



Retrospective 2024

Where are the Teams today?

Funded Teams 2021/2022/2023

Where do they currently stand?

What are their next steps?

What have been the highlights so far since receiving funding from the Innovation Booster?



Capt'n Greenfin

Our product is available in Switzerland and Germany and soon expanding to the entire EU. Since the Innovation Booster support, in collaboration with IKT and Innosuisse, we consistently improve our material and explore new ones. Upcoming steps include further material development, expanding products for the fishing industry, and scaling production and sales.

A key highlight is our partnership with IKT(Institut für Kunststofftechnik) and the subsequent Innosuisse project.

Jonas Urwyler, Co-Founder Capt'n Greenfin



CLB Schweiz

In order to evaluate the Timgelium boards on a large scale, we outlined a research project last year and submitted it to the WHFF-CH. Our application was approved and we are now working with various partners - including the ZHAW IPP - to realise the project.

The highlight since the booster was that the project was able to continue, but also that the communication achieved through the Innovation Booster was so great that we are already seen as specialists and are getting calls about the board.

Olin Bartlome, CEO CLB Schweiz



Civag AG

We are currently in the testing phase. The next step involves changing the business model.

What have been the highlights so far since receiving funding from the Innovation Booster? Our highlight since receiving support from the Innovation Booster is witnessing the tangible momentum in the circular economy, thanks in part to the numerous funded projects.

Raul Schweizer, Founder of Civag AG



CompPair

Healable and recycled composite materials

Our industrialized solution, now commercially available under the name HealTech™, is an innovative material composed of recycled carbon fibres combined with a special resin. This composite material enables the production of lightweight products, designed for repair.

A recent highlight is the collaboration with the watch manufacturer ID Genève, who used our materials to produce components for their Circular C model. The carbon footprint was evaluated at 64% lower than with virgin carbon fibres.

Looking ahead, we are expanding the application of our technology across various sectors ranging from lifestyle, sports, and transport sectors.

Eléonore Wild, Sustainability Manager –
CompPair Technologies



Crocable

Thanks to the funding and coaching, crocable developed an engineering principle (the first intellectual propriety on the concept) for the product: a repairable USB-C charging cable, with the help of a ZHAW assistant. It has been therefore challenged and enhanced with the Swiss engineering & design study SUPERPORT to a fully functional prototype, also thanks to the funding of the innovation booster. The concept (technical & service) evolved several times to find the right combination, arriving at the revealing problematic of this entrepreneurial project: how to make viable and desirable the repair of "economically irreparable" products, to reduce e-waste and foster a sustainable technological paradigm.

Next steps: exhibit the concept in design and innovation fairs, to raise interest and visibility and partner with facilities and industrial power to support the development and the commercial launch.

Arthur Didier, Founder of C3 / Crocable.



Kuori GmbH

We are currently about to enter the market, which is an extremely exciting phase! We have already developed working prototypes with various companies, ranging from watch straps to scooter wheels. We also finally have external tests proving that the microplastic abrasion generated by our materials can decompose in the environment, more specifically 10% per month in Swiss soil at 20 degrees.

Our next steps are focussed on upscaling our first material. The aim is to scale up production from kilograms to tonnes.

Sarah Harbarth, Kuori GmbH



Restemöbel

Our online shop has been online since spring 2024.

We have come up with a product passport for our products, which we can use to show how much residual material and how many new resources are in each product.

We have to sort the huge amount of leftover materials in a sensible way to keep an overview - this will soon require a redesign of our workshop, these are our next steps.

Thanks to the Innovation Booster, we were able to finalise the design of our products and decide which path we want to take. Thank you very much for that!

Florian Oeschger, Co-Founder Restemöbel

Loopi AG

Since receiving support, we developed a proof-of-concept prototype and secured a nomination for the Swiss Design Award 2023 in the "Circular Design" category. Our next steps include applying for the Innosuisse Swiss Accelerator Program. Highlights post-support include the Design Award nomination and the market launch of OEM products since 2022.

Mirco Egloff, Co-Founder Loopi AG



Matratzen-Allianz

The Mattress Alliance has already achieved significant milestones. A pilot project has developed a Life Cycle Assessment and identified initial markets for secondary raw materials. In addition, the Advanced Recycling Fees (ARF) regulation has been adopted.

The next goals include establishing a pioneer group, introducing the ARF, developing collection logistics in the canton of Aargau and launching a call for recyclers for a Swiss recycling facility. Ultimately, effective communication will play a key role in achieving these goals.

