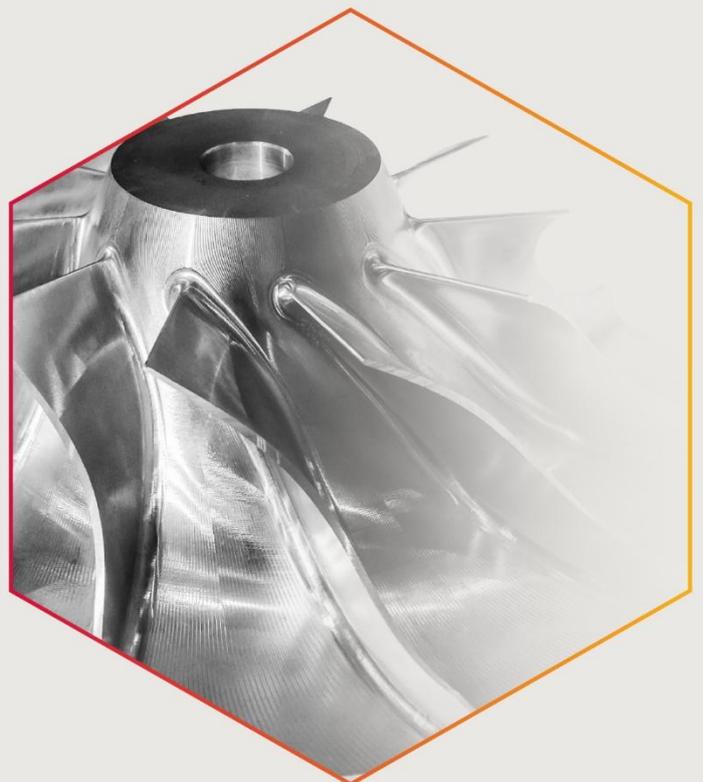




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(Grant Agreement number 101159771)

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Funding Scheme: Coordination and Support Action

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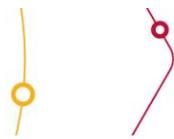
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Dissemination level		
PU	Public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SEN	Sensitive	<input type="checkbox"/>

NetCastPL4.0 aims to enhance excellence and innovation capacity at AGH, putting AGH in a leading position to nuclei the Networking Pole for Castings Foundry Innovation and Sustainability to face the strategic challenges of Poland and EU foundries and of lightweight components end-user industry. It also aims to engage the country in pan-European collaborative efforts on this topic twinning with the Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (Italy) and AALTO University (Finland). It will put AGH This will be achieved through realization of following specific objectives implemented via 7 WPs:

1. Improving the overall capacity and resources at AGH in advanced lightweight castings science & technology and in emerging Industrial Sustainability assessment and management practices and tools.
2. Conducting exploratory research on “High-tech cast iron and Al alloys for lightweighting castings for the medium and heavy-loaded conditions produced by green molding materials” demonstrating enhanced capacity in novel lightweight materials and components fabrication, modelling and characterisation.
3. Establishing an AGH European Networking Pole on Lightweight Castings Innovation and Sustainability. This will enhance the replication potential developed at AGH, creating strategic partnerships with Research organizations, Universities, Foundries, Industry, Public and Governmental Organizations, and Agencies in light-weighting casting components and Technologies for casting foundries 4.0 development.
4. Providing new results and experiences analysing 3 case-studies in production of light-weight castings components in medium and heavy loaded conditions and automotive for the preparation of a Guide Document on Best Available Practices in the Green Foundries Industry.
5. Leveraging the NetCastPL4.0 partnership at a European level and creating the enabling conditions for a long-lasting joint collaboration.
6. To arrange schools and training workshops in partner countries for scientists and for potential follower foundries and other relevant stakeholders.
7. Raising mobility (internal and external) of scientists and staff in green molding/casting science and technologies.
8. Improving the research management and administration skills at AGH, by creating the Department of European cooperation within AGH.
9. Fostering gender equality issues at AGH and in the castings foundry through implementation of the action plan for Equality, Inclusion, and Diversity.



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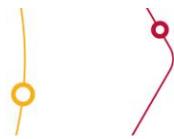
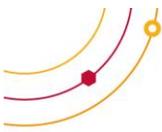
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1. Scope of the deliverable

This deliverable presents the networking actions taken within the project till now and also actions planned to be taken in next months of the project, activities taken to build the network and actions taken for further promotion of AGH visibility.

This deliverable is a part of WP5 Joint Initiatives, Networking and Visibility, which objectives are:

- O1: To establish relationship with foundries, industry and engage with key stakeholders in lightweight castings;
- O2: To gain knowledge in through Networking actions involving Foundry/Industry;
- O3: To evaluate the technological viability of the investigated components and processes;
- O4: To create a route through which the latest knowledge of materials, devices, processes and best-practices in lightweight castings can be transferred;
- O5: To rise entrepreneurship skills at AGH on relevant technologies for castings meeting the Green Deal.

The objectives are being achieved by realization of the following tasks:

- T5.1 Transfer of knowledge through networking actions involving industry/foundries;
- T5.2. Networking;
- T5.3 Workshops organization.

Networking actions started at the beginning of the project. Currently the NetCastPL4.0 Network consists of 35 partners from scientific and industrial entities (including SMEs) and is still open for new members.

Transfer of knowledge through networking actions involving industry/foundries began at the beginning of the project and is being continued. In order to work with stakeholders to guide development & transition to a more responsible approach, industries and foundries are engaged in network building. The External Advisory Board was organized on the topics of Castings Production Sustainability and its members are: Dr. Bogdan Cygan from Teksid Iron Poland Sp. z o.o. in Skoczów (Poland); MSc Franco Zanardi – President of Zanardi Fonderie S.p.A (Italy) and Matti Niemi - CEO of a diecasting foundry, Novacast (Finland).

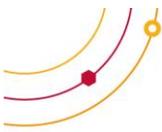
Organization of round-tables, seminars and panels with stakeholders and industry is a tool to get feedback and updates on latest castings technology directions. It enables the collection of knowledge and integration studies with contribution from all networking institutions and stakeholders to draw and model possible layouts of novel castings systems.

