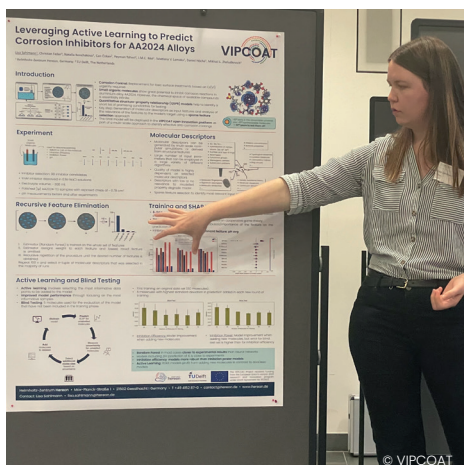


NEWSLETTER #5

Project activities 10/2024 – 04/2025



**Virtual Open Innovation Platform
for Active Protective Coatings Guided
by Modelling and Optimization**



MILESTONE



LATEST
ACTIVITIES



EU-PROJECTS
COOPERATION

VIPCOAT received funding for a period of 4 years from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme, which started on May 1, 2021. Our consortium comprises 12 participants (5 companies and 7 research institutions) from 8 countries

(BE, DE, FR, LU, NL, NO, PT, UK) who gather all necessary background and expertise to deliver an Open Innovation Platform (OIP) to support the development of new coating materials.

www.vipcoat.eu

LATEST ACTIVITIES

OCTOBER

OIP Conference and VIPCOAT Platform Demonstration

OIP-2024 Conference on “Open Innovation and Digitalization of Materials and Manufacturing” was organized and led by VIPCOAT Consortium. The event was held on October 21–23, 2024, at Fraunhofer ITWM in Kaiserslautern, Germany.



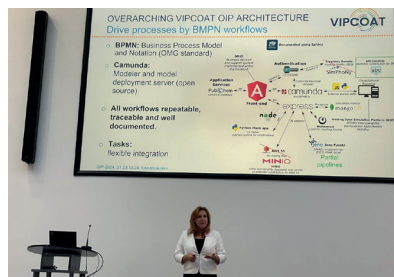
© VIPCOAT

MUSICODE and OpenModel „sister“-projects, as well as EU funded projects focused on the development of Safe and Sustainable by Design (SSbD) framework, advanced materials modeling and characterization initiatives (both EU- and national funded) contributed actively to the scientific and social program of the conference. More as 60 experts from industry, research organizations and academia, politicians and general society joined us during this 3-days event.

All partners of VIPCOAT consortium participated in the meeting. Moreover, contributions from large industries and SMEs, RTOs and collaborative projects have been delivered. Scientific sessions, hands-on actions, and networking activities were organized by Fraunhofer ITWM and VIPCOAT teams.

A panel discussion on “Digitalization and future challenges in Open Innovation” moderated by **Natalia Konchakova** collected opinions and provided input from experts in the fields on Digital Product Passport (DPP), Ecodesign of Sustainable Product Regulations (ESPR) and SSbD framework.

Peter Klein (ITWM), **Salim Belouettar** (LIST), **Heint Preisig** (NTNU) and **Natalia Konchakova** (Hereon) served the conference as members of the Scientific and Organization Community. Peter provided an input talk opening the conference. Natalia has given an overview on VIPCOAT project achievements and the OIP development at a plenary session. Salim and Heinz chaired plenary sessions and led discussions with experts.



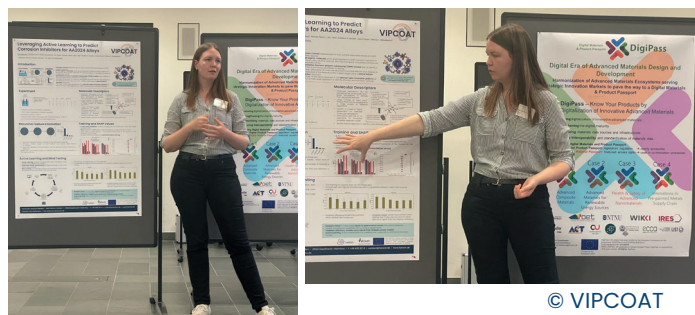
Plenary session and Panel discussion on October 22, 2024.

