



LIGNI  
COAT

# LIGNICOAT

**Sustainable COATings based on LIGNIn resins and bio-additives with improved fire, corrosion and biological resistance**

**Léo STACCIOLI, ARDITEC ASSOCIATION**

Online workshop, 4<sup>th</sup> of December 2024



This project has received funding from the Bio-based Industries Joint Undertaking (JU) under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101023342. The JU receives support from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme and the Bio-based Industries Consortium.

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# Léo STACCIOLI – ARDITEC Association

## Léo STACCIOLI – ARDITEC Association

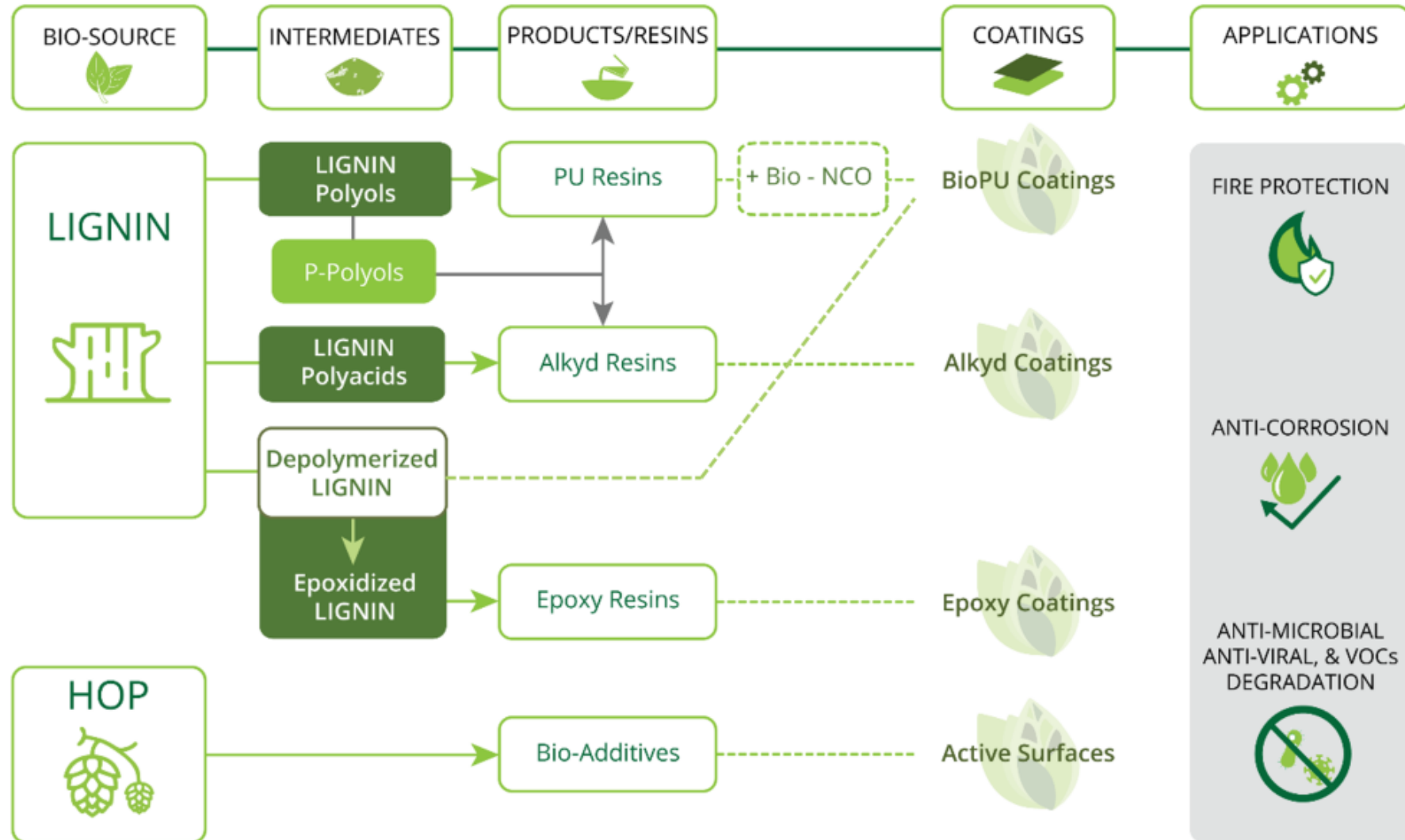
- **Sustainability Engineer**
- **Background in Health & Safety (H&S) Engineering**
- **8+ years of experience in LCA (Life Cycle Assessment) and sustainability evaluations**
- **Part of ARDITEC since 2021**
- **Extensive expertise in collaborative European R&D projects, including proposal writing and execution**



