

# Advanced lightweight materials FOR Energy-efficient Structures

Rocío Ruiz Gallardo, AIMPLAS & FOREST

Open Innovation Workshop

*Processes and methods for recycling, reuse, and recovery of advanced composite materials in the transport sector*



REPOXYBLE - Depolymerizable bio-based multifunctional closed loop recyclable epoxy systems for energy efficient structures  
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**repxyble**  
BIO-BASED MULTIFUNCTIONAL RECYCLABLE COMPOSITES



# ADVANCED LIGHTWEIGHT MATERIALS FOR ENERGY-EFFICIENT STRUCTURES

Rocío Ruiz – Sustainable and Future Mobility Leader Group  
[r Ruiz@aimplas.es](mailto:r Ruiz@aimplas.es)

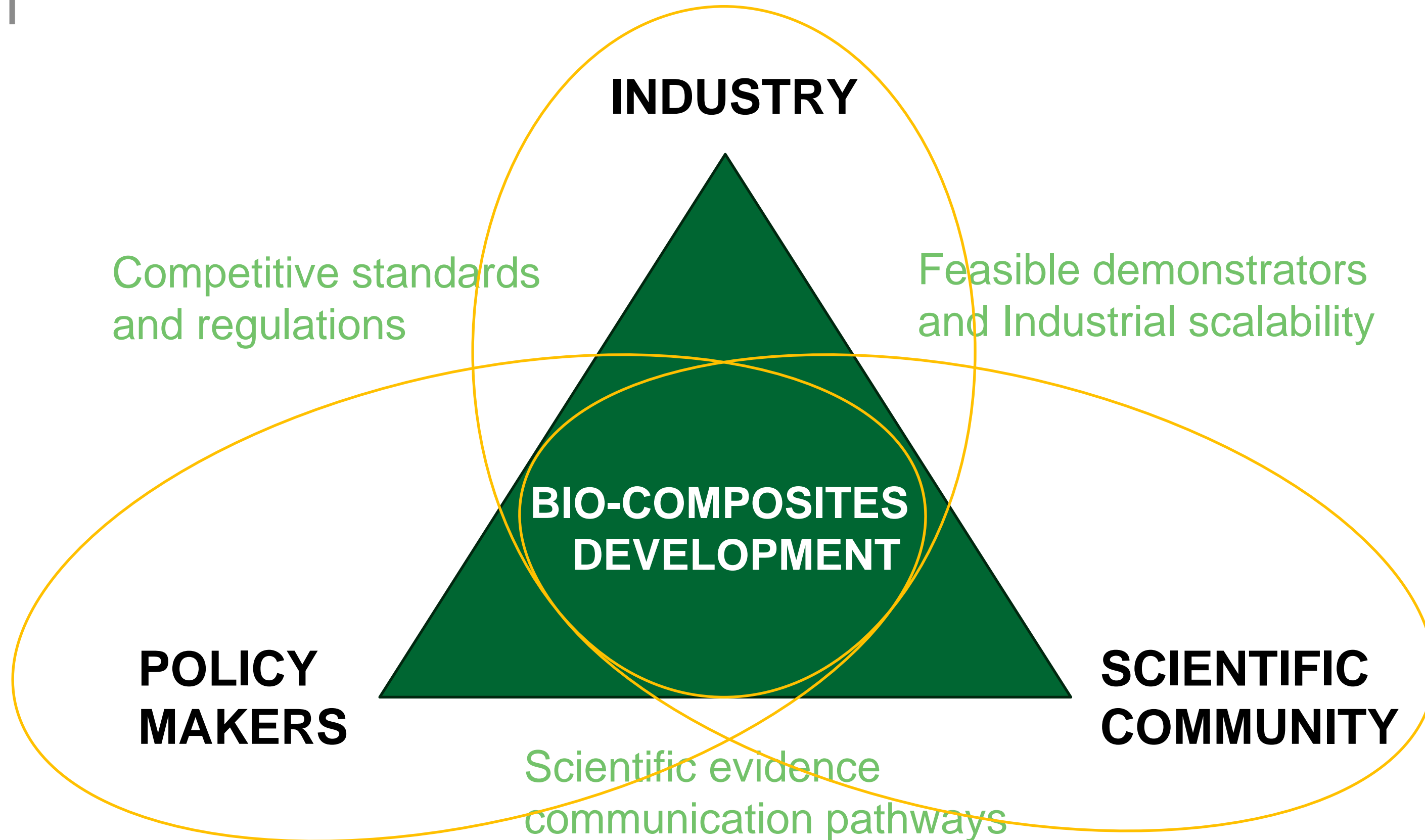


Funded by  
the European Union



**INLAY HINT**

**FOREST**





**FOREST** is a European Union research project under the topic of **Advanced lightweight materials FOR Energy-efficient Structures** funded by the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme.

