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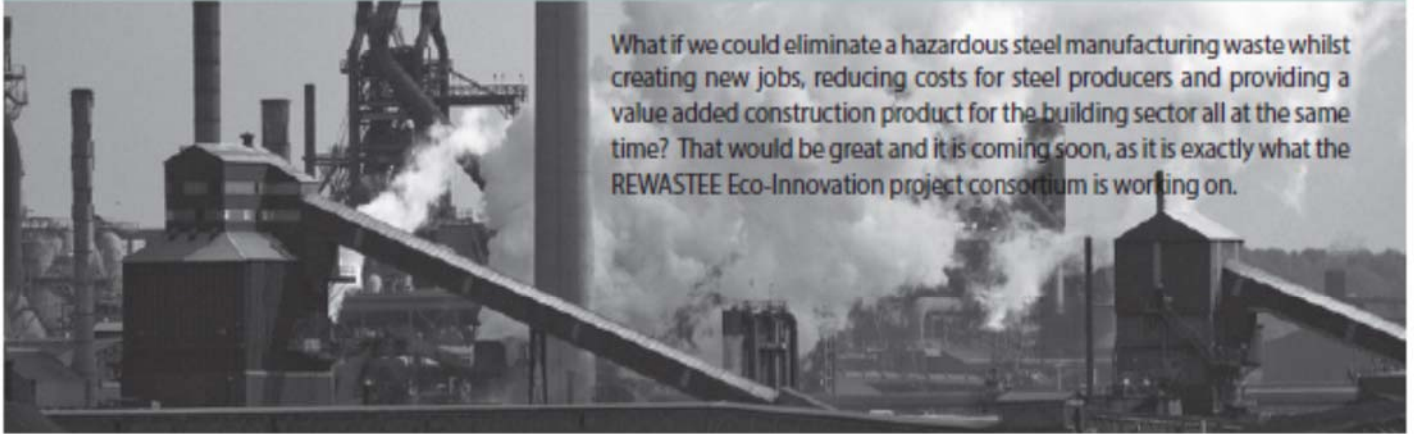
# KARMENU VELLA

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Co-funded by the Eco-Innovation Initiative of the European Union

# REWASTEE: Manufacturing Eco-Innovative Construction Products from Steel Manufacturing Waste



What if we could eliminate a hazardous steel manufacturing waste whilst creating new jobs, reducing costs for steel producers and providing a value added construction product for the building sector all at the same time? That would be great and it is coming soon, as it is exactly what the REWASTEE Eco-Innovation project consortium is working on.

**REWASTEE**, a research project co-funded by the European Union, stands for REcycling steel making solid WASTes for added value Energy Efficiency building products. Using an innovative Spanish patent, REWASTEE uses a polymer mix to bind and make non-hazardous the Electric Arc Furnace Dust (EAFD) - a waste by-product produced by 42% of EU steel production. Currently, over 166 million tons of this hazardous material is handled by workers and transported by truck, ship and rail to specialist recycling points where zinc is extracted before the remainder is chemically stabilized and landfilled.



REWASTEE provides a better solution. The REWASTEE membrane can be produced directly at steel manufacturing facilities, minimizing EAFD waste, its transportation and disposal. The resultant rubber-like product is intrinsically safe and its high surface density (approximately 7kg per m<sup>2</sup>) makes it ideal as acoustic insulation. With the addition of Phase Change Materials it also presents a useful thermal buffer that can smooth temperature variations. The membrane can be applied directly to surfaces in a variety of stand-alone applications or can be integrated into manufactured building products such as sound insulation panels and multilayer wall partitions. Furthermore, as a recycled and eco-sustainable product, its use enables access to certain incentive programs and points for sustainability accreditation. The costs are also promising; 25-30% lower than competing insulation solutions giving REWASTEE the potential to shake up the existing market.

of Barcelona (ESP), University of Lleida (ESP), Nobatek (FR), R2M Solution (IT), Trimdelson Trade S.L (ESP), FCC Construction (ESP), and BRE (UK). The team's current activities consist of material prototyping and the initial fabrication of integrated building products. These first results will be tested in real-life conditions at the University of Lleida demonstration park to characterize their performance. In parallel, market analysis and business planning activities are identifying which applications the consortium should target first. This includes establishing contacts with a number of steel producers and material manufacturers in order to develop potential collaboration opportunities. The team are confident that in a few years the current practices surrounding EAFD handling and treatment will look much different than they do today.



For more information please see [www.rewastee.eu](http://www.rewastee.eu) or contact Biotza Gutierrez ([biotza.gutierrez@eurecat.org](mailto:biotza.gutierrez@eurecat.org))