



# ESTEP SPRING DISSEMINATION EVENT

**17-18 FEBRUARY 2026  
BRUSSELS (BELGIUM)**

Venue : Double Tree by Hilton Hotel  
(Rue Gineste 3, 1210 Brussels )

Find out more on [www.estep.eu](http://www.estep.eu)



The European Steel Technology Platform (ESTEP) **Spring Dissemination Event 2026** will take place in-person on **17 & 18 February June 2026** in Brussels (Belgium) at the [Double Tree by Hilton Hotel](#) (3 rue Gineste, at Place Rogier).

The main purpose of the event is to share results and knowledge gained from research & innovation projects related to the steel sector.

The topics will cover projects from RFCS, Clean Steel Partnership (CSP), other EU or national projects, etc., with a particular focus on digitalisation and people aspects.

**More information about logistics & registration:**  
available on the [event webpage](#)

# PROGRAMME

## DAY 1 – 17 February



11:45	Registration
12:00 – 13:30	Networking lunch
13:30	Welcome & opening Day 1 <b>Klaus Peters</b> (ESTEP)
13:45	Research Fund for Coal and Steel: state of play & future funding opportunities <b>Sebastiano Fumero</b> (European Commission, REA)
14:10	The steel recycling industry : challenges regarding the business model : clean steel (the “quality”), the “green” steel definition, and the “trade” issues of the so-called “scrap” <b>Olivier François</b> (Recycling Europe)
14:35	Challenges and opportunities for the European steel industry in transition <b>Stanislav Zinchenko</b> (GMK Center)
15:00	Transformation of the Iron and Steel Industry: a general Overview of R&D&I-requirements for technology-gap-closing <b>Susanne Bethlehem-Seidel</b> (Dillinger) & <b>Martin Hubrich</b> (BFI)
15:20	GreenSmith project: Low-carbon steel production <b>Luca Di Felice</b> (Paul Wurth)
15:40 – 16:00	Coffee break
16:00	From Third-Generation to Green-Generation Steels: Impact-Dynamic Performance, Lightweighting and Future Design Directions <b>Patricia Verleysen</b> (UGent)
16:20	<b>CrossCut project:</b> Carbon Reduction in production routes: Operations based on Smart Carbon Usage and digitalisation Techniques:
16:20	* Project approach and first results <b>Filippo Cirilli</b> (RINA-CSM)
16:40	* Results about biochar application in sintering process <b>Zofia Kania-Pifczyk &amp; Alicja Szemalikowska</b> (Łukasiewicz – GIT)
17:00	* CrossCut Project – open discussion <b>Krzysztof Radwański</b> (Łukasiewicz – GIT)
17:20	Concluding remarks day 1 <b>Klaus Peters</b> (ESTEP)
17:30	End of conference - Day 1
19:00	Event Dinner at Double Tree by Hilton Hotel

# PROGRAMME

## DAY 2 – 18 February

DAY 2

08:30 – 09:15 Registration

09:20 Welcome & opening day 2  
**Klaus Peters** (ESTEP)

09:30 Environmental hydrogen assisted degradation of steels: from lab testing to industrial impact  
**Tom Depover** (UGent)

09:50 Closing the Loop: Hydrogen-Based Recovery of DRI and Zinc from EAF Dust via the Dust2Value Process  
**Andrea Kotze** (InsPyro)

10:10 An open experimental platform paving the way for DR-EAF route hydrogen-based for carbon neutral steel production. Update on project results  
**Filippo Cirilli** (RINA-CSM)

10:30 Organic acids to pickle the oxides of carbon steel hot rolled strips  
**Julien SMAL** (CRM Group)

10:50 – 11:10 Coffee break

11:10 Nano-S-Mart: Unlocking the effect of residual elements via the nanoengineering of sustainable martensitic steels  
**Pello Uranga** (CEIT)

11:30 Augmenting Steelmaking: Leveraging Generative AI for Resilience and Efficiency in the BANI Era  
**David Avellaneda** (CELSA)

11:50 Seamless digital integration in steel value chain for high quality final products: SMARTChain project  
**Ilaria Favuzzi** (RINA-CSM)

12:10 On-line laser cleaning of skin-pass rolls  
**Gaetan Symens** (CRM Group)

12:30 Closing comments & future perspectives  
**Klaus Peters** (ESTEP)

12:40 – 13:45 Networking lunch

14:00 End of conference – Day 2

### RFCS Big Tickets call 2026 Infoday

REA is organising its Research Fund for Coal and Steel: Big Tickets call 2026 Info Day on 19 February in Brussels (North Light building, Boulevard Simon Bolivar 34, 1049 Brussels). More information can be found on the website [here](#)