The **FOREST** project will contribute to the decarbonisation of the transport sector by developing and implementing innovative **bio-based polymers & additives** and **recycled carbon fibres**. The goal will be achieved by combining three key drivers: **Reduce, Recovery, and Reshape**.

**START: December 2022**

**END: May 2026**

**DURATION: 42 months**



## REDUCE

**S**tructural weight reduction in mobility



**U**sing lightweight carbon fibre (CF)-based composites



**D**eveloping new highly-biobased polymers and additives



**F**ossil sources dependency reduction

 **REDUCE**

Structural weight reduction in mobility



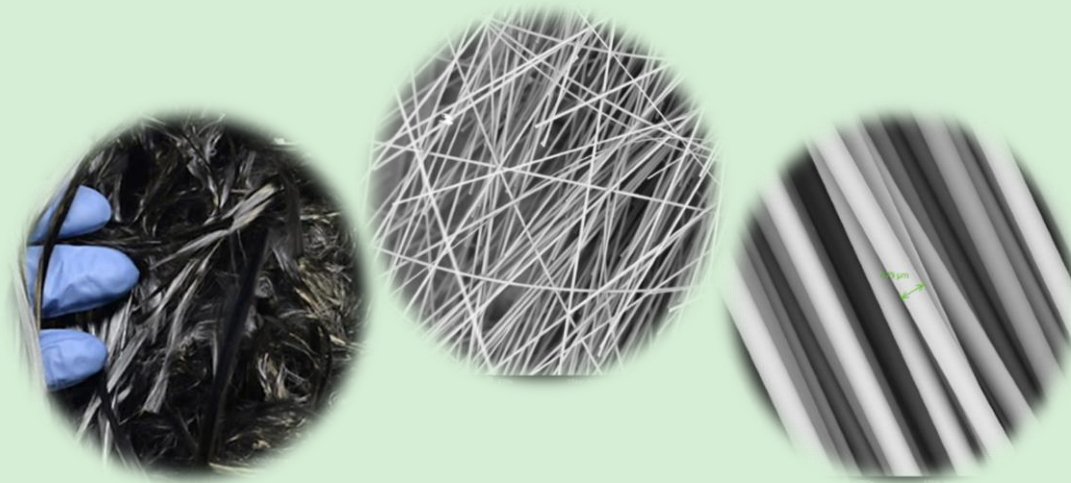
Using lightweight carbon fibre (CF)-based composites