© VIPCOAT

LATEST ACTIVITIES

Members of the **IAM4EU** core team: **Christian Seitz** (BASF/Acumenist, BE), **Amaya Igartua** (Tekniker, ES), **José Carlos Caldeira** (Inescotec, PT), Peter Klein and Natalia Konchakova joined the conference contributing with input talks and the panel discussion.

Marko Horvat (WIKKI) and **Lisa Sahlmann** (Hereon) conducted an **external workshop and demo** at the OIP-2024. Over 40 experts from industry and academia joined the OIP platforms demonstration session. It served as an introduction to the VIPCOAT platform for participants from industry and academia who had not yet interacted with the OIP. The session aimed to familiarize attendees with the main parts of the platform, such as workflows, data catalogues, the innovation ecosystem. Marko and Lisa demonstrated how to build innovation workflows at the VIPCOAT OIP. Through practical exercises, the workshop showcased how the platform supports collaborative innovation.



© VIPCOAT

OPI-2024 Poster session provided a possibility for PhD students to present their work in detail. **Lisa Sahlmann** (Hereon) explained the challenges and new solutions implemented in App1 „Inhibitor selection and efficiency prediction“ of VIPCOAT project.

[Read more](#)



Elefterios Ledorikis (Univ. Ionnina)

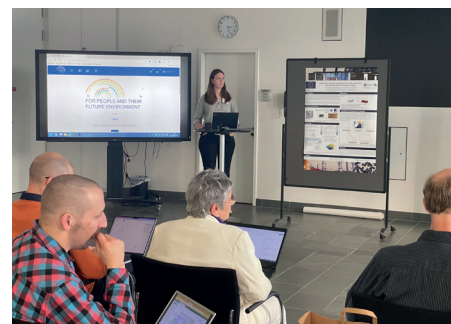


S. Ravi P. Silva (Univ. Surrey),
Heinz A. Preisig (NTNU)



Peter Klein, Natalia Konchakova, Amaya Igartua (Tekniker, ES) and José Carlos Caldeira (Inescotec, PT)

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VIPCOAT external Workshop and demonstration of the Plattform

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LATEST ACTIVITIES

M42 Consortium meeting

On October 23–24, VIPCOAT consortium met at Fraunhofer ITWM in Kaiserlauter, Germany, for M42 Meeting. The event was focused on the progress in the project, discussion on challenges in Apps/ models development and exploitation strategy. New coating systems characterization aspects were in the center of interaction between partners. An exploitation workshop was focused on a proper business model. An important decision on future exploitation steps has been taken in the end of the meeting.



NOVEMBER

IAM-I Day: on November 19, 2024, a community of advanced materials developers met in Brussels for IAM-I day. More as 100 delegates from Industry, Academia and EU science policy participated in the physical event, and over 300 experts joined the meeting online to follow the Strategical Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA), discuss core points of the Innovative Advanced Materials for EU (IAM4EU) partnership proposal and to be informed on the next steps of the IAM-I association formation. **Natalia Konchakova** and **Peter Klein** represented VIPCOAT consortium in the meeting. Networking with the coordinators and members of other EU-funded projects formed a basis of the future collaboration and relationships.



Natalia Konchakova, Franz Pirker (SiToLib-Project, AC2T, AU) and Steffi Friedrichs (MACRAME-Project, Acumenist, BE) © VIPCOAT

Read more

Time for preparation of scientific contributions to **EUROCORR2025**. VIPCOAT consortium is organizing a join session and round table discussion on **Multi-scale modeling for design of protective coatings (JS3)**. Based on the achievements of VIPCOAT project, all consortium members prepared and submitted abstracts for this important scientific event. EURO-CORR2025 will be held in Stavanger, Norway, 7–11. 09. 2025. Join us at JS3 to discuss the results of the project and generate ideas for future collaboration!



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Read more

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LATEST ACTIVITIES

DECEMBER

Industrial Demonstration of VIPCOAT platform for the evaluation of AIRBUS, AkzoNobel and SMT: The OIP and the APPs developers team presented VIPCOAT platform to AIRBUS, AkzoNobel and SMT members, who were not directly involved in the project, to show the potential of the platform and to collect the opinions and feedback on the platform functionality. The target of the demonstration was also to gathering the ideas to improve the platform to support the industry. **Marko Horvat** (WIKKI), **Thomas Hagelien** (SINTEF), **Lisa Sahlmann** (Hereon), **Katja Schladitz** (ITWM), **Nourhan Abdelrahman** (VUB) and **Mats Meeusen** (VUB) presented VIPCOAT platform for the industrial stakeholders. The event collected very positive feedback and constructive suggestions from industry.