Knowledge collected within described above networking actions helps to activate matchmaking events between foundries and customers. Workshops, idea-camps at foundries with the participation of doctoral/PhD students and researchers helps to identify and analyze new business initiatives, new industrial, commercial and professional models in castings foundry.

Promotion of AGH visibility takes place during national and international conferences and other events, where project's goals and results are presented.

The deliverable has several goals:

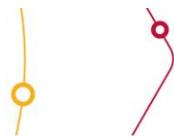
- ✓ taking networking actions such as round-tables, seminars and panels with stakeholders and industry organize to get feedback and updates on latest castings technology directions;
- ✓ collection of knowledge and integration studies with contribution from all networking institutions and stakeholders to draw and model possible layouts of novel castings systems;



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- ✓ activation matchmaking events between foundries and customers;
- ✓ further promotion of the visibility of AGH.

The present document consists of four chapters. Chapter 1 presents introductory information about the deliverable. Chapter 2 presents the information about networking actions. Chapter 3 shows the networking activities and current network partners. Chapter 4 includes the information about AGH visibility promotion within networking actions.



2. Networking actions

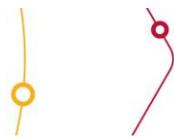
2.1 Networking meetings, panels & round-tables

Transfer of knowledge through networking actions involving industry/foundries began at the beginning of the project and is being continued. In order to work with stakeholders to guide development & transition to a more responsible approach, industries and foundries are engaged in network building. The External Advisory Board was organized on the topics of Castings Production Sustainability and its members are: Dr. Bogdan Cygan from Teksid Iron Poland Sp. z o.o. in Skoczów (Poland); MSc Franco Zanardi – President of Zanardi Fonderie S.p.A (Italy) and Matti Niemi - CEO of a diecasting foundry, Novacast (Finland). More information about the External Advisory Board is available on project's web platform under the link: <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/governance/>.

Organization of round-tables, seminars and panels with stakeholders and industry is a tool to get feedback and updates on latest castings technology directions. It enables the collection of knowledge and integration studies with contribution from all networking institutions and stakeholders to draw and model possible layouts of novel castings systems.

- The project and its ideas was for the first presented to potential partners during its kick-off **meeting** on May 27, 2024. To the meeting representatives of industry together with the President of Polish Foundrymen's Association and the President of Foundry Chamber of Commerce in Poland were invited. Initially, potential opportunities and threats in thin-walled castings production were discussed as well as the possibility of organizing the network around the project's subject. More information about the event is available under: <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/kick-off-meeting-networking-for-advancing-excellence-and-capacity-in-light-weight-castings-for-foundry-4-0-in-poland-netcastpl4-0/>.
- On November 21, 2024, the inaugural **meeting** of the Social Council of the Faculty of Foundry Engineering AGH for the 2024-2028 term was held at the headquarters of the Faculty of Foundry Engineering.

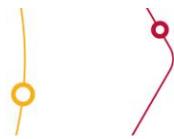
The Social Council functioning at the Faculty of Foundry Engineering is a collegial advisory body, working to develop cooperation between the FFE and external business entities and organizations. It brings together representatives of leading entities that are leaders in the foundry market. The Council plays a special role in cooperation and exchange of experience. The main focus of its activities is to adapt the scope of knowledge, skills and social competence of the Faculty's graduates to the needs and requirements of employers, as well as to develop the Faculty's cooperation with entities from its environment in the field of research and development. The Social Council consists of representatives of enterprises and organizations, such as the Foundry Chamber of Commerce and the Polish Foundrymen Association, whose activities are related to the fields of study of students and scientific research carried out at the FFE. The results of the Faculty's cooperation with the Council are educational and scientific ventures. With its help, seminars, workshops and conferences are organized at the Faculty of Foundry. An important effect of the Social Council is cooperation in shaping the educational program. Cooperation in this regard consists of discussing the directions of changes in the program, as well as soliciting opinions on FFE initiatives. Companies declare support in the implementation of the educational process (e.g., in terms of knowledge, laboratory equipment, jointly conducted theses) and participate in the implementation of apprenticeships. Constant cooperation with companies in the modification and modernization of teaching activities means that the courses are rated very highly by students and graduates. Graduates are valued specialists, sought after by foundries and foundry-related companies. During the inaugural meeting, the candidates were presented with nominations for



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Council members. During the meeting, the Presidium of the FFE AGH Social Council was appointed for the new term. Director Maciej Królikowski (Odlewnie Polskie S.A.) became the chairman of the board in the new term, and Director Oleg Bylinowski (FOSECO) became his deputy. Members of the Social Council discussed current issues concerning the activities of the Faculty of Foundry Engineering and the situation of the current foundry industry in Poland. The possibility of networking within the framework of the European project NetCastPL4.0 was also discussed, with the announcement of a broader presentation of the project during the Polish Foundryman Day on December 13, 2024 and first discussion on schools and workshops programmes organized within the project. More information about the event is available under: <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/inaugural-meeting-of-the-social-council-of-the-faculty-of-foundry-engineering-agh-for-the-2024-2028-term/>.

- Project's leader and its other representatives actively participated in “*Free forum – opportunities and threats for foundries in the context of global challenges. Open discussion forum*”, which was organized in the frame of Polish Foundrymen's Day 2024 (December 13, 2024, Krakow, Poland). During this event project's goals were presented to representatives of national and international foundry business and scientific units.
- Project's leader and its other representatives actively participated in “*Expert panel – between global challenges and local potential*”, which was organized in the frame of FOCAST 2025 (June 06, 2025, Poznań, Poland). More information about the school is available under the link: <https://focast.pl/pl/o-wydarzeniu/podsumowanie-salonu-odlewnictwa-focast-2025/>.
- The first **round-table** combined with the discussion was organized as a conclusion of 3-days school which took place at AGH University in Krakow on June 30-July 02, 2025. It was scheduled in Schools programme as “Discussion and roundtable on Green technologies utilization”. The School on S&T mechanics, metallurgy & green processing was organized by all project partners with lectures delivered by specialists from AGH, CNR and AALTO scientific units. The school programme is available under the link: <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/schools-and-workshops/school-on-st-mechanics-metallurgy-green-processing/>. More information about the school is available under the link: <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/school-on-st-mechanics-metallurgy-green-processing-knowledge-exchange-for-a-sustainable-future-in-foundry-industry-the-first-school-in-the-project-is-completed/>.
- According to the up to date subject of the Workshop on Lightweight Castings Innovation - Green Processes in Foundry 4.0 practice of Light-Weight Castings (July 02-03, 2025, Poland) and presented in the frame of it issues, the workshop concluded with discussion - exchange forum, where all participants had the opportunity to presents: strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats in aspects of Lightweight Castings Innovation - Green Processes in Foundry 4.0 practice of Light-Weight Castings”. The data collected also from this discussion was the basis for elaborating the survey which was conducted in July 2025 in cooperation with Polish Foundry Chamber of Commerce. The results of the survey are available in report: D6.1 Market analysis and needs (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/D6.1-Market-analysis-and-needs.pdf>).
- The next Social Council of the Faculty of Foundry Engineering AGH **meeting** took place on October 07, 2025. The possibility of networking within the framework of the European project NetCastPL4.0 was also discussed, with the announcement of the project scientific panel during the V International Conference of Casting and Materials Engineering ICCME 25 Conference. More information about the event is available