Developing new highly-biobased polymers and additives



Fossil sources dependency reduction

 **RECOVERY**

Implementing efficient methods to recover 100% CF waste



Incorporation in fully sustainable biocomposites

## REDUCE

Structural weight reduction in mobility



Using lightweight carbon fibre (CF)-based composites

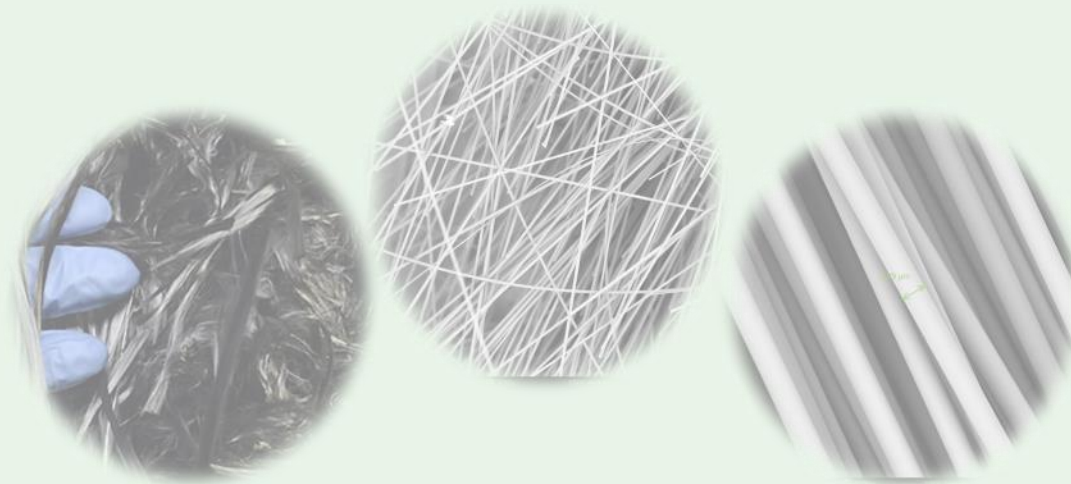


Developing new highly-biobased polymers and additives



Fossil sources dependency reduction

## RECOVERY



Implementing efficient methods to recover 100% CF waste



Incorporation in fully sustainable biocomposites

## RESHAPE

Research on the influence of the multifunctional additives



Combine biobased, recycled, and multifunctional materials



Incorporate sustainable solutions in the bus, aeronautic, and automotive sectors



**FOREST**



## **SUSTAINABILITY**

- Bio-based composites
- Lightweight materials
- Positive life cycle assessment



## CHALLENGES

- Recycling technologies
- Circular economy





## SUSTAINABILITY

- Bio-based composites
- Lightweight materials
- Positive life cycle assessment



## CHALLENGES

- Recycling technologies
- Circular economy



## MULTIFUNCTIONALITY

- EMI-shielding
- Flame-Retardants
  - Bio-based PECs
  - Efficient DOPO synthesis



# CONCEPT



## SUSTAINABILITY

- Bio-based composites
- Lightweight materials
- Positive life cycle assessment



## CHALLENGES

- Recycling technologies
- Circular economy



## MULTIFUNCTIONALITY

- EMI-shielding
- Flame-Retardants
  - Bio-based PECs
  - Efficient DOPO synthesis



# FOREST



## MANUFACTURING & SECURITY

- Out-of-Autoclave processes
- Self-monitoring
- Joining techniques
  - metal-biocomposite
  - biocomposite-biocomposite
  - welding (laser, ultrasonic)
  - adhesive bonding



