

Session	Start-ups/SMEs looking for Finance: Series A and Series B/C Funding
Title	GuaTecs : the new natural latex, good for the planet & the people
Company	GuaTecs SAS
Speaker	Michel DORGET, CEO
Keywords feedstock	guayule
(max 2)	
Keywords technology	bio-refinery eco-extraction
(max 2)	
Keywords	latex rubber
End-Product (max 2)	

Abstract:

GuaTecs is producing guayule latex (water-dispersed Poly Isoprene) & rubber (dry PI), natural and European. For the farmers & cooperatives, our biomass suppliers, guayule, a bush native to the Mexico desert, is a real solution to climate warming. We use a water-based eco-extraction patented process, and follow a bio-refinery strategy to valorize all co-products. For our clients, glove producers, it gives non allergenic, stronger and softer gloves.

Guayule stakeholders are mostly focused on solvent-based extraction processes to produce rubber. We invested in the water-based route, more sustainable, to produce latex first, more profitable.

Guayule latex has been legalised by Solar Impulse Foundation because it is good for the planet, the people and the business. GuaTecs has been selected by CINEA through Green Assist operation because rubber is classified as a European Critical Raw Material (for plane tyres, medical gloves...). We have been i-Lab and Clean Tech Open France awarded, already succeeded in a seed fundraising of 0,2 M euros and are partners of the MIDAS European project, that targets wasteland valorization.

We validated the quality of our latex & rubber at a pilot-scale with several partners, for several applications, and are fundraising 3 M euros to reach the demo-scale for standards industrial validations. Two Occitans' VCs are already interested as followers, we are scouting for the latest leader investor. French BPI & ADEME subsidies are already validated.