

Who is active?

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Who is active in this field already – and where? What is their state of knowledge / technical solutions found? As said before, recycling of leisure crafts is not practised systematically anywhere yet on a bigger scale. But several countries have begun to experiment with extracting and recycling materials from yachts.

The Boat Digest project recently published a [map of yacht dismantling stations in Europe. Here it is](#), rapidly filling with dots. . .setting up a station can be rather quickly done. Yet of course the trick will be to also practise real safe and sustainable works at each station. And what that precisely means is still being explored.

Here is a more detailed selection per country – projects performed there:

Finland

[Finnboat](#) – a project which collected 150 leisure yachts and explored best practise in yacht recycling.

France

France has a special project called **Bateau bleu**. Initiated in 2009 by [FIN, the French Nautical Industries Federation](#). Objective of Bateau bleu, besides other, “...is to insert environmental preoccupation throughout the boat life cycle (R&H, construction and destruction of unfit boats).” To that end, te FIN created the Association for eco-responsible pleasure boating (APER) “to organise and run the setting up of the French network for dismantling and recycling pleasure craft that have reached the end of their useful lives (BPHU – Bateaux de Plaisance Hors Usage) and by extension, other waste disposal networks linked to all the water sports activities.” They set up a special competition – the Bateau Bleu award. Quote again: “A competition open to all, which aims to encourage research and development of new environmentally-friendly technologies in the sailing sector...” This call for expressions of interest is to support the development of innovative industrial solutions and to increase the reuse, recycling and recovery of materials from waste. It helps to strengthen the national development or the French international industry in this area. Recycling helps conserve natural resources by reusing materials from waste and reduce energy consumption, emission of greenhouse gas emissions and water consumption related to industrial production. ...” The winner will receive a prize of €20,000 at the Nautic – Salon Nautique International de Paris, scheduled to take place from December 5th to 14th 2014.”

See also [here for details](#).

Italy

Together with Spain:

[Life Boat Cycle](#) a project funded by the EU programme LIFE+ framework. The project's main

objective was to develop new treatment, management and recovery methods for end-of-life nautical boats. The project had sample character which means, technical experiments with fibreglass, wood, neoprene and PVC were conducted regarding their recyclability.

[LinseT](#), a “laboratory of experimental engineering and testing”, appears active with research, too: Here is an [excellent article they published about yacht recycling](#). September 2013. It was written by journalist George Marsh, originally for the [Reinforced Plastics](#) magazine.

Netherlands

The Netherlands, more precisely, at Enkhuizen at the Dutch IJsselmeer there is a yacht dismantling company called [Bootdump Nederland](#). They attended the Yacht Recycling conference at Düsseldorf. Their objective is two-fold and sustainable: “Create an opportunity for gathering working experience for people who are disadvantaged in today’s working markets and dismantle old crafts up to 15 m of length into recyclable components and residual waste.”

Norway

Norway saw a very interesting cooperation with yacht recycling between these companies: [SINTEF](#) – scandinavian research organisation.

[Veolia](#) – recycling services.

[Reichold](#) – Composite processing and recycling. Quoting Åse Dragland, editor of GEMINI Magazine:

“In Norway, nearly 5,000 recreational boats are retired and disposed of every year – sunk to the bottom of the sea or burned in a bonfire. Now, researchers have developed a new method for recycling these vessels.” Read her interesting article [here](#).

Spain

The Yachtrecycling conference which took place at the Boot Düsseldorf 2014 brought news about Spain, too: A presentation from

- [Lola Rodriguez of the LEITAT Technological Centre](#), about the BOAT DIGEST project and the general situation in Europe: Main problems, how these actually constitute opportunities for sustainable business and knowledge transfer, plus a crystal clear work plan set up for the EU project BOAT DIGEST. Have a look at their projects Common sense as well “...a new project that will support the implementation of European Union marine policies such as the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) and the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP).”

Then there also is [Recyship](#) – a project which “seeks to support the European Commission in developing rules and guidelines in relation to vessels that, for various reasons, must be removed becoming a unique residue very complex to manage.” Conducted sample projects.

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