# PARTNERS



Cooperation of **14 partners** from  
**8 European countries.**

Spain, France, Germany, Turkey,  
Italy, Poland, Czech Republic and  
England





# VALUE CHAIN

**FOREST**



**BIOPOLYMERS  
& ADDITIVES**

**THERMOPLASTIC**

**bioPA**

**■ - BASF**

**bioacrylic**

**ARKEMA**  
INNOVATIVE CHEMISTRY

**THERMOSET**

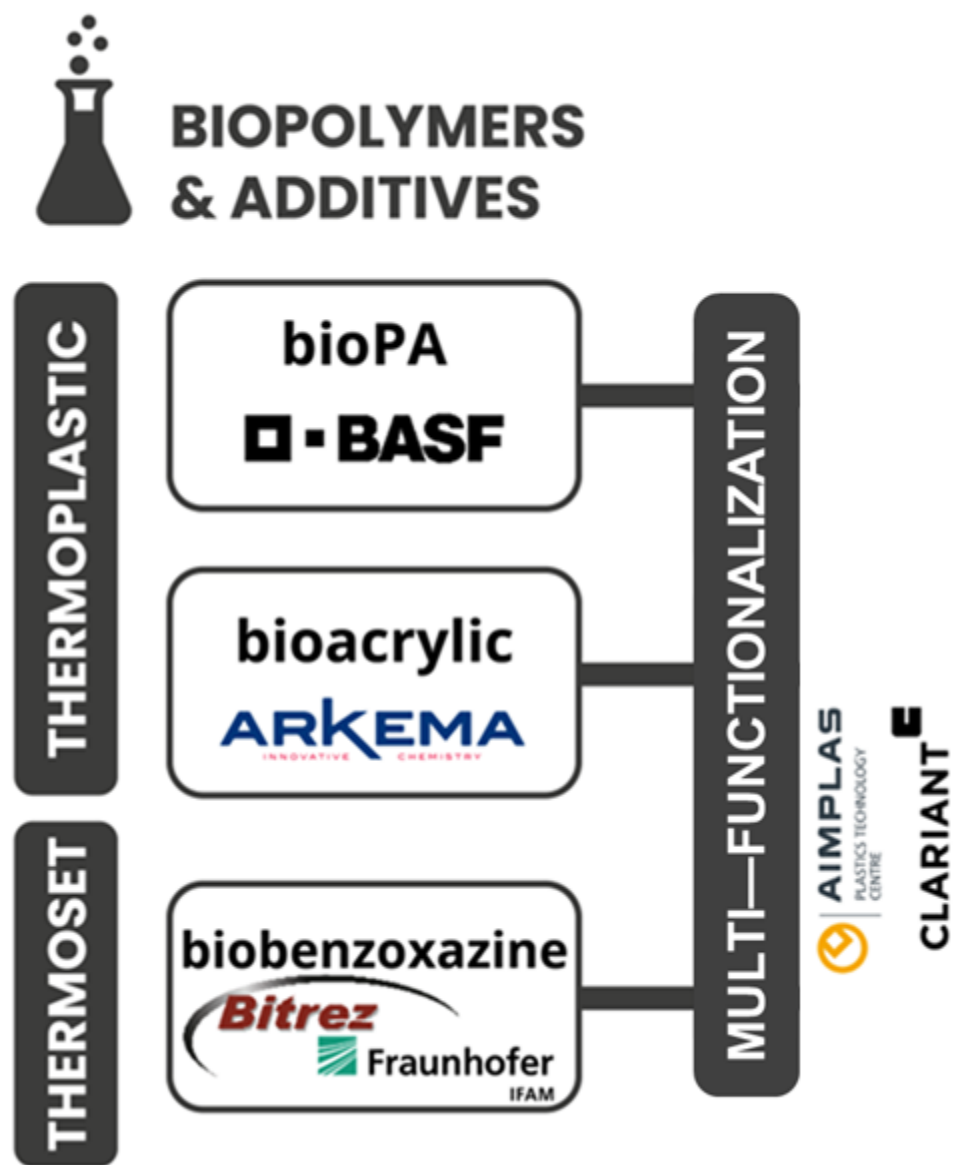