Horizon Projects Results Booster: following the decision of VIPCOAT General Assembly at M42 meeting, the project has been registered for the Horizon Results Booster services to improve the exploitation route and participate in business education program. The start of the program is scheduled for spring 2025. WIKKI and Hereon aim to participate in the business education modules.



VIPCOAT Christmas Party: on Dec 18, 2024, we met traditionally online to conclude the year and speak about “A (*Christmas*) wish list for VIPCOAT future”. The partners discussed project related progress and spoke about 4 years of effective and pleasant collaboration.

We wish all of you
And your loved ones

- o **Victories**
- o **Independency**
- o **Pacification**
- o **Confidence**
- o **Opportunities**
- o **Adventures**
- o **Tolerance**



Thanks a lot for the productive collaboration!

JANUARY

Entry Level Consultation delivered by Gustavo M. Cancelas, a mentor of Horizon Projects Results Booster services, to VIPCOAT project. The meetings have been conducted on January 7th and January 13th.

On **7th January 2025**, the first online meeting was focused on introduction of the Dissemination & Exploitation ecosystem, aligning expectations with Booster services, assessing Key Exploitable Results (KERs), and identifying involved Research Teams. The relevant documents, such as business model and exploitation plan, were also considered.

On **13th January 2025**, a second online event was organised to review the “Readiness Assessment” tool, ensuring VIPCOAT team information accurately reflects the OIP actual readiness. As an outcome of this call, the Service Roadmap was finalised, outlining the appropriate Booster services to be provided. The key crucial aspect discussed at both event was the core team who will follow the exploitations program and workshops aiming to explore VIPCOAT OIP, the main KER of the project.

LATEST ACTIVITIES

Cluster 4 Networking Event: on January 14, 2025, stakeholders interested in the current trends and common activities in Cluster 4 – Digital, Industry and Space, met in Cologne, Germany, for Info & Networking Event. Members of the EC and National Contact Point of Germany provided an overview on expected impacts for the actions in WP25/26 and new formed partnerships. VIPCOAT coordinator, **Natalia Konchakova** (Hereon), participated in this event. Natalia had a discussion with **Eva-Katrin Schillinger**, Secretary General of IAM-I, on role of digitalization of advanced materials and Open Innovation to achieve European global leadership in climate neutral, circular and digitized industrial value chain.

Exploitation meeting: Hrvoje Jasak (WIKKI), **Marko Horwat** (WIKKI), **Heinz A. Preisig** (NTNU) and **Natalia Konchakova** (Hereon) met at WIKKI Ltd in London on **January 24, 2025**. The partners discussed the main outcomes of the project-VIPCOAT OIP, it's possible exploitation, future collaboration and agreed to take part jointly in the workshops' program of the Horizon Projects Results Booster.



Marko Horwat (WIKKI), Hrvoje Jasak (WIKKI), Natalia Konchakova (Hereon) and Heinz A. Preisig (NTNU)

CECAM Flagship Workshop: Heinz A. Preisig (NTNU) and **Natalia Konchakova** (Hereon) served the CECAM flagship workshop on "Interfacial Properties: Open Questions" as members of the organization and scientific committee. Both consortium partners contributed to this important scientific event by oral presentations and leading sessions & panel discussions. The workshop was held on **January 28-30, 2025**, at CECAM-UK-DARESBURY, UK. Over 30 international experts in multi-scale modeling approaches applied for interfacial properties of materials joined this event. Both open scientific discussions and networking were important parts of the workshop.

[Read more](#)



Natalia Konchakova (Hereon) and Heinz A. Preisig (NTNU)



Organizers of the CECAM Workshop

LATEST ACTIVITIES

General Assembly of IAM-I Association: new Association named “Innovative Advanced Materials (IAM-I)” has been formed in December 2024. The members of the new initiative met in Brussels on January 31, 2025, for their first General Assembly to elect the Executive Board and Association Delegation. VIPCOAT was represented at this event by the Coordinator.