# LIGNICOAT - Project overview



# From lignin to biocoatings for three different applications



# Challenges and critical aspects of the LCA applied to LIGNICOAT

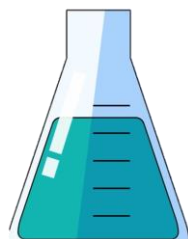


# Main challenge: upscaling data from lab to pilot or industrial scale



Life Cycle Assessments are crucial for analyzing and optimizing **emerging technologies'** conceivable **environmental performance**.

However, emerging technologies are often subject to **high uncertainties** and are still at **laboratory or pilot scale**, necessitating the **scale-up** of LCA relevant data, such as **energy** and **material flows**, to an **industrial level**.

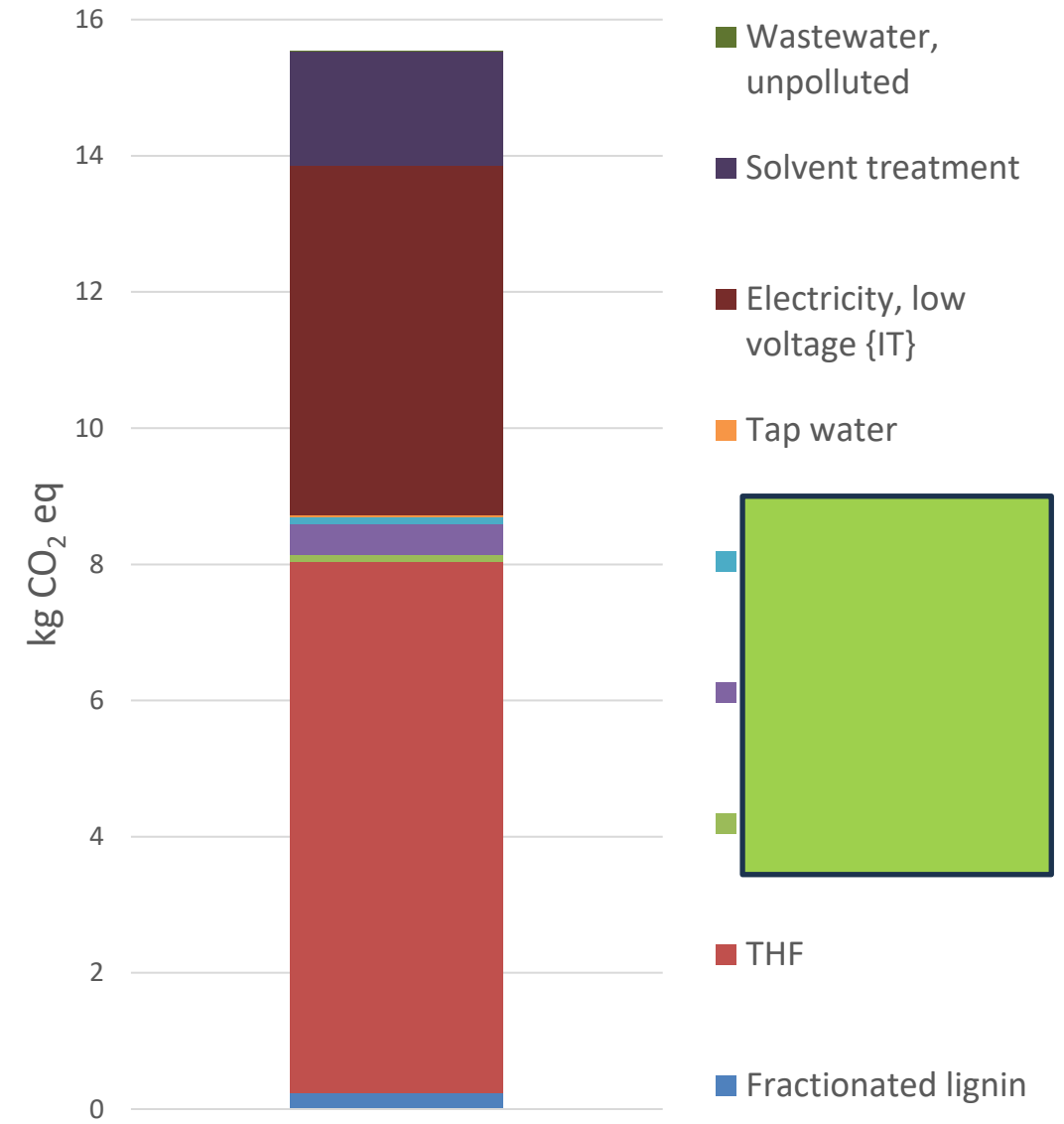




# Lab-scale assessment of lignin-based polyols

This is the LCI to produce 1kg of lignin-based

Flow	Normalized amount/FU	
INPUTS		
Fractionated lignin	0,250 kg	
	0,129 kg	
Tetrahydrofuran (THF)	1,428 kg	Tetr
	0,031 kg	
	0,027 kg	
Cooling water flow	0,209 m <sup>3</sup>	Tap water
Rotary evaporator	5200 Wh	Electr
Vacuum pump	480 Wh	Electr
Drying oven	9600 Wh	Electr
Overhead stirrer	160 Wh	Electr
OUTPUTS		
Lignin based polyol	1 kg	
Tetrahydrofuran (unknow purity)	0,855 kg	Spent solver
Emissions to water	0,209 m <sup>3</sup>	Waste
Traces of remaining volatile compounds	0,010 kg	



Polyols production at lab-scale

## Low Temperature Circulator CoolAce® CCA-1112

New version of CoolAce series developed based on the concept of laboratory security / safety and environment friendly.  
Compact size realizes installation in fume hood or under lab table.



CCA-1112

### Features

- Required installation space is only 205W x 405Dmm.
- -20~30°C temperature range offers wide application; evaporators, industrial machines, analytical instruments.
- The capacity of CCA-1112 is powerful enough to operate with aspirator + evaporator (water sample) or solvent recovery unit + evaporator (solvent sample).
- Circulation nozzle adopts one touch coupling which is easy to mount/dismount piping and the nozzle direction is freely adjustable.
- Provided with communication function with evaporator to realize synchronized operation with evaporator. The function prevents due condensation by overcooling of evaporator condenser.

1,4-diol made of

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will be adjusted

• The **tetra**h  
sugarcane)

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• The **water**

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• The **electri**  
energy-cor  
according t

• **Half of the ene**

is being recovered range from 85 to 97%. THF loss during adsorption, drying, and separation varies with the number of solvents involved, but seldom

alcohols, aldehydes, ketones, aromatic, and chlorinated compounds (assumption).