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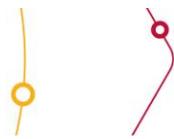
under: <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/meeting-of-the-social-council-of-the-faculty-of-foundry-engineering-agh/>.

- Within scientific conference the **discussion panel**, with President of Polish Foundrymen Association among panelists, was organized within the V International Conference of Casting and Materials Engineering ICCME 25 conference in Krakow.

The International Conference of Casting and Materials Engineering (ICCME) is organized every two years by the Faculty of Foundry Engineering at the AGH University of Krakow. The main theme of the conference organized in 2025 (ICCME 25) was “Lightweight Innovations for a Better Climate,” which reflected current global trends in the development of lightweight components and the increasing use of environmentally sustainable materials – also ideas of NetCastPL4.0 project. The conference took place on October 27-28, 2025 in Krakow and gathered around 100 participants from both research units, including large number of PhD students and young researchers, industry enterprises. The conference programme featured four keynote speakers, representing a diverse spectrum of expertise in casting technologies, additive manufacturing, simulation, and process optimization. Dr. Susana Mendez, Director of Casting Technologies at AZTERLAN Metallurgical Research Centre (Spain), delivered a lecture entitled Application of Hybrid Models to the Foundry Manufacturing Process. Professor Maurizio Vedani from Politecnico di Milano (Italy) discussed Solidification in Metal Additive Manufacturing: Similarities and Differences with Welding and Metal Casting. Mr. Young-Hoon Yim, Director of Overseas Business at AnyCasting Software Co., Ltd. (Korea), presented Metamodeling Approach to Predict Microstructure and Mechanical Properties in Aluminum Alloy Casting and Heat Treatment Processes. The plenary session concluded with Dr. Wojciech Kowalczyk, who will share insights on the influence of casting parameters on the quality and efficiency of high-pressure die casting processes. His presentation title is High-pressure die casting in the face of global industry change. Opportunities and threats. Participants and speakers from South Korea, Italy, Finland, France, Germany, England, Türkiye, Sweden, the Netherlands, UK, US and Poland were present. ICCME provides an excellent opportunity to present their work, exchange ideas, and establish international collaborations.

The panel took place on October 27, 2025, according to the conference programme: <https://iccme.agh.edu.pl/conference-program>, and was moderated by Marcin Górny (AGH University of Krakow, Poland) and Kalle Jalava (Aalto University, Finland). The invited panelists were Susana Méndez (Azterlan, Spain), Rafał Dańko (AGH University of Krakow, Poland; President of Polish Foundrymen Association), Jerzy J. Sobczak (AGH University of Krakow, Poland), Giuliano Angella (CNR-ICMATE, Italy), Michał Łuszczak (Nemak Poland) and Robert Michael Purgert (Thompson Aluminum Casting, US). The event gathered around 100 participants. The topics, which were discussed during the panel were:

- Lightweight design is a driving force for both civilian and defense applications. How can foundry technologies contribute to the development of dual-use materials that meet strict mechanical and environmental requirements?
- What are the most promising materials maybe including metal matrix composites, metallic glass, or additive-manufacturing—that could significantly advance lightweight casting solutions in the coming years?
- Digitalization and data-driven process control are central to Foundry 4.0. How can AI-based simulations enhance the design and validation of lightweight components?
- From an industrial perspective, what are the main barriers to implementing lightweight casting innovations at scale—cost, reproducibility, environmental footprint?

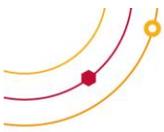


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- Considering current geopolitical and industrial challenges, what role could European collaborative projects (like NetCastPL4.0) play in strengthening European technological sovereignty and capacity in advanced lightweight casting technologies?
- How can the goal of lightweight design, which is intrinsically linked to the reduction of emissions in the use phase, be balanced with the increasing demands for sustainability in the foundry process itself (e.g. energy consumption, recycled materials, carbon footprint of production)?
- The European Foundry Industry Sentiment Indicator (FISI), is showing slight improvements after some exceptionally difficult years. If the business does pick up significantly, is the industry prepared for the increased demand from the personnel point of view? Would the bottleneck be specific type of engineers, production workforce or something else?

More information about the panel is available under the link: <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/netcastpl4-0-co-organizer-of-discussion-panel-lightweight-innovations-and-coffee-with-netcastpl4-0-within-iccme-25/> and about the conference is available under the link: <https://iccme.agh.edu.pl/> & <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/netcastpl4-0-co-organizer-of-iccme-25/>.