[Read more](#)

FEBRUARY

Final Open Workshop on “VIPCOAT Open Innovation Platform Functionalities” was conducted by the consortium on **February 06, 2025**. The event was organized by VUB as an online meeting. Over 60 participants joined the workshop.



6th February 2025
Final Open Workshop 

Open Innovation Platform functionalities

- co-creation of sustainable protective coating based on predictive modelling and focused collaboration

Registration at: <https://ms.hereon.de/vipcoat/103237/index.php.en>

Participants: Marko Horvat (WIKI), Lisa Sahlmann (hereon), Nourhan Abdelrahman (VUB), Katja Schladitz (Fraunhofer ITWM), Mats Meeusen (VUB), Natalia Konchakova (hereon)

Marko Horvat (WIKI), **Lisa Sahlmann** (Hereon), **Katja Schladitz** (ITWM), **Nourhan Abdelrahman** (VUB), **Mats Meeusen** (VUB) and **Natalia Konchakova** (Hereon) presented VIPCOAT platform for the modeling experts and experimentalists from industrial R&D. We created a series of video from this workshop, which has been published on **VIPCOAT YouTube channel**.



VIPCOAT OIP: co-creation of sustainable protective coating based on predictive modelling and focused collaboration
Final Open Workshop and Demonstration of the Platform

Participants: LS, MH, NA

Logos: hereon, Fraunhofer, WIKI, AIRBUS, NTNU, LIST, VUB, FU Delft, AlkoNobel, SINTEF, etc.

Time to write papers: six scientific publications have been prepared during March by our PhD Students: **Lisa Sahlmann** (Hereon), **Jelena Zaninovic** (ITWM), **Nourhan Abdelrahman** (VUB) and **Can Özkan** (TUD).

Please find the link of the paper of Nourhan here:

[Read more](#)

New DESY proposal: VIPCOAT team, already conducted 5 experiments at DESY, has submitted a new proposal on **February 27, 2025**. We are aiming to implement a new in-situ experiment, which allows us to improve the geometrical model of coating microstructure and deliver lacking comparable data for leaching simulation. In the case of successful evaluation, the team of scientists from Akzo-Nobel, Fraunhofer ITWM, Hereon and Smallmateck will implement this experiment in the end of 2025.

MARCH

YEFC seminar “Open Innovation Platforms for science” was delivered for young researchers, PhD and Master Students who are active in Young European Federation of Corrosion (YEFC) community, on March 20th, 2025. **Marko Horvat** (Wikki Ltd., UK), **Lisa Sahlmann** (Helmholtz-Zentrum Hereon, DE), **Jelena Zaninovic** (Fraunhofer Institute, DE), **Nourhan Abdelrahman** (Vrije Universiteit Brussel, BE), and **Mats Meeusen** (Vrije Universiteit Brussel, BE) shared their experience in how to use VIPCOAT open innovation platform for modeling of protective coating properties, and explain why it is important for scientific-social collaborations.

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The following topics were covered in the seminar:

What is an open-innovation platform (OIP)?
(**Marko Horvat**)

Case study of VIPCOAT OIP pipeline

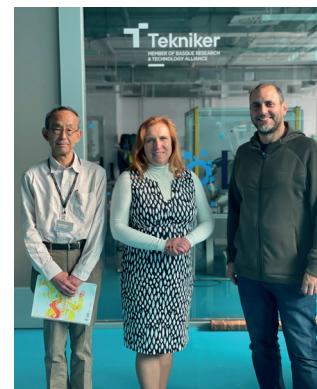
- Corrosion inhibitor selection and efficiency prediction (**Lisa Sahlmann**)
- Inhibitor leaching performance from a coating matrix (**Jelena Zaninovic**)
- Inhibitor performance in a coating defect (**Nourhan Abdelrahman**)
- Inhibitor performance under accelerated corrosion conditions (**Mats Meeusen**)
- Design of an AI based workflow for coating performance prediction (**Lisa Sahlmann**)

Over 30 young researchers participated in the event, contributing actively to the open discussion. The recording of the seminar will be posted on EFC social media channels.

APRIL

Materials week 2025: European experts in Materials development and digitalization, met on April 02-04 in Frankfurt am Main, Germany, to discuss the future of material science. VIPCOAT project coordinator, **Natalia Konchakova**, provided a keynote lecture at the plenary session “Green Materials revolution: strategies for sustainable materials in a closed-loop circular economy”, demonstrating the OIP as a unique solution for the collaborative development and industrial application of sustainable materials.