**biobenzoxazine**

**Bitrez**

**Fraunhofer**  
IFAM

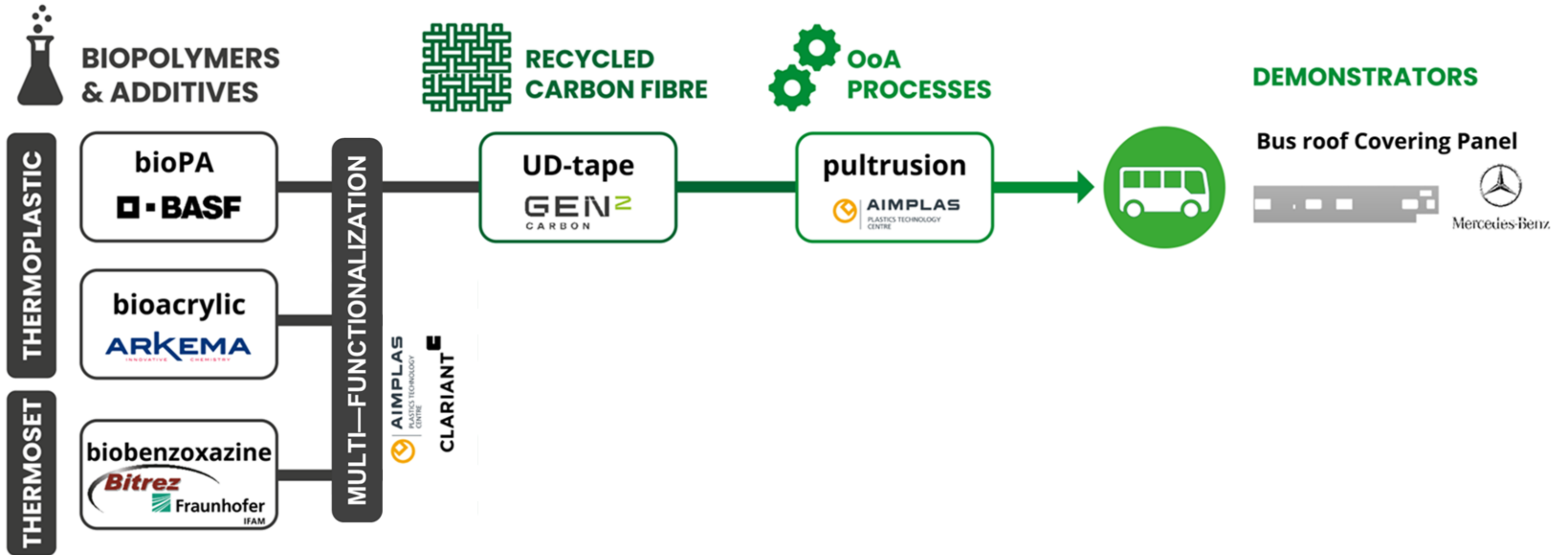


# VALUE CHAIN



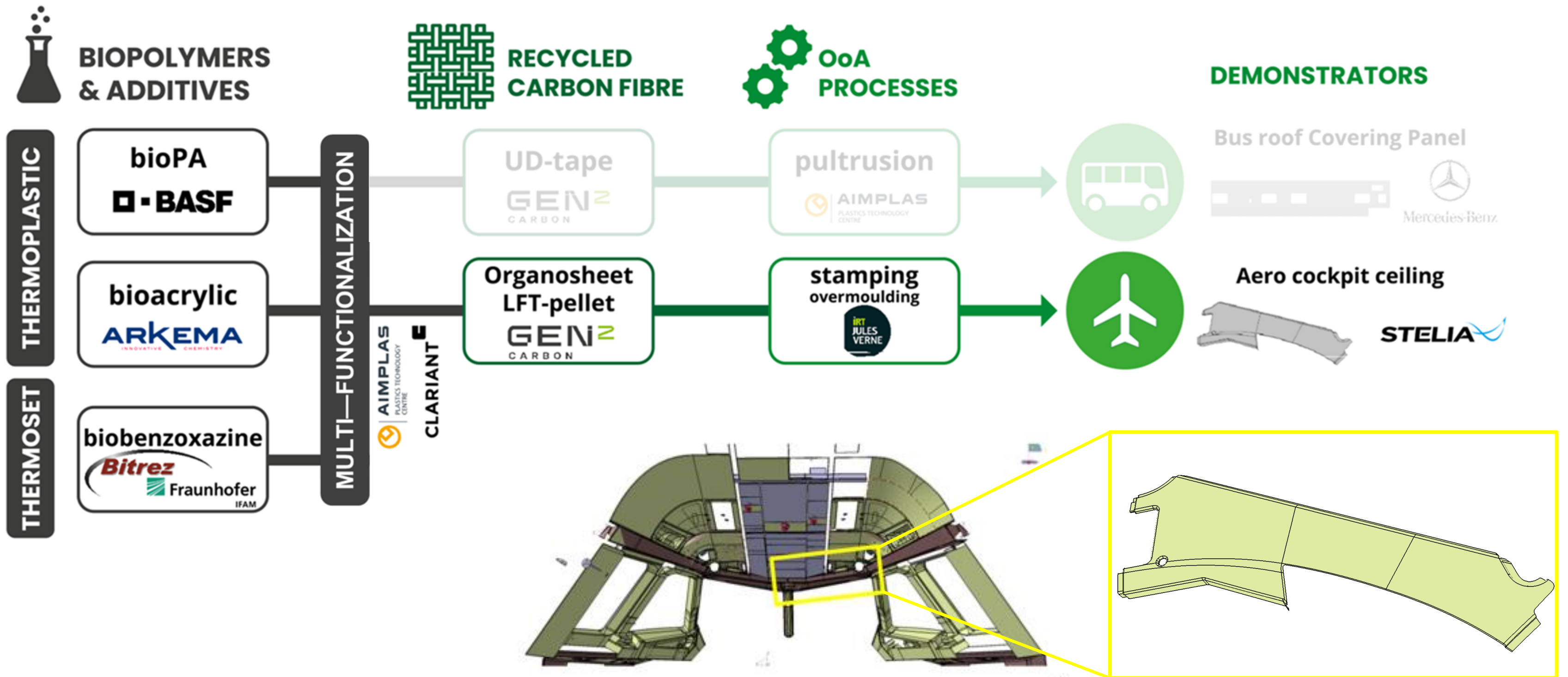


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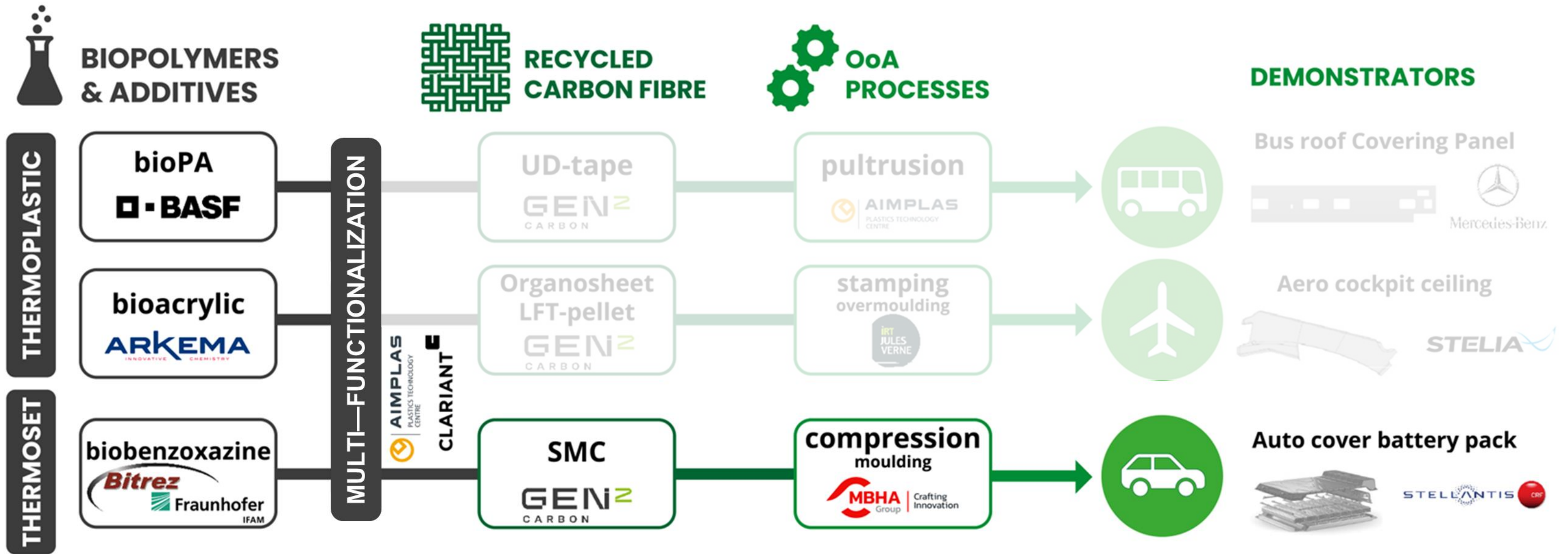


# VALUE CHAIN





# VALUE CHAIN







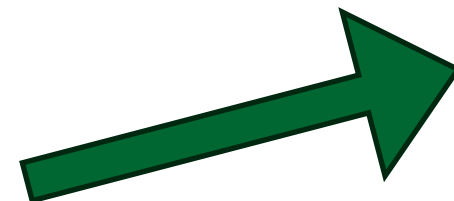
# PROGRESS M18



## BIOPOLYMERS & ADDITIVES

THERMOPLASTIC

bioPA  
■ BASF



- High MFI PA6 for continuous carbon fibre melt impregnation: **DONE**
- High bio-content bioPA6 up to 40 wt%: **DONE**
- Higher bio-content PA6s (>80 wt%): **ONGOING**

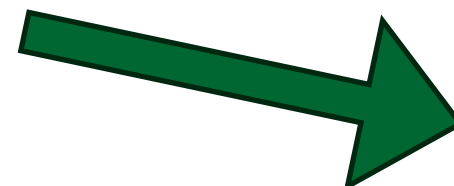
bioacrylic  
ARKEMA  
INNOVATIVE CHEMISTRY



- Bio-based Elium resin up to 25 wt% bio-content: **DONE**
- Increase bio-content preserving mechanical properties: **ONGOING**

