Partners

The SOUNDCAST project comprises 7 partners from 4 European countries:

- 3 SMEs
- □ 1 large enterprise
- 3 RTDs



"The research leading to these results has received funding from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme managed by REA-Research Executive Agency <u>http://ec.europa.eu/research/rea</u> (FP7/2001/2013) under grant agreement N°315506.



SOUNDCAST

VACUUM-ASSISTED HIGH PRESSURE DIE CASTINGS WITH REDUCED POROSITY AT LOW COST





http://www.soundcastproject.eu/.





OBJECTIVE

The aim of this project is to provide a **SOUNDCAST Technology** which allows the fabrication of sound and weldable vacuum-assisted HPDC (VPDC) components at low cost by using secondary alloys with enhanced mechanical properties and to establish a VPDC control system that assures casting quality.



MAIN EXPECTED RESULTS

Formulation of a new recycled alloy with good ductility.

An area without harmful β phases (> 20 µm) has been defined for different combinations of Mn & Fe.

The optimum area is limited by:

- The criteria for die soldering
- The criteria sludge factor
- The limit where no harmful β phases are formed.

For different iron contents the lowest Mn addition needed for avoiding the presence of harmful β phases is selected





Design of test piece & Simulation of cavity filling

BEFORE

A step casting is selected with thickness between 1-10 mm for evaluation of mechanical properties





AFTER

Die lubrication



Development of new die casting lubricants to achieve optimum die lubrication





New welding process.

Challenge: Develop economical laser beam welding technique at reduced pressure reliable to weld aluminum die-casting.



Ambient pressure [mbar]

High speed vacuum valves





WITHOUT VACUUM WITH VACUUM

TELED TELED TELES ELES

Challenge: Convert the harmful β phases into a less harmful α phases by microaddition.

Mn(wt. %)

a-phases