AI4AM2025, VIPCOAT OIP was presented at the Artificial Intelligence for Advanced Materials (AI4AM) conference on April 08 in San Sebastian, SP. The lecture raised a discussion on AI models and simulation tools implemented at VIPCOAT OIP. An effective discussion on semantic services was conducted with representatives of Platform Material Digital (DE). Natalia also discussed with **Francesco Pagano**, coordinator of SiToLub project, Tekniker (SP), and **Prof. Ichiro Minami**, independent collaborator of Tekniker and SiToLub project (Japan), on how to improve innovation processes for new coatings creation by digitalization. It was an effective meeting covered aspects for possible future collaboration.



Natalia Konchakova (Hereon), Prof. Ichiro Minami (Tekniker, SiToLub project), Francesco Pagano (SiToLub Project, Tekniker, SP)

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Success story! TUD team, **Can Özkan**, **Arjan Mol** and **Peyman Taheri**, discovered a **new inhibitor**, which will allow to generate an environmentally friendly protective coating. The new material is a mix of molecules, which demonstrates excellent properties comparable with the best-known corrosion inhibitors. A **patent** is under registration. It is a scientific progress and real success story provided by VIPCOAT project. Using the potential of Open Innovation, VIPCOAT environment, co-creation and modeling supported design, the team **of TU Delft**, made a breakthrough in surface science. Our sincere congratulations to TU Delft team and to the whole consortium!



Can Özkan, Arjan Mol and Peyman Taheri (TU Delft)

MAY

VIPCOAT Final Consortium and Review Meeting will be on **May 20–21, 2025**, in Brussels. VUB is a responsible partner and the main organizer of the event. All Partners are heartily invited to attend the meeting. We are looking forward to welcoming the whole consortium and summarizing our 4-years collaboration.



Looking Back at VIPCOAT

As the VIPCOAT project comes to an end, it's a good moment to look back at what these four years have meant for us.



Bart Van den Bossche and Peter Meuris (Elsyca)

It's been a challenging but rewarding journey. From the start, we knew VIPCOAT wouldn't be easy: the technical challenges were complex, and at times confronting. We had to step out of our comfort zones more than once. Thanks to a very active project manager and a tightly organized planning with lots of meetings, the momentum was always kept high – sometimes higher than we thought we could manage! But in the end, it pushed us to deliver our best work.

Along the way, we learned a lot – not just about innovation platforms, interoperability, and business process automation – but also about working across disciplines, institutions, and cultures.

But what we will probably remember most are the people. Over the four years, we've had the chance to meet many talented, passionate, and kind colleagues. Some of them became not just good partners, but real friends. For us, that human connection is the most valuable and lasting result of this project.

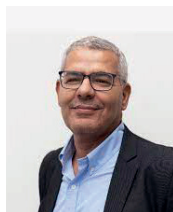
Thank you all for the collaboration, the support, the discussions, and the laughs along the way. We hope to stay in touch and cross paths again in the future!

The Elsyca team.

Looking Back at VIPCOAT

Is Digitalisation a Driving Force of Innovation? Lessons from the VIPCOAT Open Innovation Platform

Digitalisation is no longer a trend. It's the engine powering modern innovation. From AI and big data to cloud computing and IoT, digitalisation enables faster experimentation, seamless collaboration, and smarter collaborative decision-making. It breaks down traditional barriers, connects global talent, and accelerates the flow of ideas across industries and borders. In this digital-first landscape, innovation is no longer confined to R&D labs; it thrives wherever data, technology, and creativity converge. A powerful illustration of digitalisation's transformative potential is the VIPCOAT H2020 project and platform, which exemplifies how digitalisation drives innovation integrating interoperable modelling tools and decision support services into a unified, digital framework. At its core, digitalisation provides the infrastructure, tools, and collaborative environment needed for a structured, efficient, and process-driven approach to innovation. Several features of the VIPCOAT OIP and platform underscore the driving role of digitalisation in enabling innovation:

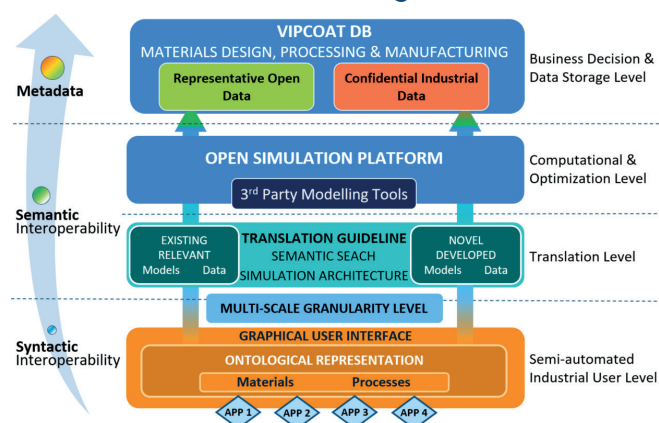


Salim Belouettar (LIST)

Smart Collaboration and Team Building: The platform streamlines collaboration through a skill-based recommendation system. Users can propose ideas, form project teams, and connect with partners based on required expertise. This digital ecosystem makes it easy to find the right people and build effective, innovation-driven teams.

Structured Innovation Workflows: The VIPCOAT platform uses BPMN framework to guide every step of the innovation process, from idea creation to project execution. Tools

like the BPMN and DMN editors enable users to design, manage, and automate workflows. These workflows are executed using Camunda via REST API and are triggered by an event-driven, pub-sub architecture. This structured approach ensures efficient, transparent, and scalable innovation management.



Centralised Knowledge and Data Management: Digitalisation enables streamlined handling of modelling and simulation data through the VIPCOAT Data Catalog, built on DCAT. This catalog enhances data findability, reuse, and sharing by attaching metadata and supporting both keyword and semantic searches via NLP and embeddings. It stores simulation histories, supports controlled access, and serves as a central repository for experimental and machine learning training data.

Integration of Simulation Tools and Technologies: The platform seamlessly integrates diverse simulation tools to support use cases in protective coatings. It connects to external databases like PubChem, uses machine learning for efficiency predictions, and incorporates models like MAVI and ParPac for leaching simulations. Physics-based workflows, managed via Camunda and external workers, enable advanced simulations. The platform also supports the MoDeNa framework for microscale-driven modelling, ensuring comprehensive, end-to-end simulation capabilities.



Development Environment Support: The VIPCOAT OIP is built on an extended MEAN stack (MongoDB, Express, Angular, NodeJS), providing a robust digital architecture. Code development is managed through GitLab repositories for different platform components, with CI/CD procedures using .gitlab-ci.yml scripts and Docker for automated updates and deployments to the live platform.

Supporting Decision-Making and Analysis: The Business Decision Support System (BDSS) is integrated into the platform, enabling users to upload datasets (e.g., Excel) and identify optimal solutions based on key performance indicators (KPIs). It also offers interactive graphing tools to analyze data and simulation results effectively.

The VIPCOAT OIP is at the forefront of driving technical innovation in active protective coatings, but its impact extends far beyond this domain. As part of the broader Open Innovation Platform (OIP) ecosystem, the VIPCOAT platform showcases the transformative power of digitalisation in accelerating sustainability and driving innovation across industries. While many OIPs have yet to fully integrate sustainability objectives, platforms like VIPCOAT exemplify how digital tools can contribute to critical global challenges, such as climate action, responsible consumption, and sustainable innovation. By enabling collaborative innovation, VIPCOAT opens new possibilities not just for protective coatings, but for a wide range of industrial sectors looking to harness digitalisation for smarter, more sustainable solutions.

Looking Back at VIPCOAT

Is Digitalisation a Driving Force of Innovation? Lessons from the VIPCOAT Open Innovation Platform

In our modern world, progress in industrial innovation depends heavily on collaboration, utilization of data, and the ability to be agile. Digitalization is no longer just a tool or a convenience, but a fundamental vehicle of innovation and the VIPCOAT Open Innovation Platform has demonstrated; through facilitating collaboration, advanced simulations and smart data integration supporting semantic interoperability, how digitalization transforms innovation from an idea and concept phase, into a scalable, systematic and sustainable technology that can be directly integrated into industrial production workflows.



