

SUSTAINABILITY AWARD: CIRCULARITY**SHORTLISTED: Longworth – EMPHASIZING Project**

The EMPHASIZING project, funded by Innovate UK from 2022 to 2024, aims to create high-value recycled glass fibre from Glass Reinforced Polymer (GRP) waste.

With global composite material use rising, especially in sectors like renewable energy, construction, and transport, millions of tonnes of glass fibre waste accumulates annually. EMPHASIZING focuses on developing a greener alternative to traditional glass fibre, with properties closer to carbon fibre. The project recycles composite materials, including wind turbine blades, to produce upcycled automotive parts. The Ford camber-link component, typically made from steel, was chosen for its potential to reduce vehicle weight and improve performance.

EMPHASIZING uses the innovative DEECOM® pressolysis method, which separates resin and contaminants from fibres using steam, yielding high-quality fibres. These fibres are resized and enhanced with graphene-based formulations to improve their mechanical properties. The project has successfully reclaimed glass fibres from various waste streams, bringing them close to commercialisation as sustainable alternatives.

Learn more at: www.emphasizing.co.uk

