Session	To-Be-Start-ups looking for Finance: Pre-seed/Angel/Seed
Title	Enabling an era of post-metal-scracity
Company	Solubind
Speaker	Leon Reuter
TRL	
Keywords feedstock (max 2)	Industrial wastes
Keywords technology (max 2)	Proteins
Keywords End-Product (max 2)	Metal compounds

Abstract:

Metals are abundant. Supply is not.
Europe is vulnerable. We are vulnerable because we rely on others to supply us with the foundation we need for producing and scaling our own technologies. This foundation is critical metals. To reach independence, we will have to find ways to produce these materials ourselves.
To reach this goal, we have to treat our current limitations as a processing, rather than a geological problem. Metal sources such as wastes, tailings or low grade ores are widely available. The deciding factor is who can harvest them economically.
These sources contain vast amounts of critical materials such as rare earths or semiconductor metals. Because of their high level of metallic impurities however, established metallurgy fails at harvesting them effectively.
We are developing highly selective and versatile metal binding proteins for exactly this purpose. Our initial batch of first-principles designs display a functional success rate of over 85 % for target metal binding. We are currently in the process of testing these designs on industrial samples received from our partners to evaluate KPIs under metallurgical conditions (selectivity, loading capacity, reusability).
We don't compete with existing hydrometallurgy, we expand its range.
Help us secure our independence - Solubind