 weeks the most important ICT topics in all the different industrial areas of SPIRE had been collected and common interests were formulated. Based on these interests finally four research calls had been defined and the wording was finalised. These calls have then been used to enter in a discussion with DG Connect about the research needs of the process industries in the field of ICT. Another activity of the group was to support the commission in optimising the wording of the new SPIRE-2 call.

Two regular meetings of the I<sup>2</sup>M working group in January and April were organised and the third at the end of June. The main topic at this moment is the renewing of the roadmap of „Integrated Intelligent Manufacturing“ including the consideration of all the new developments in this field in the last years like Cyber Physical Systems, Industry 4.0, Big Data, Internet of Things and many more. To prepare this roadmap in two first steps the demands of the steel companies and the enabling technologies have been collected. Now possible future scenarios of applications of I<sup>2</sup>M in steel industry and a realistic timeline to reach these scenarios have to be developed.

Another working topic is the construction of information material to explain the ideas of Integrated Intelligent Manufacturing to a larger group of people and especially to the deciding people in steel industry. Here a paper „Vision 2038“, a short textual description of I<sup>2</sup>M on one page, a more detailed power-point presentation about the topic and an article in Wikipedia are under progress and nearly finished.

Last but not least the group is active in the construction of research proposals. In February a proposal in the call FoF-8 has been placed by several organisation out of the WG and just now a common RFCS proposal in the field of „Application of Big Data for Steel Industry“ is under development.

During the ESTAD conference in Duesseldorf in June the working group organised one session about the topic of I<sup>2</sup>M. Costanzo Pietrosanti gave a keynote lecture and other members of the WG presented projects or research

results in the field of “Integrated Intelligent Manufacturing”.

Luc Chefneux, who was the chairman of this working group nearly since its foundation, stepped down regarding this functionality in spring time this year. All members of the working group want to warmly thank Luc for his excellent work in chairing the group over so many years and in such a successful and powerful way. We are all very happy that Luc will continue to be a very active member of our working group.

*H.Peters*

## WG 2 TRANSPORT



The year 2015 started very positive for our working group, as the draft version of the EU Horizon 2020 call for “Affordable weight reduction of high-volume vehicles and components taking into account the entire life-cycle” is taking up its shape.

We expect this call to be published in September 2015 – a call which is very favourable to the steel sectors!

Our first working group of this year was held on the 6<sup>th</sup> of May in Brussels. The main topic of the meeting was the call mentioned above. Our primary goal of the meeting was to fix a general approach, with which we as ESTEP shall respond to the European Council for Automotive R&D (EUCAR) – the body which has strong influence on the final content of this call. In addition to that, we wanted to determine our next steps.

As a result of our roundtable discussion, we agreed that we will not setup a single steel consortium to participate in just one “steel intensive” project of this call. Instead we want to spread ourselves into as many projects as possible. The members reckoned the urgency of the matter due to the soon-coming publication in September. Thus, we agreed to take proactive steps to define project proposal together with car companies. We agreed that at this stage, we should send our first signal of interest to EUCAR. This was done by calling Mr. Storer from Fiat on the 20<sup>th</sup> of May, who represents EUCAR on the matter of this call. As a result, ESTEP WG2 was invited to the EUCAR meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of July in Turin, during which the call mentioned above will be presented and discussed among the stakeholders. We are expected to present the steel community’s vision for automotive lightweight and also ideas and solutions that can contribute to the targets of this call. On the 15<sup>th</sup> of June, we organized a web meeting to the update the members about the progress of call and state of communication with EUCAR.

As for now, we are looking forward to the EUCAR meeting in Turin in July.

*O.Hoffman*

## WG 3 CONSTRUCTION



In the first half of 2015, WG3 made positive and promising progress towards the overarching objective of ensuring that Steel has the place it deserves and is well presented in the European Construction research arena. Some of the notable activities include WG3 strategic planning meeting in February 2015 and the workshop on supporting structures for wind tower which took place in May 2015 with key academic and industry contributions.

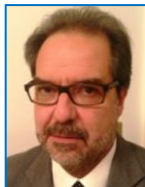
WG3 is looking to organise a joint workshop with ECTP on Future Cities and have opened discussions with the ECTP Secretary General with a view to holding the workshop in the later part of this year.

Other networking activities to create and explore new connections with other initiatives (e.g. ECCREDI, SUSCHEM, etc) and projects are on-going and are expected to be yielding established links in the immediate future.

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*S. Boudjabeur*

## WG4 PLANET



The WG membership was updated and participation confirmed by 24 members representing:

- 3 Universities (16%)
- 6 RTOs (32%)
- 8 Industries (42%)
- 2 Associations (10%)

In the first semester of 2015, the working group met by telephone conferences the 22nd of January and in face-to-face meetings the 19<sup>th</sup> of May in Rome. The participation remains relevant and constant (11-13 people).

During the meetings the available outcomes on the 2014/15 SPIRE and the other H2020 calls of interest for the WG4 members was shared. The disappointing result of steel sector in the SPIRE spring calls requires a detailed analysis of the reason of failure. Regarding the next phase 2016/17 the members agree that the best way for ESTEP to have its own ideas taken onboard within the call is to enhance the relation with SPIRE WGs.