Esther Hidber, Projektleiterin Kreislaufwirtschaft





NaturLoop

In Dec 2022, NaturLoop achieved a milestone with a Cocoboard trial in Portugal, marking the first batch of panels. Ongoing discussions for a 3-year production license with Plafund. Q1 2023 witnessed successful panel deliveries to Swiss and German customers.

Future steps: secure pre-sale orders, expand partnerships, and optimize Cocoboard parameters in Dec 2023.

Production expected mid-2024, closing the seed funding round at 1.5 million Swiss francs. Post-seed, plans for Philippines expansion aim to lower costs and explore new markets. Highlights: Cocoboard's 50% carbon footprint reduction vs. conventional MDF, ongoing prototyping with Vifian, Schwab System, and WD3, and successful coconut husk supply chain establishment.

Daniel Dinizo, Co-Founder NaturLoop

Neumühle

KERSTIN Mono Vest, launched in Winter 2022, signifies a milestone following a three-year development phase. In partnership with Aquafil, the maker of ECONYL® Nylon, we've achieved a closed textile-to-textile cycle. Integrated into the ECONYL® Regeneration System, powered by renewable energy, our vest undergoes complete return as granules without quality compromise. This breakthrough establishes us as leaders in the polyamide 6 circular economy, presenting a fully closed, scalable textile cycle in the latest 'Wood' edition. The first edition confirmed recyclability for three components; The launch of the second edition successfully addressed the water-repellent coating challenge. This accomplishment aligns with our vision of a world where materials circulate in a closed loop, allowing design freedom for future generations. Additionally, we won the prestigious German Ecodesign Award.

Andreas Fehr, Co-Founder Neumühle



german
eco
design
award

WINNER 2023

Nucan – Nussbaum Matzingen AG

We are currently in discussions with potential partners to collaborate on developing a circular economy for aerosol cans in Switzerland. The focus is on an environmentally friendly process that makes all recyclable materials available after the recycling process.

As the next important milestone, we are planning a pilot in a defined area in order to record the return behavior of society and to collect relevant data as a basis for a study.

In addition, we are clarifying further funding opportunities, expand our network and take care of the legal framework.

Aurelia Drenovac, Sustainability Management
Stefan Nussbaum, Project Management R&D
Nussbaum Matzingen AG





RePan

RePan in Olten refurbishes coated pans and gastronomy equipment. In collaboration with the VEBO cooperative, production is carried out regionally, promoting a sustainable circular economy. Last year, RePan was nominated for the Circular Innovation Booster by the Institute for Product Design and Production Technology at ZHAW – a funding program of the department for innovation promotion. Thanks to this collaboration, RePan successfully entered the gastronomy sector, restoring and upgrading 3,000 kitchen utensils by the end of the year. This achievement was recognized with a six-page feature in the renowned gastronomy magazine *Salz & Pfeffer*.

Dominic Müller, Founder



Rheiazymes / Yarn-to-Yarn

We have advanced our Molecular Bio-Recycling and are in the final stages of patenting our YARN-TO-YARN® technology. Our mission is to close the Circularity Gap for sport and other performance textiles

We are scaling the technology to industrial maturity in collaboration with pioneering partners.

The Booster helped us identify the business case and conduct a Life Cycle Assessment. Based on this, we founded Rheiazymes AG in November 2022. The further development of our YARN-TO-YARN® technology is made possible by the Migros Pioneer Fund. In November 2023, Rheiazymes was invited to the Slingshot Accelerator as a TOP 50 Global Startup.

Sandra Grimmer, CEO and Co-Founder of
Rheiazymes AG

Rotavis - rock-it

The 3D stool, known as "rock-it," has been realized and is commercially available after the production of the 0-series.

The initial idea was to integrate as much circularity into the 3D stool as possible, which we have achieved to some extent.

Now that the chair is fully developed, the focus is on establishing a marketing and distribution strategy, emphasizing sustainability and Swissness.

Shortly after the Booster, we initiated a crowdfunding campaign, selling around 75 stools upfront, providing partial pre-financing for the investments. The stool, presented as a world premiere at the designfair «Designgut» 2022 in Winterthur, received significant acclaim.

