

## **DCMC - Development Center for Maintenance of Composites**

The Fieldlab Composites Maintenance and Repair has been set up at the Aviolanda business park near the Woensdrecht Air Base. Under the brand name DCMC (Development Center for Maintenance of Composites), Dutch innovative companies and knowledge institutes combine and develop knowledge and experience in inspection, production, repair and maintenance of composites. The DCMC was founded by:

- GKN-Fokker, Specto Aerospace - design, creation and maintenance of composites.
- TU Delft, NLR - high-tech research in the inspection and repair of composites.

These parties work together with:

- TiaT Europe, DTIS, Damen Shipyards - design, construction, maintenance and repair of composites.

The province of Noord-Brabant and the European Union support DCMC through the Brabant Development Agency (BOM), the Regional Development Company REWIN West Brabant, the European subsidy program OPZuid. and RegioDeal Midden- en West-Brabant Makes & Moves.

As a central network, research and innovation cluster, DCMC responds to the strong increase in applications of composites in the aviation, construction, energy, infrastructure, automotive and maritime industries sectors. Also technologies for inspection and repair of composites are developing rapidly. The joining of forces also strengthens the economic competitiveness of the South Netherlands for high-tech maintenance applications in the (aviation) industry.

The aim of DCMC is therefore to develop more and better methods and technologies for inspection, repair and maintenance of existing applications. This means:

1. Less waste of materials.
2. Reduce costs by not replacing the damaged composites, but by improving maintenance and repair techniques.
3. More knowledge and more knowledge exchange between producers, companies that use composites in their products, and users.
4. Address more markets and cross-over exchange of knowledge about and applications of composites.

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With this, DCMC focuses on 6 target groups:

1. **Industrial parties.**

These are manufacturing companies and general technical companies that use composites in their products, and companies that are already engaged in the maintenance and repair of composites.

**Interest:** R & D, practical applications, innovations, concrete projects.

2. **Knowledge institutions.**

These are organizations such as TNO, NLR, TPRC, Biobased, 3D Print, NVDO.

**Interest:** increasing and exchanging knowledge of materials, new methods for inspection, maintenance and repair, cooperation partners, test environments.

3. **Government.**

These are central government, province of Noord-Brabant (and Zeeland), municipality Woensdrecht and the European Union.

**Interest:** cross-border and international collaborations, projects, Dutch innovation, knowledge cluster development, regional development, employment.

4. **Operators.**

These include wind farm managers, aviation companies, car leasing companies, maritime shipping companies, railway companies (NS, NedTrain, Siemens), air force, navy.

**Interest:** new technologies to be applied in practice, effectiveness and efficiency in maintenance.

5. **Original equipment manufacturers (OEMs).**

These are companies such as Boeing, Airbus, Lockheed Martin and companies in the automotive, shipping, rail and wind industries.

**Interest:** new technologies, automation, inspection, maintenance procedures, certification.

6. **Educational institutions.**

These are MBO and HBO institutions, Technical Universities at home and abroad.

**Interest:** talent scouting, research issues.

The ambition of DCMC is to position itself globally as the circular hub for maintenance of composites and hybrid structures. To this end, DCMC is working on the establishment of a 'one-stop-innovation-shop', in which various inspection, repair and maintenance technologies are simultaneously under development, and



the provision of capital goods, machines and materials for testing purposes. To strengthen the cluster and its competitive position, other parties are welcome to join, TiaT Europe, DTIS and Damen Shipyards have already done so. In addition, the DCMC also focuses on designing for maintenance for, educational institutions and industrial parties. The DCMC collects and deals with research and development in this so-called 'design for maintenance' area. This makes the DCMC the central point for all knowledge about how to maintain composites.

That is why various research projects are already running in the DCMC partnership, focusing on 'inspection', 'repair', 'maintenance' and 'design'.

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**DCMC - Development Center for Maintenance of Composites made possible by:**



**RegioDeal Midden- en West-Brabant Makes & Moves**



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