THERMOSET

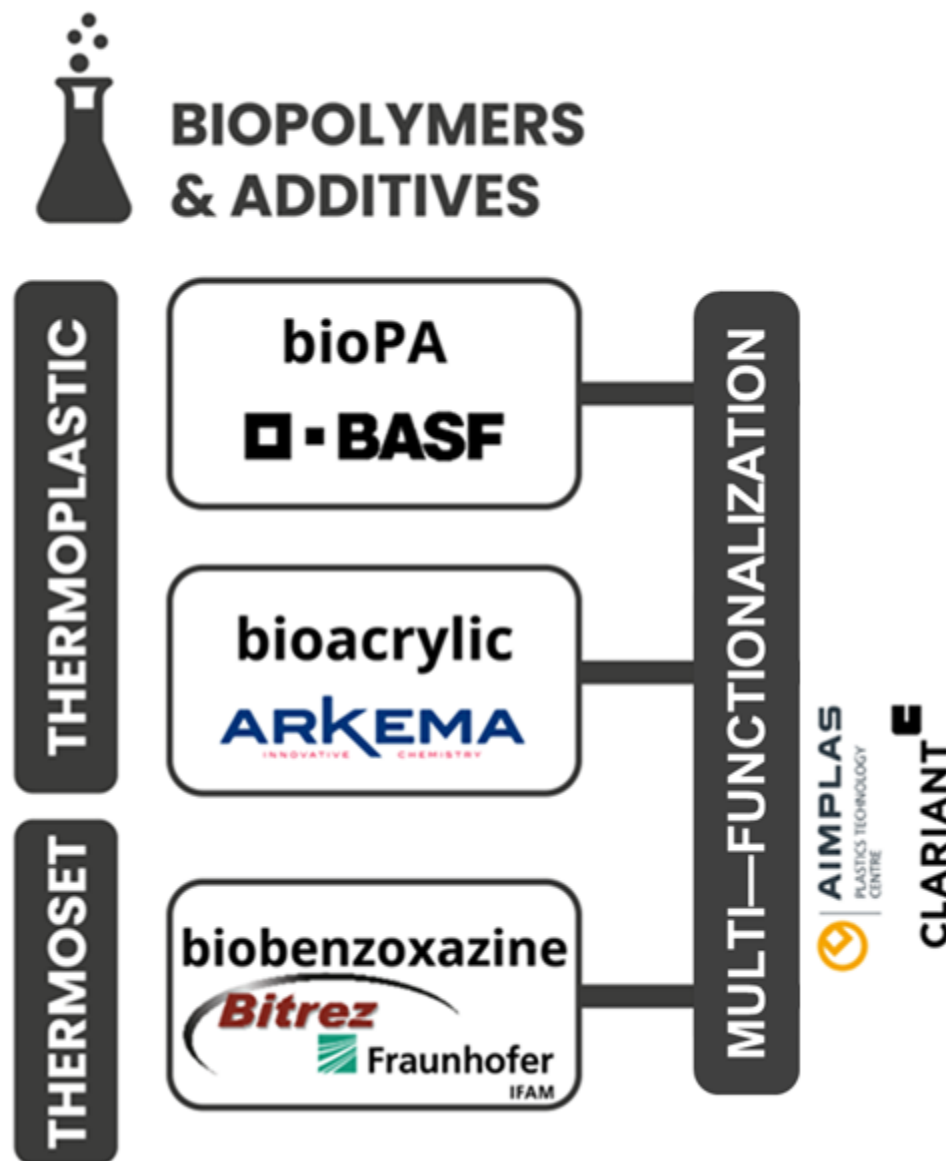
biobenzoxazine  
Bitrez  
Fraunhofer  
IFAM



- High bio-content bio-benzoxazine formulations
- Increased green curing rates of bio-benzoxazines



# PROGRESS M18



## - Multifunctional fire-retardant additives developed from:

- Bio-based precursors → Poly Electrolyte Complex (PEC)

