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## PRESS RELEASE

### **Bio-based innovations for industrial applications: stakeholder event on 24 April 2024 in Brussels presents latest breakthroughs and key findings from research on circular bio-based solutions**

Organised by two EU-funded research projects, CHAMPION and PERFECOAT, this stakeholder event is dedicated to the latest developments in bio-based solutions for a variety of materials such as coatings, paints, adhesives and detergents.

**Hürth, 20 February 2024:** The research projects CHAMPION and PERFECOAT aim to replace conventional fossil-based materials with novel bio-based solutions. At their jointly organized event, “Bio-based Innovations for Industrial Applications” taking place on **24 April 2024 in Brussels, Belgium**, both projects will present their recent findings and demonstrate the potential of the EU bioeconomy.

The agenda includes dedicated sessions on novel bio-based compounds and applications, sustainability, safety and toxicity assessments but also a reality check for industrial applications. Speakers from the European Commission (EC), and Circular Bio-based Europe (CBE JU) will share the latest and upcoming sector developments. Covering a broad range of topics from policy to technology, the event offers a great platform to network with stakeholders and delve into pioneering developments in bio-based solutions.

While the [CHAMPION project](#) focuses on bio-based thermoset coatings, structural adhesives, automotive interior surfaces and home care additives, the [PERFECOAT project](#) targets the development of novel bio-based ingredients for paints and coatings to be used in high-volume, UV-curable clear coatings, waterborne trim paints for DIY and waterborne wall paint.

Topic-related European projects like 3-CO, HARMONITOR and LIGNICOAT will also present their findings in the quest for an innovative and sustainable EU economy. The event is accompanied by a poster exhibition and ends with a networking cocktail.

Full programme of the event has now been released. Registration for the 1-day-event is free of charge, at <https://events.renewable-carbon.eu/event/bio-based-innovations-for-industrial-applications/>.

## Agenda “Bio-based Innovations for Industrial Applications”

### Session 1: End-user perspectives on bio-based innovations

- **Janice Lofthouse** (University of York – CHAMPION) and **Francesca di Bartolomeo** (SINTEF – PERFECOAT) – *Event Opening*
- **Daan van Es** (WFBR) – *An Overview of the CHAMPION project*
- **Francesca die Bartolomeo** (SINTEF) – *An Introduction to the PERFECOAT project*
- **Marisa Groenestege** (BTG Biomass Technology Group – HARMONITOR project) – *Navigating trade and sustainability certification of bio-based value chains*  
**Costanza Rossi** (University of Utrecht – 3-CO project) – *What drives sustainability in businesses?*

### Session 2: Making bio-based compounds

- **Oscar Bedzo** and **Lalitha Gottumukkala** (Celignis) – *Developing bio-based binders for wood coatings*
- **Rolf Blaauw** (WFBR) – *Bio-based polymer synthesis and scale-up*
- **Amelie Skopp** (Technische Universität München) and **Anders Odum** (Chromologics SA) – *Developing bio-based paint ingredients: from fillers to pigments and functional additives*
- **Claudio Pagella** (IRIS Coating – LIGNICOAT) – *Lignin-based clear fire protection biocoatings for wood*

### Session 3: Sustainability, safety and toxicity

- **Harrie Besselink** (Bio Detection Systems ) – *Safety and toxicity assessments and methodology*
- **Sigrid Damman** and **Assiya Kenzhegaliyeva** (SINTEF Digital) – *Environmental and social sustainability assessment*
- **Maarit Nyman** and **Algreit Dume** (European Commission) – *Industrial aspects of the EU bioeconomy policy framework: recent developments*

### Session 4: Industrial applications

- **Chloe Johnson** (CBE JU) – *Circular Bio-Based Europe JU: supporting innovation of sustainable bio-based materials and products*
- **Thomas Farmer** (Unilever) – *End-user application testing of polymers in CHAMPION*
- **Christine Louis** (Evonik) and **Roland Steinrücken** (Remmers) – *Bio-based coating formulation and application testing*
- **Steven Verstichel** (Normec OWS) – *Circularity and end-of-life options for biobased and biodegradable products*

### Closure

- **Alexander Wetzel** (SINTEF) and **James Clark** (University of York’s Green Chemistry Centre) – *Closing statement*
- **Maarit Nyman** – *Closing statement*

### Networking cocktail (and poster exhibition)

**Location:**

BIP Meeting Center,  
Rue Royale 2-4, B-1000 Brussels

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**nova-Institut GmbH** has been working in the field of sustainability since the mid-1990s and focuses today primarily on the topic of renewable carbon cycles (recycling, bioeconomy and CO<sub>2</sub> utilization/CCU).

As an independent research institute, **nova** particularly supports customers in chemical, plastics and materials industries with the transformation from fossil to renewable carbon from biomass, direct CO<sub>2</sub> utilization and recycling.

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