

# Research and Development: New recycling possibilities and solutions

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Retracking initial conference, Trieste,  
29/01/2018



# ZAG - who we are?



**ZAG**

SLOVENIAN  
NATIONAL BUILDING  
AND CIVIL ENGINEERING  
INSTITUTE

[www.zag.si](http://www.zag.si)

Public research institute, 181 employees, 5 departments: Materials, Building Physics, Construction, Road Infrastructure, Metrology, annual turnover: app. 8-10 mio €



# Laboratory for Stone, Aggregate and Recycled Materials

- Applicative researches work as well as expert work, consultancy and supervision in the following area:
  - Aggregate (natural, recycled, manufactured) and stone (natural, aggregated)
  - Environmental Engineering: recycling and remediation (water, soil), in-situ immobilization of degraded soil, zero approach in LM
  - Life cycle assessments (E-LCA, S-LCA, LCC) - > EPD
  - Specialized mineralogical (e.g. asbestos, dust in working environments...) and microstructural analysis (microXCT, 3D IA, FE-SEM, rheology, zeta potencial...)
  - Industrial symbiosis, cultural heritage



# Laboratory for Polymers

- Quality control of:
  - polymeric materials and their certification
  - the installation of polymeric products
- Determination of the condition of installed polymeric materials in the construction industry and of the reasons for their degradation,
- Support to industry
- Research work: photocatalytic coatings and hardeners for the external surfaces of buildings, nanomaterials for use in construction products, and technological procedures for the recycling of construction materials.



# Fiber reinforced composites

- FRC = a composite material made of a polymer matrix reinforced with fibres (in our case glass fibres). The reinforcements impart strength and stiffness, while the resin is an adhesive matrix that bonds the fibers.
- Properties:
  - Light weight
  - High strength-to-weight ratio
  - Design freedom
  - High levels of stiffness
  - Chemical resistance
  - Good electrical insulating properties
  - Retention of dimensional stability across a wide range of temperatures



[www.plasticeurope.org](http://www.plasticeurope.org)

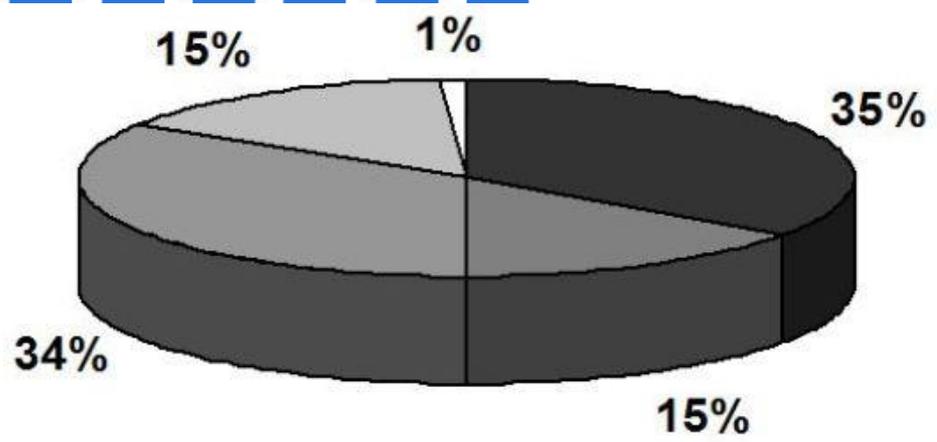
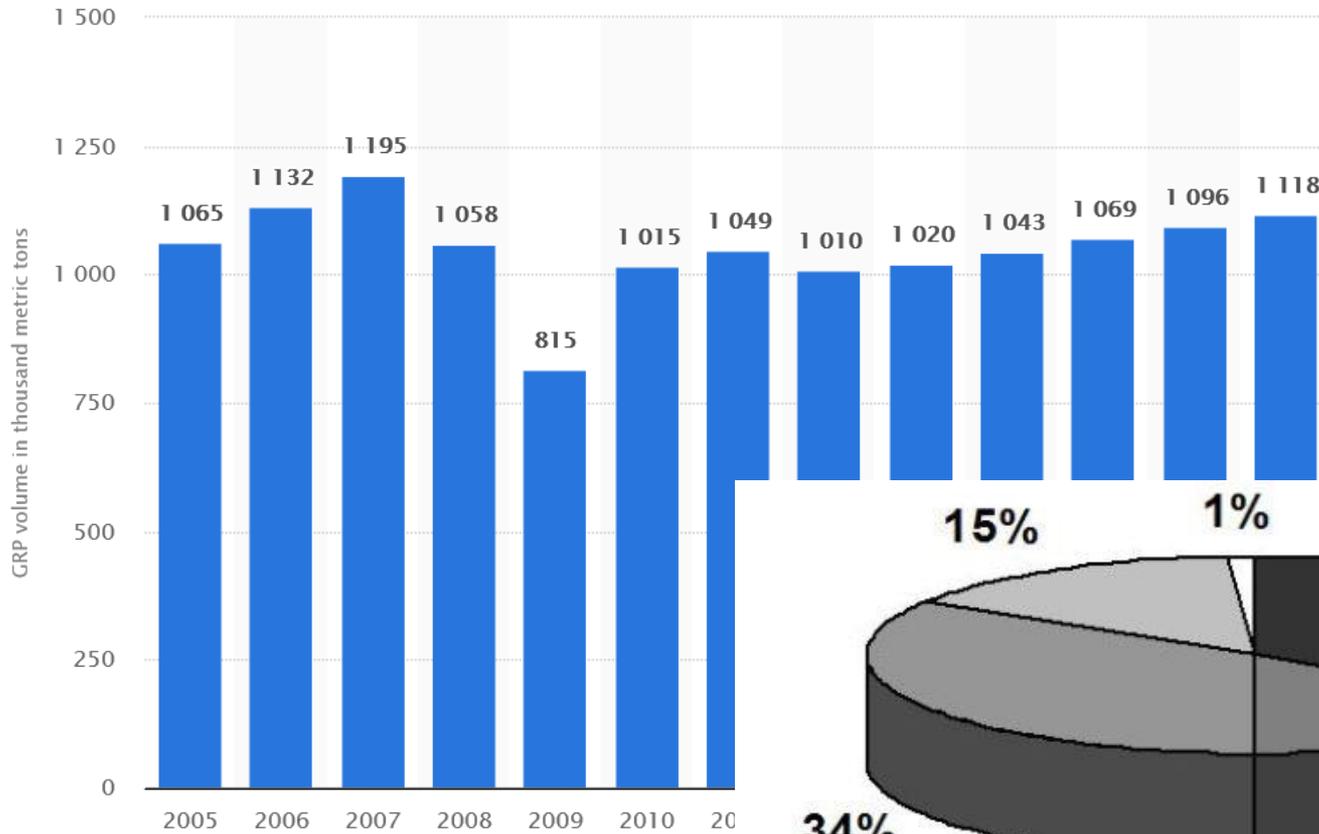


