

Alessio De Marchi  
Ad Hoc Representative of COBALT in Italy  
to the event Designed in Green organized  
by Studio Comelli ([www.studiocomelli.eu](http://www.studiocomelli.eu))

### **Object:**

Participation at *Designed in Green* ([www.designedingreen.com](http://www.designedingreen.com)) in program at the *Smart Mobility World* ([www.smartmobilityworld.net](http://www.smartmobilityworld.net)) event, 12 - 16 November at Torino Lingotto, Torino, Italy.

Presentation of the COBALT Project to Design, Prototyping, Production and Demolition industry stakeholders, Academic Research Representatives, Design Students and Press, focusing on raising awareness over the use of sustainable raw materials in the auto-vehicle industry and the necessity of a more holistic approach while addressing key issues as highlighted by COBALT project.

### **Report and key issues**

Design for Disassembly remains a critical issue for the Design and Production industry as well as for Demolition & Recycling operations due to the increasing complexity of vehicles..

Current research activities on raw material use in the mobility industry mainly focus on use of substitutes to improve performance and reduce size, weight and costs of vehicles as well as on innovative materials, carbon fiber in particular.

In general, vehicles are increasing in weight and size, as well as in the quantity and variety of materials employed all along the value chain from design to prototyping, to production and in the final product.

Safety technology will be increasingly moving towards radar and satellite GPS location systems, audio and video equipment as well as improved electronic vehicle diagnostics and service utilities. Therefore, there are increasing amounts of technology required in the mobility industry both in the design and production process as for increasing safety and efficiency of travel.

There is ongoing interest for the development of electric and hybrid vehicles which require large energy stocking capabilities, therefore increasing the use of Lithium-ion batteries and other sorts of chemical accumulators containing key metals.

Lack of regulations was reported regarding Waste Electric and Electronic Equipment in the Auto Vehicle recycling industry throughout Europe (WEEE deriving from vehicles is not included in the current Directive).

Electronic equipment inside waste vehicles is a rather small percentage in weight resulting in diminished concern within vehicle recycling EU standards, however the amount and complexity of Electric Electronic Equipment built into vehicle is expected to increase heavily with the development of new technologies.

Although current vehicle dismantling operations average high rates (over 80%) in most European countries, there is a lack of proper WEEE Management and Monitoring systems and standards throughout Europe in the vehicle Demolition & Recycling industry. Informal recycling and trans-boundary movement outside the EU of end of life vehicles remains a liability.

### **Additional Notes**

The participation to the event also comprised the release of two video interviews (one for InSpecting cinemegica [www.inspecting.it](http://www.inspecting.it) and one for Gruppo Italia Energia [www.canaleenergia.com](http://www.canaleenergia.com)) aimed at raising awareness over the use of sustainable raw materials in the auto-vehicle industry and the necessity of a holistic approach while addressing key issues as highlighted by COBALT project.