Daniel Baumgartner Founder of rotavis AG



Scrimber CSC – Securing Wood Resources for the Future

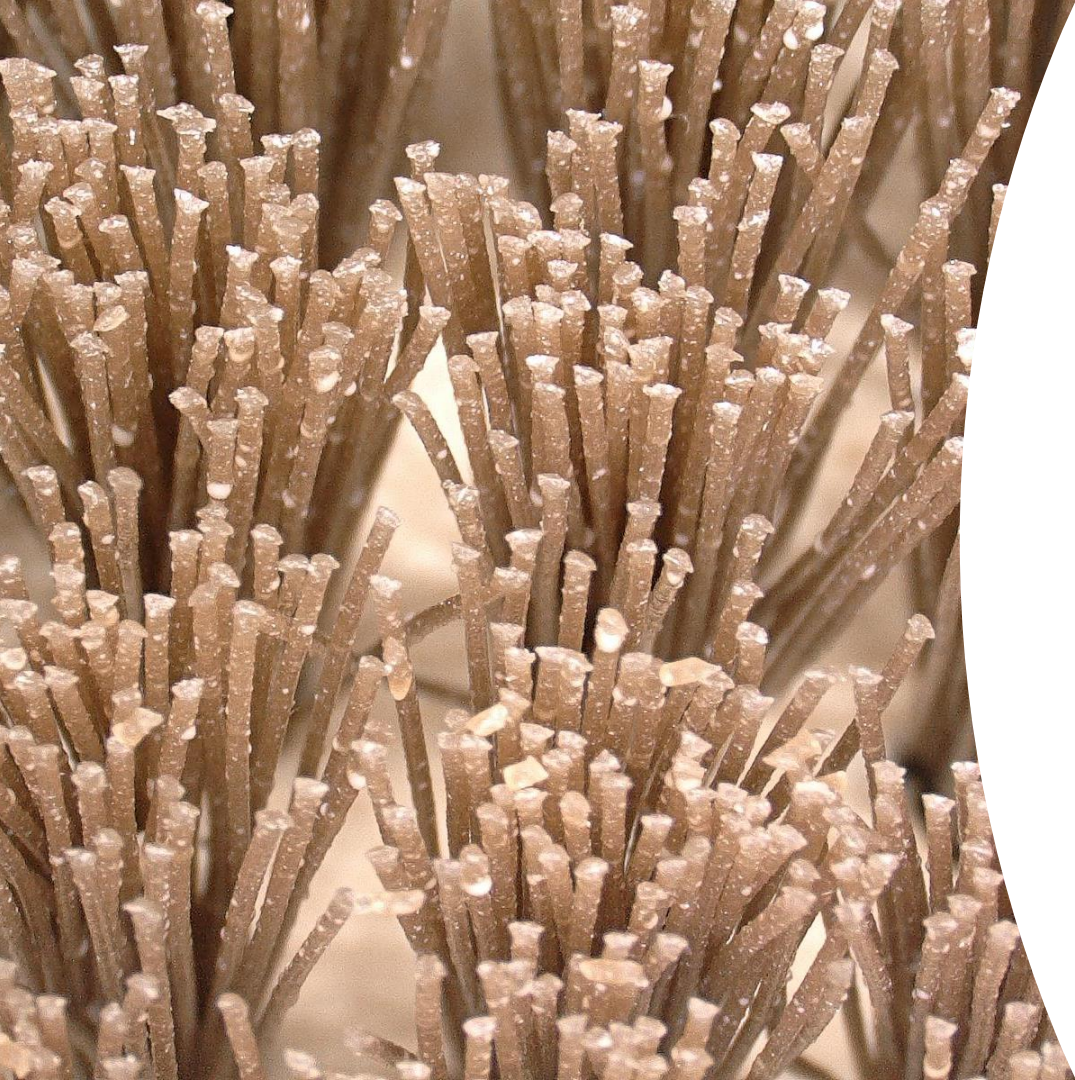
Scrimber CSC aims to preserve wood as a resource by transforming low-quality timber into high-performance building materials using an innovative process.

This technology ensures long-term CO₂ storage and promotes sustainability. Instead of cutting logs, they are crushed to separate fibers, which are then bonded into durable structural products.

Scrimber successfully completed its first research project with Bern University of Applied Sciences and won the Upcycling Challenge, marking a major step toward revolutionizing sustainable timber construction.