Thomas
Hagelien
(SINTEF)

A Digital Co-Creation Studio: VIPCOAT is designed as a digital collaboration platform, and as such brings tools and features into a digital ecosystem for innovation. Real-time collaboration between geographically distributed stakeholders from academia, industry, policy makers and members of civil society allows solutions to be created which are aligned with industrial- as well as regulatory needs. The innovation process is structured and based on Business Process Model and Notation (BPMN) work-flows that gives a clear and open structure for synergistic innovation. This is only possible through digital integration. Another important aspect of the co-creating part is to have information findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable (FAIR). A structured approach to data documentation, employing semantic technology such as ontologies and semantic data pipelines makes the innovation process transparent with reproducible results.

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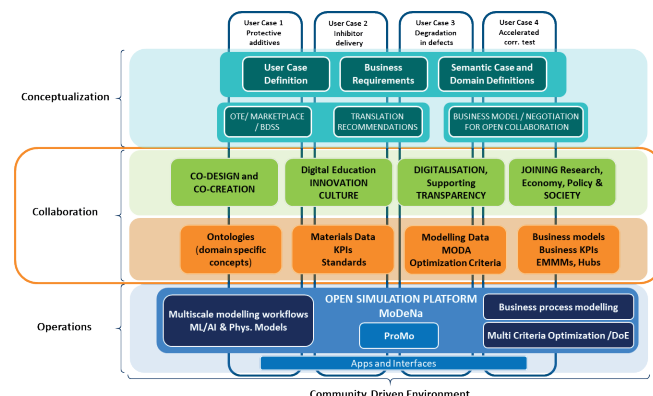


An Innovation Laboratory: VIPCOAT was developed as a digital platform for innovation in active protective coatings, however, the platform as it stands today has a much broader reach. Its architecture and suite of functionalities and applications bring together computational tools, experimental data, machine learning models – and brings in domain-experts from academia and industry. As a result, the platform supports the entire innovation cycle – from idea to validation, and shows that the entire process can be digitized, automated and continuously improved in an agile manner.

With applications which simulate corrosion testing, the industrial development cycles are drastically reduced. By leveraging machine learning to predict performance across a huge number of simulated cases, VIPCOAT showcases the scalability and usefulness of digital models.

Platform for Data-Driven Modelling and AI: Machine learning has been used to predict inhibitor performance, simulate leaching mechanisms and model corrosion dynamics. Input for the models are experimental and nano-CT imaging data. The VIPCOAT Innovation Platform provides a “one stop shop” for all these technologies and allows for turning complex physical phenomena into computational models with a customized user interface to leverage usability. Scientists are, with this technology, able to virtually test formulations and reduce reliance on costly and time-consuming physical experiments.

The VIPCOAT platform has been demonstrated in multiple workshops, through industry specific use-cases, that digitalization is not only for labs and academia, but is also ready for industrial production use. The platform has been validated by industrial partners and showed how digital innovation can be grounded in real-world challenges and business objectives.



So – is digitalization a driving force of innovation? For industries, simulations and AI can accelerate R&D cycles. Advanced tools and data shared across organizational boundaries democratizes the ability to innovate and broadens the number of potential contributors. Co-creation connects stakeholders with different backgrounds and from different domains into a unified digital innovation environment. FAIR data principles and robust data management ensures sustainability and reproducibility. Semantic Technology simplifies the process of employing and integrating data and models. Digitalization helps rapid translation of scientific breakthroughs into industrial application. As such – digitalization is clearly not just a passenger on the road to innovation, *it is the engine*.

Looking Back at VIPCOAT

5,5 years of challenges, creativity, and fun.

VIPCOAT project has been finished yet, in May 2025. The consortium of 12 partners from 8 EU countries worked effectively, motivated and very enthusiastic more than five years together.



Natalia Konchakova
(Hereon)

Looking back on this fruitful period we can say that we created not only a unique Open Innovation Platform (OIP), but we also established a wonderful working environment for a multidisciplinary team of specialists highly

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recognized in their professional areas of protective coating systems, software engineering and materials modelling.

In the very beginning of the project ideas generation, in September 2019, when the EU call was published, the team of **Mikhail Zheludkevich, Theo Hack, Peter Klein** and **Natalia Konchakova** met to brainstorm how to bring together the needs and challenges in the environmentally friendly protective coatings for aerospace development accelerated by materials modeling, open innovation processes, and digitalization approaches on Open Innovation Platforms (OIP).