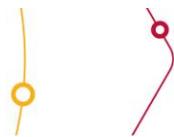
- As part of NetCastPL4.0 project the online connection to the workshop “Awareness into Action: Ideas for an Inclusive Scientific Culture” was arranged. The event was organized as a part of the NET4Air NETWORKING CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN NANOELECTRONIC DEVICES FOR AIR MONITORING project. The event took place in Sinaia (RO) during the International Semiconductor Conference CAS 2025 (October 10, 2025). More information about the event is available under: <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/awareness-into-action-ideas-for-an-inclusive-scientific-culture/> & <https://www.imt.ro/cas/2025/NET4Air%20Inclusive%20Workshop%20Agenda.pdf>.
- An important connection in NetCastPL4.0 is Cross-fertilization with the regional networks, like SINFONET (Smart and Innovative Foundry NETWORK) that is the Innovative Foundry Network by the Regione Veneto, Italy, which intends to create the "smart foundry of the future", in which innovation and integration generate training, employment and competitiveness and which CNR is part of. SINFONET brings together more than 40 partners with over 4,500 employees in Regione Veneto, and a total turnover of more than 1.5 billion Euros, and carry out and coordinate a wide series of initiatives involving all the players in the supply chain: foundries, producers of raw materials and consumables, suppliers of engineering, services, technology, plants, research and innovation bodies, end-users. SINFONET became the NetCastPL4.0 network partner on December 23, 2025 (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/we-are-proud-to-announce-that-sinfonet-has-joined-netcastpl4-0-network/>).
- To gather statistical data on lightweight casting production and their diverse applications, the survey "Market and Market Needs Analysis in the Area of Lightweight Castings for Foundry 4.0 in Poland" comprising 34 primarily multiple-choice questions across sections like "General Company Information," "Market Needs and Expectations," "Foundry 4.0 and Digital Technologies," and "Market Assessment and Future Outlook," was prepared, sent and its results were analyzed. The questions were designed for simplicity and efficiency, ensuring the collection of essential information for the upcoming report, including statistical data on the volume of lightweight casting production in Poland and their utilization across the automotive, aviation, and energy industries, among others. More information about the market analysis is available in D6.1 Market analysis and needs (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/D6.1-Market-analysis-and-needs.pdf>).



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- The **exchange forum** with network partners aiming to promote discussion on foundry sustainability trends and needs, challenges and opportunities is planned to be organized on February 20, 2026. Extra meeting will be organized during this event with SMEs.
- Throughout next months of the project the **round-tables** with Regional SINFONET and Organizations, Environment Agency, policy makers is planned to be organized.

Collected within described above networking actions help to activate matchmaking events between foundries and customers, idea-camps at foundries with the participation of doctoral/PhD students and researchers to identify and analyze new business initiatives, new industrial, commercial and professional models in castings foundry. The example of such activities are also workshops described in chapter 2.4.



2.2 Seminars

On the basis of knowledge collected during organized, mentioned in chapter 2.1, actions, within networking actions the following online **seminars** with stakeholders and industry to get feedback and updates on latest castings technology directions were organized by all partners:

- **January 22, 2025: Austempered Ductile Irons (ADIs)**

Seminar focused on the 10-year scientific collaboration between CNR-ICMATE and Zanardi Fonderie S.p.A., a European leader in ADI production. It gathered around participants 40 from research community, including PhD students, industry etc.

Speakers:

Dr. Giuliano Angella (CNR-ICMATE, Italy): Austempering time optimization through tensile behaviour analysis: a refining procedure of Dorozil method.

Mr. Franco Zanardi (Zanardi Fonderie S.p.A., Italy): The importance of scientific collaboration between foundry and Accademia for materials engineering: the case of Austempered Ductile Irons.

E-Invitation: <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/2Newsletter-Invitation-to-the-first-NetCastPL4.0-Seminar.pdf>;

News on the event: <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/netcastpl4-0-seminars-series-22-january-2025-1500-1615/>.

- **February 24, 2025: Green Molding Technologies**

Seminar showcased inorganic foundry binders for sand molding processes, featuring collaboration between researchers at Aalto University and AGH. It gathered around participants 30 from research community, including PhD students, industry etc.

Speakers:

Dr. Kalle Jalava (Aalto University): State-of-the-art and challenges in inorganic binder systems.

Dr. Nurul Anwar (Aalto University): Potential of solid inorganic foundry binders.

E-Invitation: <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/3Newsletter-Invitation-to-the-next-NetCastPL4.0-Seminar.pdf>;

News on the event: <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/netcastpl4-0-seminars-series-24-february-2025/>.

- **March 24, 2025: Ductile Iron and Aluminum Alloys for Thin-Walled Castings**

Seminar highlighted collaborations between Teksid Iron Poland, Silesian University of Technology, and AGH. It gathered around participants 30 from research community, including PhD students, industry etc.

Speakers:

Bogdan Cygan (Teksid Iron Poland): Spheroidal graphite cast iron having exceptional strength and ductility designed for light weights castings in automotive.

Jarostaw Piątkowski (Silesian University of Technology): Technological Aspects of Aluminium Alloy Castings.

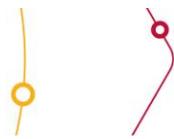
E-Invitation: <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/4Newsletter-Join-the-NetCastPL4.0-Seminar-on-Modern-Casting-Alloys.pdf>;

News on the event: <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/netcastpl4-0-seminars-series-24-march2025/>.

- **May 26, 2025: Production-Microstructure-Properties of Ductile Cast Irons**

The seminar gathered around participants 30 from research community, including PhD students, industry etc.

Speakers:



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Dr. Giuliano Angella (CNR-ICMATE, Italy): A New Material Integrity Index for foundry castings: the case of 4.2 wt.% Silicon Ductile Iron produced through different sections.

Mr. Stefano Masaggia (Zanardi Fonderie S.p.A., Italy): The Influence of wall thickness on the fatigue limit of V-notched bars made of as-cast or heat treated ductile irons.

E-Invitation: <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/Seminar-Invitation.pdf>;

News on the event: <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/netcastpl4-0-seminars-series-26-may-2025/>.

- **December 08, 2025: Production-Microstructure-Properties of Ductile Cast Irons**

The seminar gathered around participants 20 from research community, including PhD students, industry etc.

Speakers:

Dr. Adrian Boccardo (URJC, Spain): Computational modelling of thermal processing: Application to microstructure tailoring of metal-based alloys.

Dr. Kalle Jalava (AALTO, Finland): Results: Market analysis, needs and the future in the area of light-weighting castings for Foundry 4.0.

E-Invitation: <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/Seminar-Invitation-december.pdf>;

News on the event: <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/netcastpl4-0-seminars-series-8-december-2025/>.