The 19<sup>th</sup> of May meeting was focused on the presentation of the work carried out by the task force on Biodiversity, led by Valentina Cola of Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna. In particular, the overall idea and main concepts to express within the roadmap are highlighted. Biodiversity should be fairly and credibly presented as an opportunity for the industrial activities as well as for surrounding communities. This means to avoid any confusion with generic

positive actions to protect environment, which can be developed on a private basis, but to propose research activities devoted to exploit biodiversity in order to provide services that should be done and paid in any case. A list of themes is also presented which have been outlined as the most promising and attractive one and which will be deeply faced in the roadmap.

The cross WGs task force, proposed by WG4 at the last Support Group, for setting-up a road map regarding how steel could contribute to sustainable production in all sectors of the economy (therefore not only environmental issues related to the steel sector itself will be covered), was approved. The task force will work for about one year with the goal to build an ESTEP vision to share with others ETPs. Due to the legislative development, a closer collaboration between EUROFER and ESTEP is envisioned. Louis Brimacombe of Tata Steel, member of WG4, has been appointed as task leader; all the WGs are requested to participate to this task force at least with one person.

Next meeting will be a conference call before the 06/10/2015.

*E. Malfa*

## WG 5 PEOPLE



### **Social Innovation:**

Social Innovation is of great importance for the work of WG 5. The practical embodiment for the European Steel Industry needs to be promoted through the WG5.

Social innovations are new ideas (products, services and models) that simultaneously meet social needs (more effectively than alternatives).

The analysis of people-aspects during an innovation process is extremely relevant for the WG5.

### **Knowledge Management:**

For the European Steel Industry, Knowledge and Know-How became a crucial factor of success.

The Management of Knowledge and its Impact for companies within the steel industry will be another major topic to tackle in the WG5. Therefore the WG5 will work on a common understanding of "What is Knowledge Management about?".

### **Talent Survey:**

The EU Talent survey is now published online on the ESTEP-website.



EUROSTEELMASTER, MAY 2015, TERNI (ITALY)

### **Eurosteelmater:**

The Eurosteelmater 2015 took place in Terni on 11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> May. Veit Echterhoff represented the WG5 and gave a speech on future challenges on HR in the EU steel industry.

### **Presentations:**

The third Open Seminar of the IMZ took place in Gliwice. Tony Schröder and Wojciech Szulc hold a presentation about "Green Skills in European steel industry."

"Social Innovation: A new paradigm for sustainable material development" was presented by Tony Schröder during the 9<sup>th</sup> Edition of Society and Materials International Conference in May.

### **Award for „GT-VET“:**

Greening Technical Vocational Education and Training received an award by the European Commission as one of the best Leonardo da Vinci projects 2011/12.

*V. Echterhoff*

### **WG 6 ENERGY**



During the first semester 2015 the working group continued to strongly support the European Commission (EC) public-private-partnerships (PPP) initiatives dealing with the group thematic topics such as Sustainable Process

Industry Resource Efficiency (SPIRE - Applications) and Energy Materials Industrial Research Initiative (EMIRI).

Various initiatives on more specific energy topics were also carried out. The 19 of May for instance, the group supported a workshop on "Future trends on steel for wind applications" with the joint collaboration of ESTEP WG3. In addition a consistent participation of members to activities in the EERA frame especially for nuclear topics has been recorded. For the coming months additional workshops on re-

newable and power generation are under preparation.

Coming to the funding, some projects in the H2020 frame are just to be sign by the EC, Concerning both the proposals and projects presented and approved in the RFCS frame has to be highlighted the very strong increase in those numbers in 2014. The interest of energy steel products and applications is continuously growing and currently the preparation of new proposals is ongoing.

Furthermore in the second part of the year various initiatives and actions on Horizon 2020, the R&I Programme of the European Commission that will last from 2014 up to 2020, will be carried out. Among them, representatives of the WG participated to various Brokerage Events regarding SPIRE (Applications) and for EMIRI held in Brussels.

All those initiatives on energy themes put once more the activities of the WG on the wavetop in the EU research and innovation activities!

Date and location of next meeting:

-24 September 2015 - Brussels.

*P. Gimondo*

## Forthcoming events

- Horizon 2020 - Societal Challenge "Climate Action, Environment, Resource Efficiency and Raw Materials" Information Day, 21 September 2015, Brussels,
- 8th SET-Plan Conference, 21-22 September 2015, Luxembourg.
- 4th Conference on Carbon Dioxide as Feedstock for Chemistry and Polymers, 29-30 September 2015, Essen, Germany.
- Innovation across Regions: Shaping Solutions for Resource Efficiency in Europe, 30 September 2015, Nice, France.
- EU Brokerage Event on Key Enabling Technologies in Horizon 2020, 1 October 2015, Strasbourg, France.
- SusChem Brokerage Event 2015, 6 October 2015, Brussels, Belgium.
- ESTEP Support Group, SG37, 6 October, Brussels
- WG 6 meeting, 24 Sept 2015, Brussels
- WG 1 meeting, 30 Sept 2015, Brussels
- WG I2M meeting , 1<sup>st</sup> Oct 2015, Brussels
- EMIRI Steering Committee, 14 Oct 2015
- A.SPIRE Board of Directors, 15 Oct 2015
- SPIRE General Assembly, 14 Dec 2015

The ESTEP Newsletter is issued on a regular basis by the ESTEP Secretariat to the ESTEP members. The editorial panel consists of K. Peters, R. Di Santo and W. Moonen. Contributions for the newsletter can be sent to the ESTEP secretariat.

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