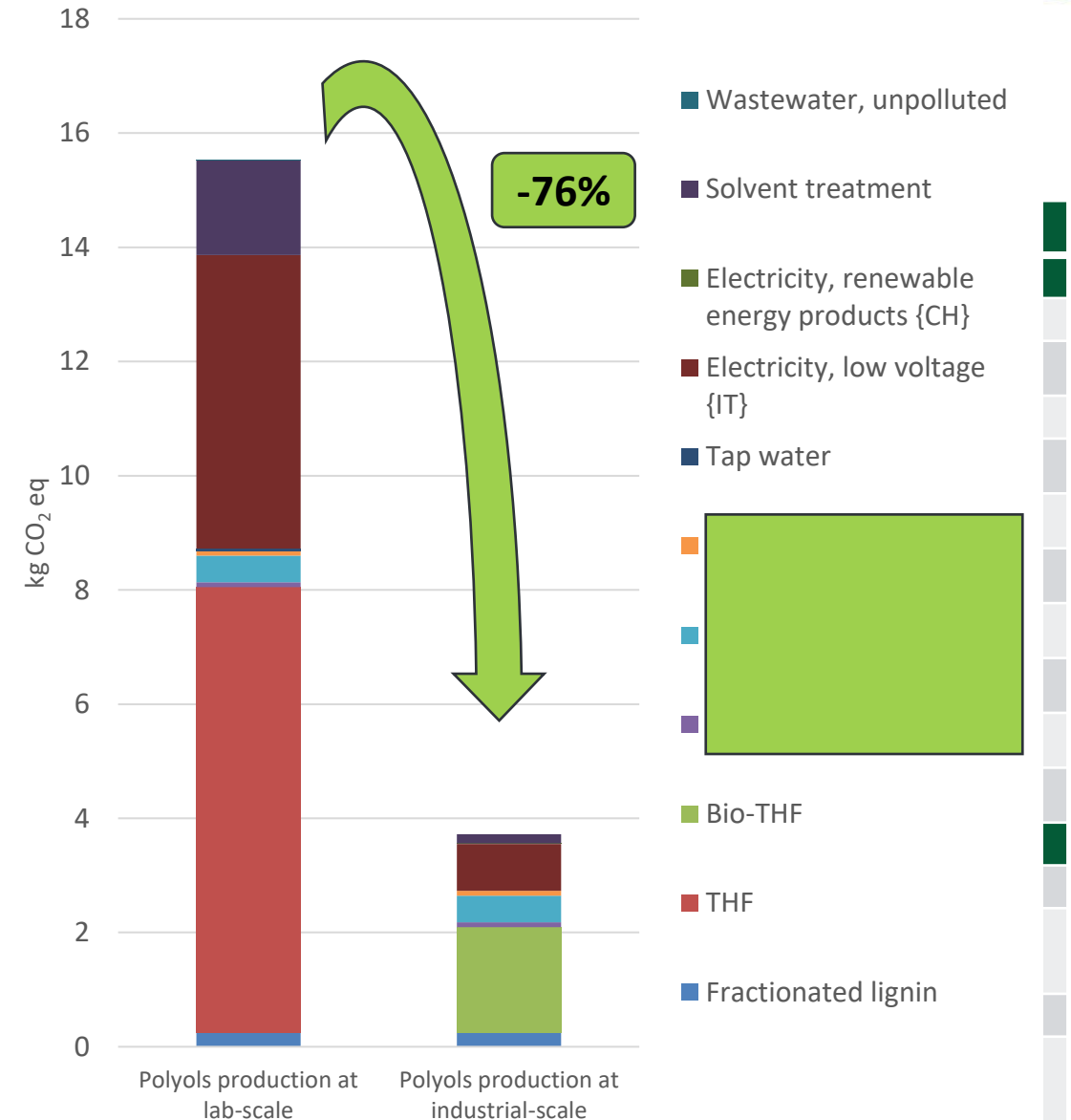
\* These properties are



# Significant environmental benefits were demonstrated

Upscaling the process involves updating

Flow	Normalized amount/FU	
IN		
Fractionated lignin	0,250 kg	
	0,129 kg	
Bio-based tetrahydrofuran (Bio THF)	1,428 kg	
	0,031 kg	
	0,027 kg	
Cooling water flow	0 m <sup>3</sup>	
Vacuum pump	240 Wh	
Heating circulator	4000 Wh	
Overhead stirrer	80 Wh	
Low temperature circulator	600Wh	
OUT		
Lignin based polyol	1 kg	
Bio-Tetrahydrofuran (unknown purity)	0,085 kg (90% recycled)	
Emissions to water	0 m <sup>3</sup>	
Traces of remaining volatile compounds	0,010 kg	