- Commonly used in the:

- aerospace,
- automotive,
- marine,
- renewable energy,
- construction industries,
- chemical plant and pipes,
- sport.



NASA Clark Duramold F-46 (Fairchild)  
NASA Langley Research Center 3/29/1938 Image # EL-2000-



GRP (glass fibre reinforced plastic) volume in Europe since 2005 in '00 (www.statista.com)

- Transport**
- Electro / Electronic**
- Construction**
- Sports & Leisure**
- Others**



	2014* Kt	2013 Kt	2012 Kt	2011 Kt	2010 Kt
UK/ Ireland	146	140	134	126	130
Belgium / Netherlands / Luxembourg	43	42	43	42	40
Finland / Norway / Sweden / Denmark	42	44	44	52	50
Spain / Portugal	154	152	160	200	217
Italy	148	146	152	165	154
France	108	112	117	122	116
Germany	200	192	182	172	161
Austria / Switzerland	18	17	17	17	16
Eastern Europe**	184	175	161	153	131
<b>Sum:</b>	<b>1.043</b>	<b>1.020</b>	<b>1.010</b>	<b>1.049</b>	<b>1.015</b>
Turkey***	225	214	195	180	

Fig. 3: GRP production volumes in Europe - and Turkey - itemised by country/group of countries (www.plastics.gl)