Dr. Bettina Franke, Head of Research and Marketing

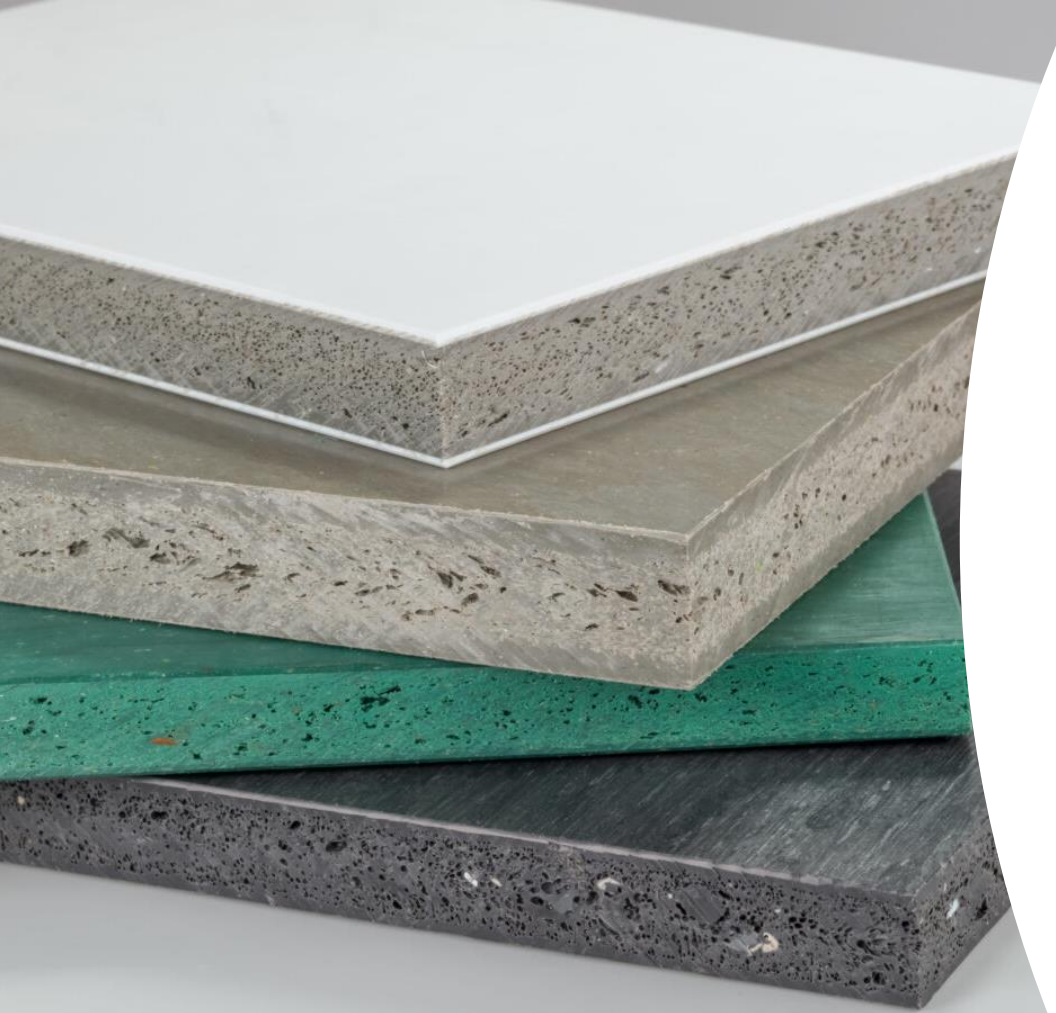




Smart Filaments

We are in communication with material scientists (EMPA Dübendorf) and FHNW for in-depth research on biodegradable materials and patent clarifications. We've shifted from the idea of using a material for toothbrushes that is 100% wood cellulose. Our current test materials and prototypes involve biobased plastics (PLA, PLB). These are being tested by customers in the cleaning sector (street sweeper machines) in municipalities. Our next steps include evaluating an Innosuisse application with EMPA as a research partner in Q1/2024. Expanding our network with experts, researchers, and funding sources—especially Innosuisse—and increasing market attention/presence with customers or other brush manufacturers focused on sustainability are key highlights from the Innovation Booster support.

Roland Munz, Smart Filaments



UpBoards

The product is on sale and is already being used for various applications.

We are concentrating on building a customer base. Additionally, we are collaborating with customers to develop new products or applications for our recycled panels.

Highlights since the Innovation Booster are the commissioning of our serial production in Gretzenbach, and being rated as the «audience favorite» at the Swiss Plastics Luzern.

Yannick Tuch, Co-Founder UpBoards GmbH



VYN Sneaker

We've been in sales since 2020, primarily with small batches. To date, we've sold 650 pairs out of 1000 produced.

We shifted our businessmodel from B2C to B2B, we're set to launch with four top English retailers in the fall, with plans for expansion in Switzerland. Securing recent funding, our trade launch began in November 2023, featuring a 2-in-1 shoe concept.

We aim to unveil a new collection for both men and women at the Paris Fashion Week in January 2024, with sales starting in spring. Constantly evolving, VYN collaborates with partners Kuori, iceep, and Treekind (biophilica) to contribute to a more sustainable future in the shoe industry.

Stefan Mathys, Co-Founder of VYN GmbH