# Results overview - Example



## Main findings (hotspots & recommendations)



### Environmental

A comparative analysis was conducted between new biocoatings and a fossil-based solvent-borne equivalent. LIGNICOAT biocoating showed strong performance in areas such as Climate Change (CC), Resource Use (RU), and Water Use (WU). However, two key environmental hotspots were identified: 1) Methoxypropanol and 2) Phosphorus fire-retardants. Potential alternatives to mitigate these impacts include using ethanol or isopropanol, as well as bio-based solvents like ethyl lactate or D-limonene, which could offer lower toxicity and a reduced environmental footprint. For fire retardants, nitrogen-based alternatives, bio-based phosphate substitutes, or nano-clay composites may also provide sustainable solutions.



### Economic

Sensitivity to Consumption OPEX is also the parameter with highest potential to optimise production cost of fire protection biocoatings. Furthermore, future developments should focus on the optimisation of raw materials and energy, without a significant increase of other costs, particularly in the CAPEX and operational OPEX (labour). Moreover, production capacity, consumption OPEX and market prices constitute also the highest NPV optimisation factors.



### Social

Key hotspots identified include generic concerns such as Health & Safety (H&S) practices and incidents and community involvement. A specific area of concern is corruption, which requires attention to maintain ethical standards. Additionally, process hotspot lies in the additives production in Italy, particularly production & acquisition of chemicals, which may pose operational or regulatory risks. Social benefits include: fostering innovation and enhancing competitiveness through sustainable practices. To mitigate these risks and capitalize on opportunities, it is recommended to strengthen H&S procedures, ensure community engagement and invest in the development and transfer of technological innovations to improve processes and maintain a competitive edge.



Bio-based Industries  
Consortium

Horizon 2020  
European Union Funding  
for Research & Innovation



## 1/ FIRE PROTECTION OF WOOD LC26T FORMULATION



### WP4: BIOCOATINGS FORMULATION

1m<sup>2</sup> of biocoating complying  
with standards for fire  
protection of wood

Climate Change  
0,593 kg CO<sub>2</sub> eq

Single score  
54 µPt

Production cost  
3-3,7€/m<sup>2</sup>

NPV  
+5M€ in 10 ys when  
sold 9€/m<sup>2</sup>



### WP2: BIORESINS BASED ON LIGNIN

Bio-PUD based on lignin  
polyols and bioisocyanates

Climate Change  
0,297 kg CO<sub>2</sub> eq

Single score  
14,6 µPt



Production cost  
9-11€/kg

Bioisocyanates



Climate Change  
0,0448 kg CO<sub>2</sub> eq

Single score  
2,3 µPt

Production cost  
13,5-16,5€/kg



Compared to traditional  
petro-based counterparts:  
-47% in kg CO<sub>2</sub> eq  
Within AMP range  
Positive social impacts

### Kraft lignin

Climate Change  
0,00233 kg CO<sub>2</sub> eq

Single score  
0,11 µPt

Production cost  
0,6-0,8€/kg

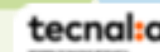


### WP1: LIGNIN BASED INTERMEDIATES

Lignin polyols (based on  
fractionated lignin)

Climate Change  
0,0796 kg CO<sub>2</sub> eq

Single score  
3,5 µPt



AMP: Average Market Price  
NPV: Net Present Value  
PUD: Polyurethane Dispersion



# Thank you

Léo STACCIOLI

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