



## Newsletter February 2019



### How does DEMETO revolutionise PET recycling?

Today it is hard to imagine a world without PET. We drink from it, we eat from it and we even wear it. Yet only some of the products are being recycled. Let's close the loop. Check out the new DEMETO [brochure](#) and [video](#).

[Watch the video](#)

### The Industrial Advisory Board of DEMETO – experts from the entire value chain

DEMETO does not only consist of consortium partners from the entire value chain. In order to get the most out of the Horizon 2020 project, the partners are **supported by an Industrial Advisory Board that provides feedback and comments to steer the direction of DEMETO's business development activities.** The IAB consists of top brands of home textile, sportswear textile, fashion textile, home and personal care and drinks, as well as plastic converters, waste collectors and recyclers: a2a, Adidas, ALPLA, Coca-Cola, EIT Raw Materials, Ikea, Logoplaste, MAKSC, Nestle Waters, OVS, Petcore Europe, SEFEA IMPACT, SOEX, Sorema, Suez, Unilever and Waste2Wear.



### DEMETO consortium partner gr3n wins the 2018 Innovation Radar Prize

The European Commission has awarded Europe's most promising digital innovations emerging from EU funded research and innovation projects. DEMETO consortium partner gr3n, from Switzerland, won the 2018 Innovation Radar Prize for their breakthrough technology for "upcycling" PET / polyester. The awards ceremony took place at the European Commission's ICT 2018 in Vienna, Austria on 6 December.

The 2018 Innovation Radar Prize has been awarded to gr3n (pronounced "green") for their breakthrough technology for "upcycling" PET / polyester. They have developed an industrial-grade prototype that uses microwave radiation to increase the proportion of plastics that can be recycled while also increasing the quality of recycled plastics (such as PET or polyester). Gr3n is a Swiss company: although Switzerland is not a EU Member State, Swiss researchers and organisations are able to participate in Horizon 2020. [Read more](#)



### Sustainable Textile and Fashion Value Chains - European Outdoor Group

In early 2019, members of the DEMETO project submitted a contribution to the Springer Publication "Achieving a new circular textiles economy thanks to breakthrough technology innovation". The chapter entitled "Sustainable End-of-Life Concepts and Strategies in the Textile and Fashion Industry" contained inputs from the DEMETO partners.

The chapter aims to offer readers a view on the current situation of post-consumers garments collection and recycling by illustrating state of the art practice on post-consumers garments collection, current destinations of post-consumers textile after collection and processing and current recycling (downcycling) technologies for textile waste. [Read more](#)



### PETCIA

PETCIA (PET Compañía para su reciclado) is a specialised PET sorting and recycling company that belongs to Dentis Group, one of the main European players for mechanically recycled PET. Their mechanical recycling process consists in several steps: bales breaking, bottles pre-washing, grinding, washing, drying and packaging products. In this process, many types of by-products can be generated, with different levels of PET and contaminants. [Read more](#)



### NEO GROUP

NEO GROUP is a team of very curious and innovative people, so no wonder they became a member of the DEMETO consortium. Their people strive for innovation and meaningful work, so they consider their participation in this project a possibility to turn ideas and wishes into reality.

"At DEMETO, we have the possibility to work together with different companies to make PET resin chemical recycling technology sustainable – in simple words, we are investigating possible ways to convert PET final products (such as plastic packaging and/or textile) to the starting substances (monomers). And not only this; we need to ensure that this process is also economically efficient. We feel like we are inventing something really important: new resin that can be produced from recycled monomers, making the PET economy circular."

The new recycling technology will be one of the European Plastic Strategy implementation tools for virgin PET resin producers. [Read more](#)



### DEMETO at CITEO conference

Maurizio Crippa, CEO of the DEMETO consortium partner gr3n, presented the innovative PET chemical recycling technology of DEMETO during the Forum Plastic Solutions ("Le Forum Solutions Plastiques"), organised by Citeo and Éco Entreprises Québec (ÉEQ) in Paris on 4 and 5 February 2019.

Gr3n and DEMETO were presented as one of the promising start-ups that propose a solution to the problem of plastic waste, by offering a unique and innovative chemical recycling technology for PET. [Read more](#)



### DEMETO at Ecomondo

From 6 to 9 November 2018, DEMETO was present at the Circular Economy Stories showroom of Ecomondo in Rimini, Italy. The Circular Economy Area was a high-profile showcase for projects promoting sustainability in different industrial areas. Through video stations and panels, but also with a real "staging" by professional actors, a dozen initiatives linked to the circular economy were presented.

Companies such as Eni or Novamont shared the space with start-ups and European projects for R&D. The scenic representation of different supply chains and the "circular history" of industrial sectors was the focus. [Read more](#)



### DEMETO at TextileExchange Sustainability Conference

Three companies from the DEMETO consortium and Industrial Advisory Board were present at the TextileExchange Sustainability Conference in Milan on 22-24 October 2018 to talk about the solutions that the chemical recycling process of DEMETO can offer to the textile industry.

Under the title "The T-shirt that Becomes a Plastic Bottle: Circular Business Model Insights", Maurizio Crippa of gr3n, Frederic Dreux of Unilever and Mattias Bodin of H&M spoke together about the promising new industrial process to chemically recycle PET bottles, food containers and even textiles, that offers new possibilities of closing the loop in the plastics value chain.

The panelists discussed the challenges and opportunities of working across sectors to address the global issues of recycling, collection, contamination and rPET. You can watch the video [here](#). More information on the conference [here](#).

### Scientific Workshop| Brussels, 4 June 2019 – Save the date

On 4 June, in Brussels, PCE (Polymer Comply Europe) will host a scientific workshop on chemical recycling. The event aims at meeting all stakeholders interested in the development of chemical recycling and discussing with them the potential of this technology.

Academia representatives and industrial entrepreneurs will discuss the legislative and technical barriers to overcome. Policy makers will be invited to learn firsthand the reality of the European industry. The event will also facilitate the creation of synergies between European projects working on chemical recycling for different polymers and applications.

DEMETO, together with other EU projects, will be presented in a dedicated session for H2020 and SPIRE projects. Registration will open soon.

### DEMETO 12th Month Consortium Meeting

On 5 November 2018, the DEMETO project partners met at the premises of the Danish Technical University (DTU) in Copenhagen to discuss the latest development and overall progress of DEMETO.

The first year of the DEMETO project went according to plan and the technical results even surpassed the expectations. The participants also visited the technical facilities of the DTU, where some of the test for DEMETO are being carried out.

In the first quarter of 2019, a scientific dissemination will be organised by the consortium to explain the DEMETO project and enter into a dialogue with the European scientific community.

### Conference 29 January 2019 – NextChem

On 29 January 2019, NextChem participated to the event "THE SUSTAINABLE SOCIETY OF THE FUTURE: THE ROLE OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERING", organised in Rome by the Italian Chemical Engineering Association. The event was sponsored by NextChem mother company, Maire Tecnimont.

The conference was organised in three plenary sessions focusing on Energy, Green Chemistry & Biorefinery and Sustainable Mobility, each followed by a round table between academy and industry representatives. In the framework of green chemistry, participants also had the chance to present their ideas and innovations. NextChem dedicated a session to showcase the objectives and the preliminary results of DEMETO, presenting a demo video and distributing copies of the project's brochures.

More than two hundred people from industry, universities and research centres attended the conference.

### Upcoming events

**4/06/2019 Chemical Recycling Conference in Brussels**

**05-06/2019 Industrial Advisory Board Webinar**



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