

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



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

DAY 1

11:45	Registration
12:00 – 13:30	Networking lunch
13:30	Welcome & opening Day 1 Klaus Peters (ESTEP)
13:45	Research Fund for Coal and Steel: state of play & future funding opportunities Sebastiano Fumero (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” Olivier François (Recycling Europe)
14:35	Challenges and opportunities for the European steel industry in transition Stanislav Zinchenko (GMK Center)
15:00	Transformation of the Iron and Steel Industry: a general Overview of R&D&I-requirements for technology-gap-closing Susanne Bethlehem-Seidel (Dillinger) & Martin Hubrich (BFI)
15:20	GreenSmith project: Low-carbon steel production Luca Di Felice (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 Patricia Verleysen (UGent)
16:20	CrossCut project: Carbon Reduction in production routes: Operations based on Smart Carbon Usage and digitalisation Techniques:
16:20	* Project approach and first results Filippo Cirilli (RINA-CSM)
16:40	* Results about biochar application in sintering process Zofia Kania-Pifczyk & Alicja Szemalikowska (Łukasiewicz – GIT)
17:00	* CrossCut Project – open discussion Krzysztof Radwański (Łukasiewicz – GIT)
17:20	Concluding remarks day 1 Klaus Peters (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](#)