



GYPSUM TO GYPSUM

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PRESS RELEASE: Release of the deconstruction deliverables for the GtoG project (from Gypsum to Gypsum) - The perfect loop, the path to a circular economy: a European collaborative project between the recycling industry, the demolition sector and the gypsum industry - LIFE 11 ENV/BE/001039

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The GtoG project has released the European handbook on best practices on deconstruction techniques of gypsum-based systems and the European manual for best practices in audit prior to deconstruction of buildings.

These handbooks are the outcome of the finalisation of the action B1, the first implementation action of the project. They summarise the actions and results of the deconstruction projects implemented in Belgium, France, Germany and the UK. In these countries, the partners have selected different buildings to be deconstructed, implemented audits to identify materials and wastes to be removed, created a catalogue with photos of the materials built 20-30 years ago and examined in details gypsum-based systems deconstruction techniques.

The handbooks collate and describe in detail the results from these pilot projects and also propose an assessment of the deconstruction versus demolition costs, as the global cost of the two options is a decisive parameter for choosing one of them.

These handbooks aim at becoming standard guidelines that will lead the European demolition companies to operate in an eco-efficient way and therefore help Member States to achieve the goals of the Waste Framework Directive (WFD).

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About the GtoG project

The GtoG is a Life+ project co-financed by the European Commission, DG Environment. It covers the duration of three years, starting from January 2013 and ending on December 2015.

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Closed loop recycling for gypsum products will only happen if:

- Deconstruction techniques are applied systematically for all demolition and refurbishment projects
- Sorting of waste is done at source - thereby avoiding mixed waste
- Processing is carried out according to clear standards
- Incorporation in the production process is carried out with innovative processes

Therefore, the GtoG project puts in place an integrated approach to holistically manage construction and demolition waste, starting from the major refurbishment/demolition sites to the reincorporation of the recycled gypsum in the manufacturing process via the processing of the gypsum waste as a secondary raw material.

Annex I: A working team of 17 Partners

Coordinator

- Eurogypsum, The European association of plaster and plasterboard manufacturers – Belgium

Universities

- National Technical University of Athens – Greece
- Universidad Politecnica de Madrid – Spain

Laboratory

- Fundacion General Universidad Politecnica de Madrid –LOEMCO – Spain

Consulting agency

- Recovering SARL – France

Demolition companies

- Occamat – France
- Cantillon Ltd – UK
- Recycling assistance BVBA – Belgium
- Pinault & Gapaix – France
- KS Engineering – Germany

Recycling companies

- New West Gypsum Recycling Benelux BVBA – Belgium
- Gips Recycling Danmark A/S – Denmark

Gypsum Manufacturing companies

- Placoplâtre SA (groupe Saint Gobain) – France
- Siniat SA – France
- Siniat Ltd – UK
- Knauf Gips KG – Germany
- NV Saint Gobain Construction Products Belgium SA (Gyproc) – Belgium