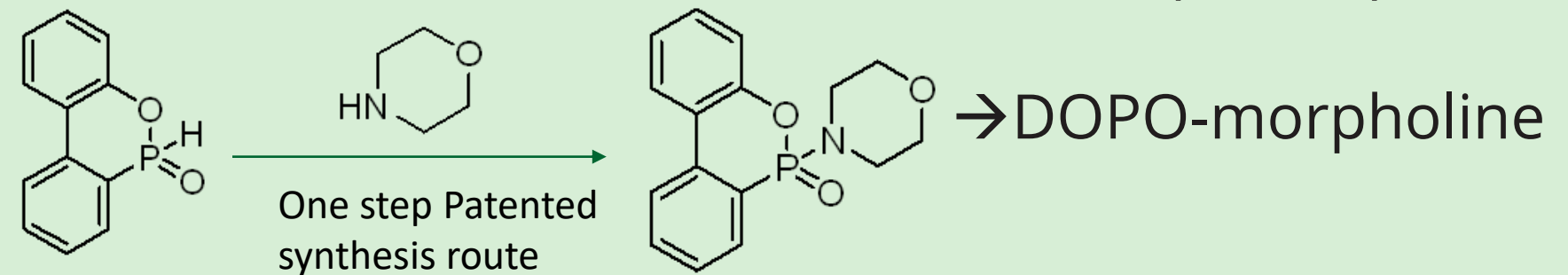


PHYTIC ACID



CHITOSAN

- More sustainable and cost-effective routes (non-Cl) → DOPO



## - Multifunctional EMI-shielding particles:

- Carbon-based particles with improved EMI-shielding properties added in mass to the bio-based resin.



# PROGRESS M18



**RECYCLED  
CARBON FIBRE**

**UD-tape**

**GEN<sup>2</sup>**  
CARBON

**Organosheet**

**LFT-pellet**

**GEN<sup>2</sup>**  
CARBON

**SMC**

**GEN<sup>2</sup>**  
CARBON

- **Non-woven 100% recycled carbon fibre (rCF) mat : DONE**
- Different grammages: 50/100/200/300 GSM



- **Recovery of continuous rCF for pultrusion thermoplastic UD-tape: ONGOING**
- 10 m segments achieved. To be converted in longer threads



# PROGRESS M18



**pultrusion**



**stamping  
overmoulding**



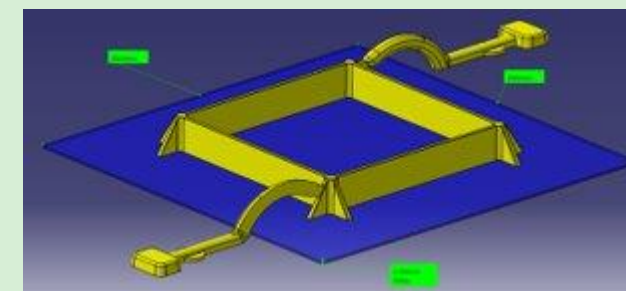
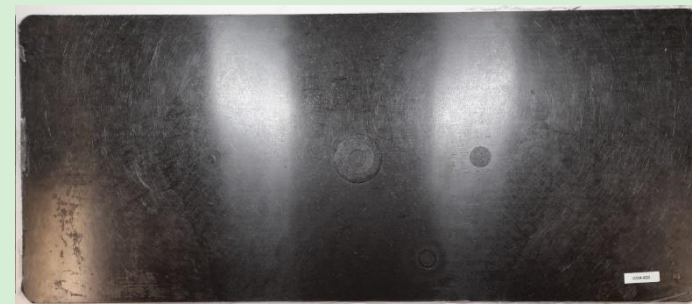
**compression  
moulding**



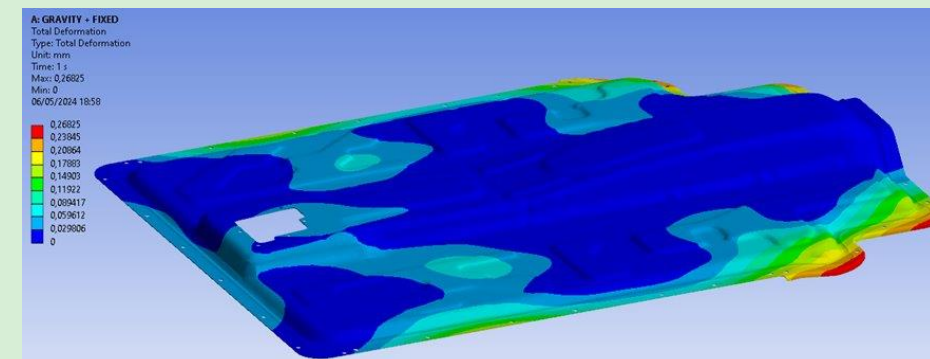
## - Compression moulding layups for characterization: ONGOING

- UD-tapes and rCF sandwiched panels
- Pultrusion system design and simulation

## - C-RTM and Overmoulding trials: ONGOING



## - Process and mould design modelling: ONGOING





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