



## **Minutes No. 3**

### **of the 3rd Meeting of the Supervisory Committee**

**of the project “Alternative Recycling of Waste Paper and Hemp Fibre into Innovative Thermal Insulation Materials with Improved Thermal Conductivity”, project No. LIFE17 ENV/LV/000335, project abbreviation LIFE\_PHIPP,**

**implemented by SIA BALTICFLOC**

Cēsis

18 October 2022

The Meeting of the Supervisory Committee is organised in order to implement the project “Alternative Recycling of Waste Paper and Hemp Fibre into Innovative Thermal Insulation Materials with Improved Thermal Conductivity”, project No. LIFE17 ENV/LV/000335, project abbreviation LIFE\_PHIPP (hereinafter – the project), funded by the European Commission programme for environment and climate action LIFE.

The Meeting is attended by:

SIA BALTICFLOC Project Manager Zane Sērmaukša;  
SIA BALTICFLOC Chairman of the Board Edžus Cābulis;  
SIA BALTICFLOC Technology Transfer Manager Ēriks Nordens;  
SIA BALTICFLOC Marketing and Communications Specialist Līva Cābule.

The Project Supervisory Committee is represented by:

1. the Deputy Director of the Nature Protection Department and the Head of the Species and Habitats Protection Division of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development Ilona Mendziņa;
2. Chairman of the Board of the NGO Green Liberty Jānis Brizga;
3. Marketing Manager of SIA Zaļā josta Laima Kubliņa.

The Meeting of the Supervisory Committee takes place online, starting at 14:30 o'clock.

Course of the Meeting:

1. The Meeting of the Supervisory Committee is started with a video on installation of the new production line.
2. Presentation on the project progress by the Project Manager Zane Sērmaukša.
3. Presentation by the Project Technology Transfer Ēriks Nordens on the project B2 Certification of thermal insulation panels, and B5 Technology reproduction and transfer activities. The initial laboratory tests of recipes of various mixes of the innovative material BFlex, carried out in the Latvian State Institute of Wood Chemistry. One of the samples is created from textile and paper fibre.
  - 3.1. Laima Kubliņa: “Is it significant what textile fibre is used in the product?”
  - 3.2. Ēriks Nordens: “Currently, we took a textile fibre that was offered to us. For the time being, this is the fibre we can test.”
  - 3.3. Laima Kubliņa: “I recommend to study and analyse. Probably, natural fibre is more efficient in thermal insulation. From the point of view of repeated recycling, mixed



- fibres is a problem. I have heard that factories have problems with finding a place to recycle their offcuts. If you would succeed with this recipe and material with textile fibre, it would make a big difference on a European scale.”
- 3.4. Ēriks Nordens: “For us it is important to ensure consistent quality of the material for the buyer. Similar as with paper - different raw materials mean different quality final material.”
- 3.5. Laima Kubliņa: “Speaking about paper. Is newsprint paper the most advantageous?”
- 3.6. Ēriks Nordens: “We are using all types of paper. So-called mix.”
- 3.7. Laima Kubliņa: “Currently, in Latvia, we cannot buy textile fibre, only textile waste. From the point of view of waste management, currently, it is essential to collect second-hand clothing - reusable clothing. In the future, I see that you have a perspective. But how about heating of synthetic fibre?”
- 3.8. Ēriks Nordens: “Various types of fibre have to be tested yet, it is a long production testing process.”
- 3.9. Laima Kubliņa: “What is the sales market of the finished product?”
- 3.10. Ēriks Nordens: “Specifically for the textile fibre material it is complicated yet to speak about the sales market, because the material is experimental. Whereas for the paper – hemp product the target market is still the Baltic States, Finland, Great Britain and Germany. Of course, the present production costs and, consequently, the material price on the market have to be taken into consideration, which may encumber entering the market.”
- 3.11. Jānis Brizga: “How do you plan to ensure consistency of properties of the final material?”
- 3.12. Ēriks Nordens: “As regards paper, we have our own suppliers of raw materials and requirements for such raw materials. Textile fibre is unknown, completely new raw material, so research of the potential suppliers has to be done.”
- 3.13. Jānis Brizga: “Clarifying question. Do you use industrial or household waste in your production process?”
- 3.14. Ēriks Nordens: “For cellulose – both industrial waste, and household waste. For textile fibre – currently, only household waste.”
- 3.15. Ilona Mendziņa: “I have a question about the technology – how large sheets can you produce? How much fibre is required for the material?”
- 3.16. Ēriks Nordens: “For the time being, the testing process is under way, and after completing the testing it will be possible to tell the approximate quantities for raw materials and final products. Also, it has to be kept in mind that it will not be the capacity of the production line. The test mode is not industrial production.”
- 3.17. Ilona Mendziņa: “Do you have any production waste?”
- 3.18. Ēriks Nordens: “No, the production process is circular. We can recycle any produced material repeatedly, and the same applies to production dust, as we add them back for the subsequent production cycle.”
- 3.19. Ilona Mendziņa: “Have you already performed some fire resistance testing on the material?”
- 3.20. Ēriks Nordens: “We have just started laboratory testing of the product properties. So far, the tests concern thermal conductivity and mechanical strength. We have not tested fire safety yet.”
4. The explanation given by the Chairman of the Board Edžus Cābulis about the complicated situation so far and the situation with SIA BALTICFLOC co-funding for the project.