# Waste 2 product - 7<sup>th</sup> envir. program.



Source:  
<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/framework/>

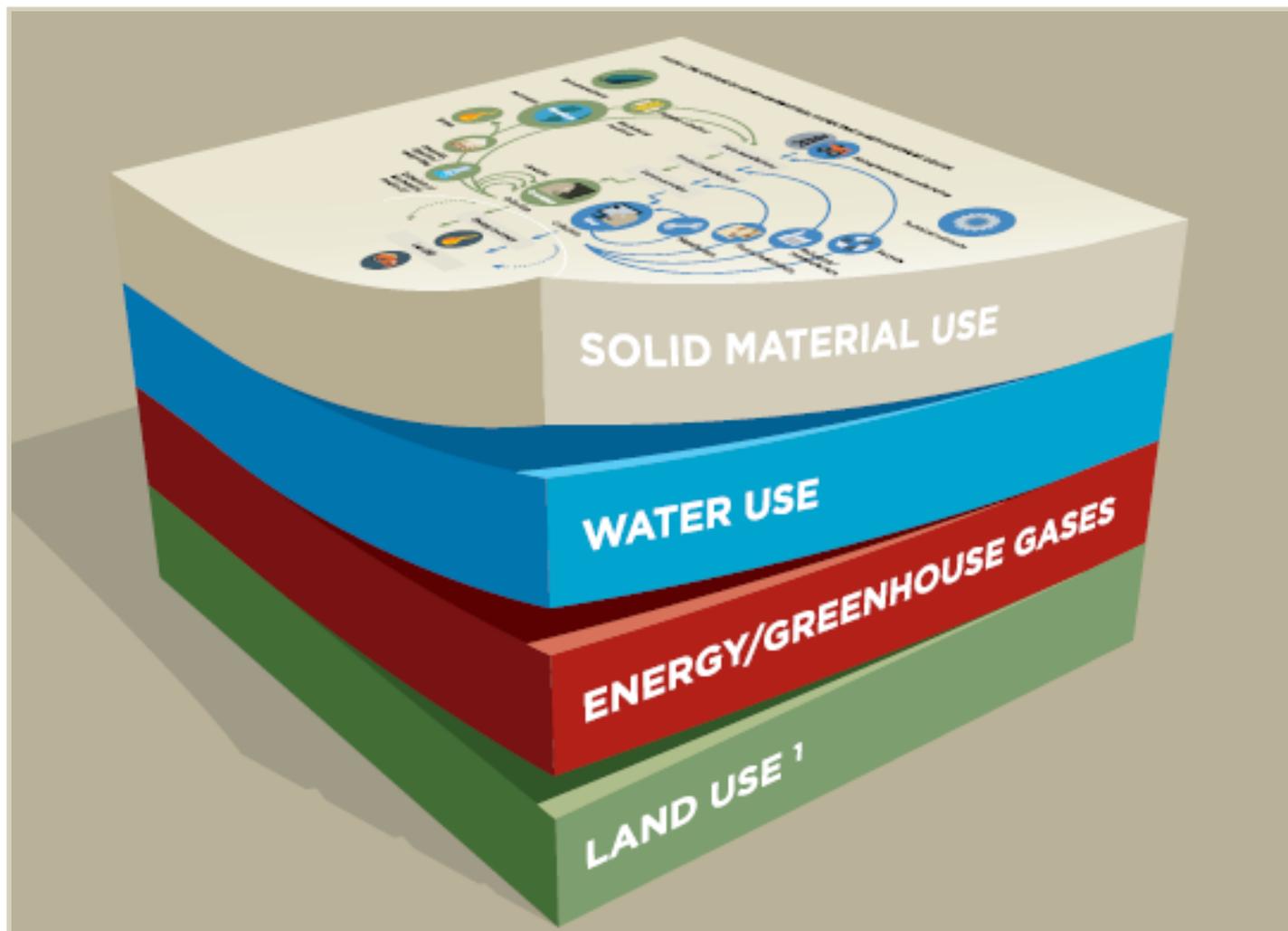


# Europe 2020

- **SMART**
- **SUSTAINABLE**  
A resource efficient Europe
- **INCLUSIVE GROWTH**



# Closing the loop! Circular Economy Strategy\*, dec. 2015



\*COM(2015) 614 final. Closing the loop - An EU action plan for the Circular Economy. 2.12.2015

Figure Source: Ellen MacArthur Foundation Towards the Circular Economy vol.1

# Sustainable development goals



25/9/2015 - countries adopted a set of goals for next 15 years to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all.



# THE LAZY PERSON'S GUIDE TO SAVING THE WORLD

LEVEL 3



# Challenges of using sec. RM

- Legislation and standardization ensuring the quality of secondary raw materials (e.g. definition of end-of-waste criteria)
- Abundance of materials
- New processes, innovations
- Measuring efficiency
- Capacity building (T-shaped students)