- **January 20, 2026: Production-Microstructure-Properties of Ductile Cast Irons**

Seminar on advanced casting materials for aerospace, defense, and automotive applications, focusing on ADI composites, Ni-based superalloys, and process optimization for high-performance components.

The seminar gathered more than 50 participants from research community, including PhD students, industry etc.

Speakers:

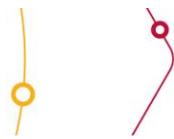
Prof. Rafał Cygan (AGH, CPP, Poland): Thin-walled Ni-based superalloy castings for aerospace applications – Microstructure, stability and mechanical properties.

MSc Jan Marosz (AGH, Poland): Analysis of Austempered Ductile Iron Castings Reinforced with Titanium Carbides.

E-Invitation: <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/Seminar-Invitation-january.pdf>

News on the event: <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/netcastpl4-0-seminars-series-january-20-2026/>.

Seminars are planned to be organized periodically till the end of the project.



2.3 Matchmaking events

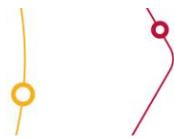
One of the goal of this deliverable is activation matchmaking events between foundries and customers such as idea-camps at foundries with the participation of PhD students and researchers organize to identify and analyze new business initiatives, new industrial, commercial and professional models in castings foundry.

On the basis of knowledge collected during organized activities, mentioned in chapter 2.1, within networking actions, the following workshop as a matchmaking event was organized by all partners with one day at the foundry:

Workshop on Lightweight Castings Innovation with the subtitle: “Green Processes in Foundry 4.0 practice of Light-Weight Castings” was organized as the first workshop within NetCastPL4.0 project.

The workshop was organized by all project’s partners: AGH University, CNR and AALTO and took place in Poland on July 03-04, 2025. Its primary objective was to present both theoretical and practical aspects of implementing green technologies that enable the production of thin-walled components combining high mechanical performance with low weight, cost-efficiency, and a reduced carbon footprint – in line with the European strategy for CO₂ emissions reduction. One day of the workshop (July 03, 2025) was dedicated to technical aspect and took place in two foundry plants located in Rzeszów: Consolidated Precision Products and Zakład Metalurgiczny „WSK Rzeszów” Ltd. Both the companies are members of project’s network (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/network-partners/>). The second day (July 04, 2025) was dedicated to Science, Policy and Business in the field lightweight castings and took place at the Faculty of Foundry Engineering of AGH University facilities in Krakow. The information of the event was open to public via e.g. project’s web platform (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/schools-and-workshops/workshop-on-lightweight-castings-innovation/>), e-Newsletter (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/How-NetCastPL4.0-Supports-Innovation-in-Lightweight-Castings-%E2%80%93-See-Whats-New.pdf>), sent flyers or spreading the information among network partners. The lectures / presentations were delivered by both foundry specialists (from Poland and abroad) and scientists from AGH University, CNR and AALTO. All participants of school and workshop received certificates of completion. Among participants the following entities’ & companies’ representatives were trained: AGH University of Krakow (Faculty of Foundry Engineering, ACMIN), Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche- Istituto di Chimica della Materia Condensata e di Tecnologie per l’Energia -Italy (CNR ICMATE), Aalto University, Department of Mechanical Engineering in the School of Engineering, Poznan University of Technology, The Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Lodz University of Technology, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Silesian University of Technology, Łukasiewicz Research Network – Institute of Non-Ferrous Metals, Consolidated Precision Products, Zakład Metalurgiczny „WSK Rzeszów” Ltd., Zanardi Fonderie S.p.A., DETUR CHEM sp. z o.o., Specodlew Sp. z o.o., EUROCAST INDUSTRIES Sp. z o.o. Sp. K., KPR PRODLEW-KRAKÓW Sp. z o.o., Kawmet Foundry, Prec-Odlew Sp. z o.o., Teksid Iron Poland, Limatherm S.A., Innerco Ltd., Bitech Training Ltd. PhD students also participated in this event. In order to improve the future workshops, after the event, participants received a survey to assess their level of satisfaction with the workshop organization and lectures’ level.

More information about the workshop is available in the Report on D5.2 Workshop on Lightweight Castings Innovation (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Report-on-D5.2-Workshop-on-Lightweight-Castings-Innovation.pdf>).



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Next workshop: **Workshop on Castings foundry of the future: “Technological aspects of the production of thin walled castings for the foundry of the future”** is planned to be organized in Polish foundry with the various stakeholders in Winter 2026/2027. The event will be open to public (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/schools-and-workshops/>).

Besides the workshops, organized partially in industry with the participation of PhD students and researchers, other matchmaking activities are planned to be taken such as idea-camps or TECH TRANSFER DAYS throughout next month of the project.

On February 02, 2026 at AGH University Faculty of Foundry Engineering **info day** was organized. The event was open to public and gathered around visitors, including PhD students, researchers and administrative staff. In the programme were: project presentation delivered by the Project Leader, Prof. Marcin Górny, DSc, Eng., discussion: behind-the-scenes insights into cooperation with leading European industry partners, and coffee and & doughnut meeting. More information about the event is available under: <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/netcastpl4-0-info-day/>.

To strengthen matchmaking, project’s goals and results are presented during events like researchers nights, open days, science café and at schools, among civil society and citizens – the future foundries’ customers.

Project took part in 4 **researchers nights**: 2 organized at AGH University in the frame of Małopolska Researchers’ Night (<https://nocnaukowcow.malopolska.pl/o-nocy-naukowcow/>) and 2 organized by CNR. The event is part of the European Researchers’ Night, which traditionally takes place on the last Friday in September. The aim of the event is not only to present scientific achievements, but above all to promote science and encourage young participants to choose a scientific career in the future. Children, teenagers and adults who participated in interactive workshops, demonstrations, lectures and laboratory visits had the opportunity to see how fascinating science can be and feel the magic of different fields of science. More information about the presence of NetCastPL4.0 in researchers nights in Poland is available under: in 2024 - <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/netcastpl4-0-project-present-at-the-malopolska-researchers-night-2024-in-krakow/> and in 2025 - <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/netcastpl4-0-present-malopolska-researchers-night-krakow/>. More information about the presence of NetCastPL4.0 in researchers nights in Poland is available under: in 2024 - <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/presentation-of-netcastpl4-0-during-co-science-meet-research-to-connect-science-and-society-presentation-in-milan/> and in 2025: <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/netcastpl4-0-present-during-2025-milano/>.