Mikhail and Theo provided ideas on the active protective ant-corrosion systems, Peter – on the digital platform, and Natalia – how to merge all together reflecting to the corresponding EU call to design a project.

This collaborative approach worked very well. Mikhail and Theo invited an excellent team of corrosion specialists (both experiments and modeling) from AIRBUS, AkzoNobel, Smallmatek, TU Delft, VUB and Elsyca. Peter and Natalia designed the team for the OIP implementation and materials modeling from WIKKI, LIST, SINTEF, NTNU, Fraunhofer and Hereon.

I led the project, Peter and Mikhail were all the time near supporting me, as the coordinator, in any “not easy to solve” situations. It was a teamwork. In reality, it was a coordination team. I was never been alone facing any difficulties or non-standard cases. Both Peter and Mikhail helped me a lot. We were a strong team all the time! And it is required to successfully lead such a complex, multidisciplinary, international project.

The project started in May 2021 and delivered in 4 years the VIPCOAT OIP implementing an innovation-by-design environment, four Apps and innovation workflows driving the

development of new protective coatings. We collected new knowledge, created an ontology-based sharing mechanism, materials properties catalogues, carried out 5 DESY experiments, developed the platform to TRL6 and formed OUR CONSORTIM – “VIPCOAT Family”. We learned together a lot!

From the team of the coordinators, we thank all Partners for these 5,5 years of hard work full of **challenges, creativity, and fun!**

”Thank so much to all of you, for your effort for the VIPCOAT success!! 5.5 years is more than 10% of my whole life 😊 I am happy to be a leader of this creative motivated excellent team! VIPCOAT will be always in my Heart!

Natalia

”A warm thank you to the whole VIPCOAT consortium and to the external Advisory Board for the nice and productive time we spent together in VIPCOAT. And thank you, Natalia, for the effective coordination.

Peter

”It has been a privilege to be part of such a dynamic and forward-thinking consortium. We together managed to synergistically merge what initially appeared unmergeable. Let us carry the momentum forward and continue fostering the spirit of collaboration in future initiatives.

Natalia, my sincere gratitude for your dedication and firm commitment throughout the VIPCOAT project!

Mikhail

**There are no problems,
there are only challenges!**
→ That we learned together
at VIPCOAT-time.



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MEET THREE BEHIND VIPCOAT



Heinz A. Preisig (NTNU)
Interview



Herman Terryn (VUB)
Interview



Theo Hack (AIRBUS)
Interview

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, VIPCOAT!

Kick-Off: May 17-18, 2021 → Final: May 20-21, 2025



Delft, May, 2024

Brussels, May 2025
(will be added later)



Aveiro, October, 2021



Mechelen, April, 2022



Trondheim, May, 2023



Kaiserslautern, October,
2024



Luxembourg, October, 2023



Geesthacht, November, 2022

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Stavanger, Norway
EUROCORR 2025
7 - 11 September

VIPCOAT

Joint Session and Round Table
"Multi-scale modelling for design of protective coatings"

 Jelena Zaninovic
Fraunhofer ITWM

 Katja Schiaditz
Fraunhofer ITWM

 Peter Visser
AkzoNobel

 Arjan Mol
TU Delft

 Lisa Salmann
hereon

 Natalia Konchakova
hereon

 Mikhail Zheludkevich
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8th ICEAF INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF
ENGINEERING AGAINST FAILURE
22-25 June 2025
Kalamata, Greece

Session:
**Metals surface degradation and protection:
modelling, characterization
and digitalization**

VIPCOAT

 Mikhail Zheludkevich
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 Heinz A. Preisig
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Abbreviations:

OIP – Open Innovation Platform
OTEAPI – application programming interfaces (API)
of OTE (Open Translation Environment)
BPMN – Business Process Model and Notation
DMN – Decision Model and Notation

LCA – Life Cyclic Analysis
CSA – Coordination and Support Action
EMCC – European Materials Characterisation Council
EMMC – European Materials Modelling Council

PARTNERS BEHIND VIPCOAT



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VIPCOAT “Family”: Good Luck and All the Best!



FOR PEOPLE AND THEIR
FUTURE ENVIRONMENT

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4 years of successful and effective collaboration: Thanks a lot for your effort!