

12 partners from 7 European countries (France, Belgium, Switzerland, Greece, Norway, Portugal and Spain) covering the entire value chain to develop the ULCOWIN technology: from the raw material (iron ore) to the demonstration (production of steel) through the development of the process and pilot.



Development of new methodologies for industrial CO₂-free steel production by electrowinning



The vision:

To develop a breakthrough innovation CO₂-free steel production process with a significant reduction of energy use by applying an electrochemical method to steelmaking.



GENERAL DETAILS

Project Start Date: 1st October 2017

Project End Date: 31st March 2023

Project duration: 66 months

Grant Agreement No: 768788

Call: H2020-SPIRE-10-2017

Web page: www.siderwin-spire.eu

CONTACT INFORMATION

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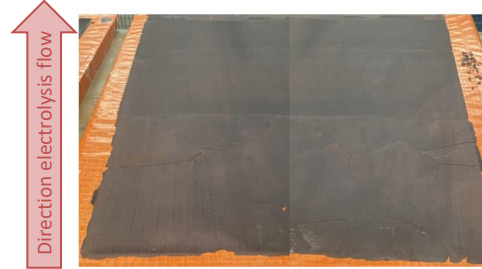


The Objective:

To develop a **breakthrough innovation** compared to the actual steel production process bringing together **steel making with electrochemical process**. It **transform iron oxide into steel plate** with a significant reduction of energy use.

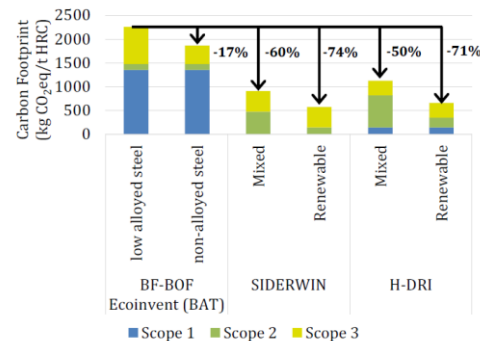
Main Results:

- **SIDERWIN pilot plant has been built** and its able to produce iron plates.
- The **average metallic iron content** was found to be around **96% and can be up to 98.7%** under stable working conditions, the magnetite content was less than 4%.
- It is possible to reach high **faradaic yield, close to 90%**, under stable working conditions.



The benefits:

SIDERWIN and the H-DRI technology perform better in term of carbon footprint than the currently used BF-BOF. For the SIDERWIN technology with DSR, mixed, the carbon footprint amounts to 0.9 t CO₂eq which is 60% lower than the BF-BOF technology. With the renewable electricity mix, the **total carbon footprint is 0.6 t CO₂eq** which is a **reduction of 74%**. The H-DRI technology has a similar carbon footprint than SIDERWIN with 1.1 t CO₂eq with DSR, mixed and 0.7 t CO₂eq with DSR, renewable, which represent reductions of 50% and 71%, respectively.



Main Conclusions:

- SIDERWIN technology can **contribute to future carbon neutral steelmaking** with:
 - Almost no direct CO₂ emissions.
 - At least -60% carbon footprint vs traditional BF-BOF route.
 - Without compromising environmental footprint vs BF-BOF route.
 - Fully electrified primary production.
- The pilot technical performances have been validated and optimal parameters for operation have been defined, the **SIDERWIN technology has been successfully scaled up**. The main results obtained from the pilot trials are:
 - It is possible to use cathode with size up to 1.25 m².
 - Electrolysis cell energy use confirmed at pilot scale have demonstrated that the 2.7 MWh/t of Fe produced are reachable in optimized conditions.
- The SIDERWIN technology can contribute to the **balance of the power system** with its fully electrified steel primary production. The European power system can meet the additional SIDERWIN demand with carbon-free means.
- The SIDERWIN technology can contribute to **circular economy**, via the possible integration of raw materials.

The Future:

Based on the results of the project a **roadmap for the industrialization** and development of the technology has been defined. The history of the development of this technology and the future industrialization forecast is shown in the image below.