Project took part in open days: 3rd National Materials Engineering Day (March 28, 2025, Krakow, Poland). It was promoted at AGH University Faculty of Foundry Engineering. The Day aims to spark interest in materials engineering and promote it among young people. Over 20 research institutes and universities from all over Poland, including the AGH University of Krakow, are participating in this event. The 3rd edition was devoted to smart materials, which form the basis of many modern technologies and innovative solutions used in medicine, industry, and environmental protection. National Materials Engineering Day is an event that combines education with fun and a practical approach to learning. The program prepared by the organizers provides participants with unforgettable experiences that will stimulate their imagination and broaden their horizons on modern materials. Young people and teachers will have the opportunity to take part in numerous workshops, lectures, and interactive demonstrations that will introduce them to the fascinating world of



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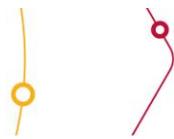
materials engineering. More information about the event is available under: <https://www.agh.edu.pl/wydarzenia/detail/s/ogolnopolski-dzien-inzynierii-materialowej>.

Project took part in Human Resources Strategy for Researchers (HRS4R) Days organized by AGH University on September 24-25, 2025. HRS4R Days is an event dedicated to improving the quality of work in the academic environment and supporting the development of scientific careers. The program will include lectures on the following topics: requirements and procedures for academic promotion, the principles of the European Charter for Researchers and the HR4R strategy at AGH, AGH's human resources policy, the application of artificial intelligence in science, equality and accessibility in research and teaching, EU funding for research projects, modern tools for cloud data storage. More information about the event is available under: <https://con.agh.edu.pl/dni-hrs4r>.

Science COFFEE with NetCastPL4.0 Project was organized on October 28, 2025 in between Students Sessions of V International Conference of Casting and Materials Engineering (ICCME 25) at AGH University Faculty of Foundry Engineering. The aim of the event was to disseminate knowledge about the project among students, doctoral students, and young scientists. The event was scheduled in the conference program (https://iccme.agh.edu.pl/home/iccme/CONFERENCE_PROGRAMME_ICCME25_27-28October2025.pdf).

To spread the information about the project among civil society and citizens, NetCastPL4.0 was promoted at high schools: during the Teaching days The Article n.9 of the Constitution of the Italian Republic: a meeting between civil society, science and technology at the Altiero Spinelli High School in Sesto San Giovanni (MI) (November 22-25, 2024, Italy); at the Lyceum Bagatta, Desenzano del Garda, Italy (November 27, 2025, Italy) and at the School in Sesto San Giovanni (MI) by scientific and dissemination lessons in Altiero Spinelli High in Sesto San Giovanni (December 5, 2025, Italy).

The list of examples of such activities is presented in chapter 4.



2.4 Cross-fertilization

For cross-fertilization, NetCastPL4.0 actively participates in events promoted by running R&D EU projects on foundry sustainability and Green Deal and on gender perspective.

Participation of NetCastPL4.0 in events on foundry sustainability and Green Deal supports identifying use-cases to interlink with research in WP4, which are being proposed to foundry/industry. For example, among others, participation in “1st Workshop in Poland – Green Casting LIFE project” (May 23, 2025) helped to identify the problem of green molding materials used in castings production. Green Casting LIFE European project aims to demonstrate the technical and environmental feasibility of using inorganic binders, instead of traditional organic ones, in European ferrous foundries. The Green Casting LIFE consortium is constituted by 16 partners from 8 countries: Finland, Spain, Poland (AGH University of Krakow, Odlewnie Polskie S.A.), Italy, Czech Republic, Germany, France and Estonia. The identified problem is consistent with NetCastPL4.0 goals. The topic was presented to participants, also from foundries/industry, of organized within the NetCastPL4.0 School on S&T mechanics, metallurgy & green processing (June 30 – July 02, 2025) and Workshop on Lightweight Castings Innovation with the subtitle: “Green Processes in Foundry 4.0 practice of Light-Weight Castings” (July 04-04, 2025). The School concluded with discussion and roundtable on Green technologies utilization. The research conducted within WP4 on molding materials also took this issues into account. The results are available in the report under the link: <https://repo.agh.edu.pl/handle/AGH/115009> and in the Roadmap elaborated as a part of NetCastPL4.0 project (https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/D4.1_Roadmap-on-Green-technologies-for-lightweight-castings.pdf).

As the problem of gender inequality, which is a social problem, is not well recognized in Polish foundries, participation of NetCastPL4.0 in events organized on gender perspective is very important. Increasing the knowledge of project’s participants on this subject will allow implementing it to industry. This topic was also presented to, among others, foundries’ representatives during the first project’s workshop: Workshop on Lightweight Castings Innovation with the subtitle: “Green Processes in Foundry 4.0 practice of Light-Weight Castings” (July 04-04, 2025) (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/schools-and-workshops/workshop-on-lightweight-castings-innovation/>).

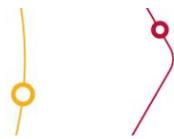
NetCastPL4.0 representatives actively participated in:

- ✓ NetCastPL4.0 representatives took part in Seminar “Science for Sustainable Development” (Prof. L. Valentini, Dept. Geosciences, University of Padua; Dr. E. Santini, ICMATE-CNR Genoa) (September 18, 2024). During the seminar the GLAMS - Geopolymers for Lunar Additive Manufacturing and Sensing – project, which explores the exploitation of lunar regolith for the formulation of alkali activated binders, used for the production of building units by means of additive manufacturing was presented. The GLAMS project, funded by the Italian Space Agency, and aims at the production of porous materials obtained from foams generated by slurries based on lunar regolith, formulated according to IRSU (In Situ Resource Utilization) strategy suitable to obtain structural materials for the utilization in a not so far lunar colonization. More information about the event is available under: https://www.icmate.cnr.it/blog/2024/09/13/science-for-sustainable-development_valentini_santini/.
- ✓ NetCastPL4.0 was part of the event organized by Project “Co.Science – Meet Research to Connect Science and Society” (HORIZON-MSCA-2023-CITIZENS-01), in Milan, Italy on 27/09/2024, at Piazza del Duomo, on the sustainability of lightweight castings production. More information is available under <https://www.icmate.cnr.it/blog/2024/09/26/nottedeiricercatori2024/> & <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/presentation-of-netcastpl4-0-during-co-science-meet-research-to-connect-science-and-society-presentation-in-milan/>.