- 4.1. Ilona Mendziņa: “What was the plan for completing the project, when you started it?”
- 4.2. Edžus Cābulis: “We drafted the project in 2017 when nobody could imagine what we will have to go through; both COVID, and the war in Ukraine have brought huge changes on the market. Initially, the plan was to follow the company's successful financial flow and gradually finance the project. We could not imagine that the life will change so drastically. We need half a million euro to successfully complete the project.”
- 4.3. Laima Kubliņa: “For what exactly this half a million is needed?”
- 4.4. Edžus Cābulis: “It is the final payment for the equipment.”
- 4.5. Laima Kubliņa: “You need to sell the products.”
- 4.6. Edžus Cābulis: “In the present situation, it is hard to gain profit. The purchasing capacity of people has dropped also in other sectors.”
- 4.7. Laima Kubliņa: “Which materials your new product can compete with? Maybe you should assess the efficiency of the flow of raw materials. Also, I can suggest cooperating with the new LIFE project Waste – to – resources. Eco Baltia vide is the main entity controlling textile. Put together these components. Introduction of circular economy in cooperation with the Ministry of Environment. Maybe ask the Ministry for advice and funding.”
- 4.8. Ilona Mendziņa: “The Ministry of Environment will not provide any additional funding, forget about it. I also recommend to cooperate with the new LIFE project on the textile fibre approach. If you terminate the project now, you have to understand that you will have to prove the results that you have not achieved yet. LIFE measures the results based on what you have indicated as the achievable results. Read carefully what you have planned to achieve. I can say from my experience that there have been projects that get over the finish line only on a basis of bank loan. If you have to terminate participation in the project now, calculate your loss and risks carefully. The European Commission will not pay you the last payment before submission of the final report, don't hope for it at all. First, you have to prove what you have promised and what has been done. I recommend to calculate the project balance carefully for each separate activity.”
5. Presentation by the project's Marketing and Communication Specialist Līva Cābule on project's communication activities D1 and D2.
  - 5.1. Ilona Mendziņa: “Where the media monitoring has gone?”
  - 5.2. Līva Cābule: “I carry out the media monitoring function myself. The funding for this purpose is exhausted, so we terminated it as an outsourced service. We monitor all our publications ourselves.”
  - 5.3. Laima Kubliņa: “In conclusion, I would like to wish you to succeed and strive for cooperation. I recommend you to revise in the new product what will have to be collected and recycled. Your final product is attractive to the buyer. Above all, look for cooperation, advice and contacts. Freeze the production process, not communication. You have to look for communication on a national scale.”

The Meeting is closed at 16:00