Going out of comfort zone





**Waste**

**(construction)  
product**

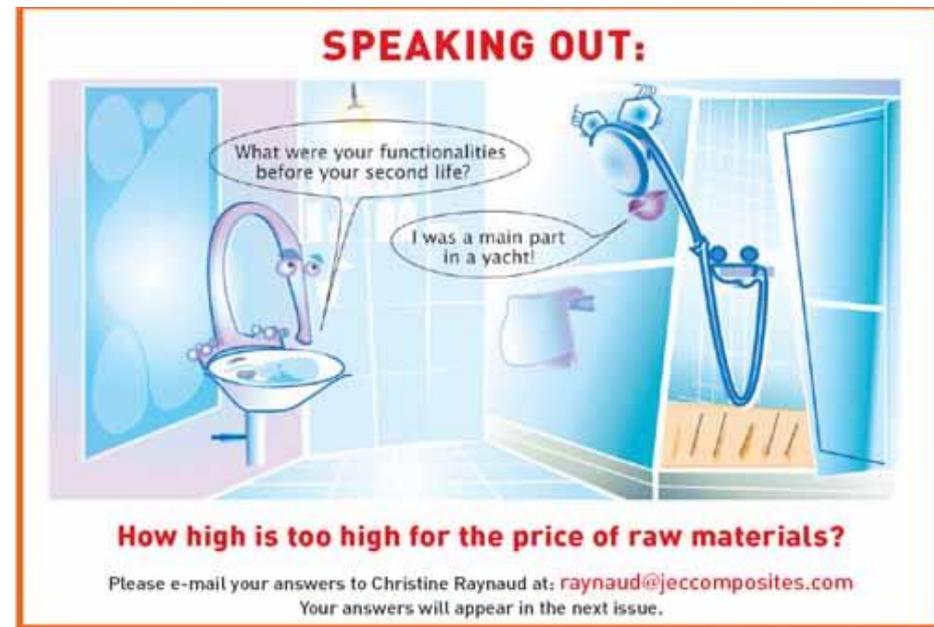
**Environmental  
legislation**

**(construction)  
product  
legislation**



# Ways of recycling FRC

- **Mechanical grinding** -> aggregate of different fractions as filler
- **Pyrolysis** -> glass fibres
- **Cement kiln route**
- **Fluidised bed** - glass fibres with lower strength



<http://www.jecomposites.com/knowledge/international-composites-news/recycling-fibre-reinforced-plastics>



# Construction sector is encouraging resource efficiency!

- Roadmap to Resource Efficient Europe\* includes the following milestones for construction sector:

„By 2020 the renovation and construction of buildings and infrastructure will be made to high resource efficiency levels. The Life-cycle approach will be widely applied; all new buildings will be nearly zero-energy and highly material efficient and policies for renovating the existing building stock will be in place so that it is cost-efficiently refurbished at a rate of 2% per year. 70% of non-hazardous construction and demolition waste will be recycled“

\*Roadmap to Resource Efficient Europe

<sup>1</sup> COM(2011) Final Communication from the Commission: Roadmap to a Resource Efficient Europe



# Construction Products Regulations (CPR)

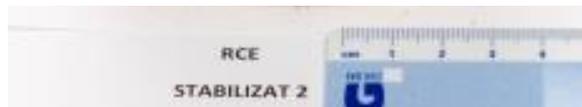
## NEW! Basic requirement # 7 SUSTAINABLE USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES



### 7. Sustainable use of natural resources

The construction works must be designed, built and demolished in such a way that the use of natural resources is sustainable and in particular ensure the following:

- (a) reuse or recyclability of the construction works, their materials and parts after demolition;
- (b) durability of the construction works;
- (c) use of environmentally compatible raw and secondary materials in the construction works.



# Potential applications in construction - façade panels

- Panels for façade: EN 15286: Agglomerated stone - Slabs and tiles for wall finishes (internal and external)
- Total façade kit (with subframe, fixing)- ETAG 034: Cladding Kits:
  - Part 1: Ventilated Cladding Kits comprising Cladding components and associated fixings
  - Part 2: Cladding Kits comprising Cladding components, associated fixings, subframe and possible insulation layer



- CPR EU 305/2011:
  - Declaration of performance and CE marking
  - Assessment and verification of constancy of performance
  - Harmonised EU standards or ETA
- Essential requirements:
  - ER1: Mechanical resistance and stability
  - ER2: Safety in case of fire (**reaction to fire, fire resistance**)
  - ER3: Hygiene, health and environment (indoor dampness, **outdoor environment**)
  - ER4: Safety of use (**impact resistance, shatter properties, point loads**, wind resistance, seismic resistance, **behavior under hygrothermal reaction...**)
  - Protection against noise
  - Energy, economy and heat retention
  - Aspects of durability and serviceability (**kit durability, movements of the substrate, durability of components...**)





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# Project partners



Polo Tecnologico di Pordenone (IT)



Gees Recycling (IT)



Zavod za gradbeništvo Slovenije (SLO)



Infordata Sistemi Srl (IT)



Gospodarska zbornica Slovenije (SLO)