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- ✓ NetCastPL4.0 representatives took part in “Open Forum Jan 13, 2025: Working with a gender perspective – Taking a gender aware approach to research & teaching (January 13, 2025). The forum proved how to learn more about the approach to include a gender perspective when working in science. In that Open Forum, Natasza Kosakowska-Bezrezecka and Magdalena Żadkowska from the University of Gdańsk shared their expertise on working with a gender perspective in research and teaching. They presented the key take-aways from our policy briefs Teaching with gender in mind and Research through a gender lens. During the Open Forum, there was opportunity to ask questions to the speakers. More information about the event is available under: <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/open-forum-jan-13-2025-working-with-a-gender-perspective-taking-a-gender-aware-approach-to-research-teaching/>.
- ✓ NetCastPL4.0 representatives took part in Webinar “MATERIALS MATTER!” - “High-temperature co-electrolysis at ICMATE” (Dr. Sara Massardo ICMATE-CNR Genoa; Dr. Mario Italo Trioni SCITEC-CNR Milan (February 19, 2025). More information about the event is available under: https://www.icmate.cnr.it/blog/2025/02/13/seminar_series_materials-matter_vivianitrioni/.
- ✓ NetCastPL4.0 representatives took part in webinar Horizon Europe Open Science requirements in practice) for administrative and scientific staff (March 14, 2025). The webinar was designed to clarify the obligations of Horizon Europe (HE) grant holders regarding Open Access (OA) to publications and Research Data Management (RDM). It provides a comprehensive overview of the mandatory and recommended Open Science requirements set by HE, ensuring that researchers, project coordinators, and research support staff understand how to comply with these policies effectively.
- ✓ NetCastPL4.0 representatives took part in Open Forum 14 May: Reviewing for gender equality – How gender-sensitive practices in academic publishing can drive systemic change (May 14, 2025). Open Forum was a conversation with Dr Magdalena Żadkowska, University of Gdańsk, and Miguel Santinhos, Elsevier on exploring how integrating gender-sensitive practices into academic publishing can foster systemic change across research and academia.
- ✓ NetCastPL4.0 took part in “1st Workshop in Poland – Green Casting LIFE project” (May 23, 2025). Green Casting LIFE project aims to demonstrate the technical and environmental feasibility of using inorganic binders, instead of traditional organic ones, in ferrous foundries. Project’s objectives are: To successfully use inorganic binder systems on an industrial scale in 6 flagship ferrous foundries, including necessary equipment investments, in five European countries; To develop tailor-made inorganic binder systems solutions for iron and steel foundries, in cooperation with the flagship foundries; To demonstrate different type of sand reclamation methods for inorganic binder system sands (thermal, mechanical and wet methods); To enhance the replication potential by: contacting 200 and interviewing 100 potential ferrous foundries; guiding and testing inorganic binders in 15 selected follower pilot foundries in Europe; providing new results and experiences for the preparation of the Reference Document on Best Available Techniques in the Smitheries and Foundries Industry (BREF document); To ensure an efficient communication and dissemination of the project activities; To arrange training workshops in six partner countries for potential follower pilot foundries and other relevant stakeholders. The event gathered around 45 participants from: AGH, Meehanite, Metalpol Węgierska Górka, Brembo, Draxton, SandTeam, Warsaw University of Technology, Sibelco, PrecOdlaw, Desmi, STOP, Eurocst Industries, Odlewnie Polskie S.A., Silesian University of Technology, KawMet, Łukasiewicz Research Network, Fonderie di Assisi S.p.a and Azterlan Centro de Investigación Metalúrgica. Some of participants are also NetCastPL4.0 network partners. More information is available under <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/1st-workshop-in-poland-green-casting-life-project/>.
- ✓ NetCastPL4.0 representatives took part in Webinar “MATERIALS MATTER!” (Prof. Carlo Antonini, University of Milan-Bicocca, Dr. Luca Stendardo, CNR-ICMATE Lecco; Jacopo Mazzini, University of Pisa)



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(June 18, 2025). During the webinar, among other topics, the EU project SURFICE "Smart surface design for efficient ice protection and control", which combined experimental, theoretical, and engineering approaches to address the three following objectives: (i) investigation of the physics of icing of morphologically complex microstructured surfaces, (ii) rational design of new icephobic/anti-icing materials and coatings, (iii) development of new technologies and systems for efficient ice prevention and control was presented. More information about the event is available under: https://www.icmate.cnr.it/blog/2025/05/29/seminar_series_materials-matter_3-2-2/.

- ✓ NetCastPL4.0 representatives took part in Webinar “MATERIALS MATTER!” (Prof. Joonho Lee, Korea University; Dr. Rafał Nowak, ICMATE Genova). More information about the event is available under: (September 08, 2025). More information about the event is available under: https://www.icmate.cnr.it/blog/2025/09/01/seminar_series_materials-matter_4-2/.
- ✓ NetCastPL4.0 representatives took part in Webinar “MATERIALS MATTER!” - Nanostructured Thin Films for Enhanced Energy Performance: The Role of Artificial Nanodefects (Prof. Paolo Mele, Shibaura Institute of Technology, Tokyo, Japan) (September 23, 2025). More information about the event is available under: https://www.icmate.cnr.it/blog/2025/09/19/invited_talk_icmate/.
- ✓ NetCastPL4.0 representatives took part in Webinar “MATERIALS MATTER!” (Giulia Poppi, UNIMORE Modena, Angelica Fasan, ICMATE Padova) (October 29, 2025). The HEADSTONE project, which focuses on the design, synthesis, and testing of lightweight High Entropy Alloys (HEAs) for solid-state hydrogen storage, leveraging their ability to form interstitial metal hydrides with high hydrogen-to-metal ratios was presented, as well as the HOOPLA project, which investigates the resistance of pipeline and storage vessel materials to hydrogen embrittlement and degradation, with particular emphasis on how processing history and surface treatments influence mechanical reliability. It was proved that in parallel, a PhD thesis, conducted within the framework of the PON "Doctorates on Green Thematics" program and successfully defended in May 2025, developed cost-effective Raney-Nickel electrocatalytic coatings, produced by atmospheric plasma spray (APS), to be used in alkaline water electrolyzers for green hydrogen production. PNRR - "Ricerca e sviluppo sull'idrogeno", Coatings for pipelines for hydrogen transport. Concerning the transport of H₂, atoms can easily diffuse into the metallic matrix of the infrastructure (tanks and pipes consisting of steel, Al or Mg alloys, Ti, etc.), and cause its embrittlement (Hydrogen Embrittlement, HE). HE can be mitigated by blocking/limiting the entry of hydrogen into the metallic material: my research team is working on the deposition of ceramic hydrogen barrier layers (Hydrogen Permeation Barrier, HPB) via PVD-MS. The starting base material was Ti-Al-N, prepared using both DC and High Power Impulse MS configurations. All films were thoroughly characterized and exposed to H₂ atmosphere to test their stability. More information about the event is available under: https://www.icmate.cnr.it/blog/2025/10/02/seminar_series_materials-matter_29_10_2025/.
- ✓ NetCastPL4.0 representatives took part in the event organized by The National Contact Point (NCP) at the National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR), which support the participation of Polish researchers, research units, enterprises of various sizes, central and regional governments, non-governmental organizations in the current EU Framework Program for Research and Innovation – Horizon Europe (January 16, 2026). During webinar entitled “GEP in action. Proven strategies and inspiring examples” practical tips and experiences of experts involved in the development and implementation of gender equality plans were presented. The meeting was an opportunity to exchange knowledge, inspiration, and good practices that can support the creation of a more inclusive work and research environment. More information about the event is available under: <https://www.kpk.gov.pl/wydarzenia/webinar-gep-w-akcji-sprawdzone-strategie-i-inspirujace-przyklady>.

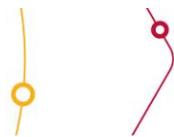


D5.1 Report on Networking actions

- ✓ NetCastPL4.0 representatives took part in Webinar “MATERIALS MATTER!” (Dr. Beatrice Morelli, ICMATE-CNR, Padua; Prof. Victor Morales Flores, Dept. Condensed Matter Physics, University of Seville, ES) (January 21, 2026). Among other topics the FIC-Fighters project, which proposes sustainable alternatives for managing phosphogypsum (PG), a waste product that has been accumulating near cities for decades was presented within presentation: Technological proposals for recycling phosphogypsum into the circular economy: challenges from laboratory to industry. More information about the event is available under: https://www.icmate.cnr.it/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/20260121_seminario_Morales_Morelli.pdf.
- ✓ NetCastPL4.0 representatives took part in webinar organised in the frame of the EU project NET4AIR: Pillar II: funding schemes for collaborative projects (February 04, 2026);
- ✓ NetCastPL4.0 representatives registered for International Information Day "Twinning: general conditions, practical information, project presentation" (HORIZON-WIDERA-2026-02- WIDENING-01, Horizon Europe) (February 27, 2026); the registration was confirmed; the agenda is available under: <https://www.kpk.gov.pl/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/Agenda-ID-Twinning-International-27.02.-Final.pdf>.

NetCastPL4.0 takes joint initiatives with other EU projects. The example of such an activity is:

- ✓ NetCastPL4.0 together with HOCLOOP HOP-ON – “A Wider, Stronger and United European Research Area for the Sustainable Exploitation of Geothermal Resources” project (within Widening actions) also conducted at AGH University, took mutual actions on applying for support on KERs from wideraAdvance Facility.

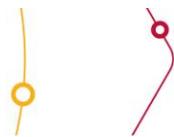


3. Networking

3.1 Activities taken for networking

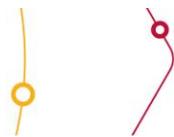
Networking activities started at the beginning of the project and till M22 included the following:

- **May 2024** - Projects Visual identity - design of project's graphical identity including logo, fonts, colors and text; design of project's flyers & banner;
- **May 27, 2024** - First information of the project presented during the Kick-off meeting to the representatives from: Polish Foundrymen's Association, Foundry Chamber of Commerce in Poland and Polish foundry companies who were invited to the meeting (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/kick-off-meeting-networking-for-advancing-excellence-and-capacity-in-light-weight-castings-for-foundry-4-0-in-poland-netcastpl4-0/>);
- **June 2024** - establishment of an External Advisory Board (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/governance/>);
- **June 2024** - The information about project kick-off meeting has been published on Project's web platform (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/kick-off-meeting-networking-for-advancing-excellence-and-capacity-in-light-weight-castings-for-foundry-4-0-in-poland-netcastpl4-0/>);
- **June 2024** - The information about project kick-off meeting has been published on FFE AGH website (<https://odlewnictwo.agh.edu.pl/aktualnosci/kick-off-meeting-networking-for-advancing-excellence-and-capacity-in-light-weight-castings-for-foundry-4-0-in-poland-netcastpl4-0/>);
- **June 2024** - The information about project kick-off meeting has been published on AGH website (<https://www.agh.edu.pl/en/news/detail/advancing-foundry-netcastpl40-kick-off-meeting>);
- **June 2024** - The information about project kick-off meeting has been published on CNR ICMATE news website (<https://www.icmate.cnr.it/blog/2024/04/29/netcastpl4-0/>);
- **June 2024** - The information about project kick-off meeting has been published on CNR ICMATE events website (<https://www.icmate.cnr.it/mc-events/netcast-pl4-0-kickoff-meeting/>);
- **June 2024** - The information about project kick-off meeting has been published on CNR ICMATE projects website (<https://www.icmate.cnr.it/ricerca/progetti/>);
- **June 2024** - The information about project kick-off meeting has been published on Foundry Chamber of Commerce in Poland news website (<https://www.oig.com.pl/news/203/33/Projekt-NetCastPL4-0-Kick-Off-Meeting.html>);
- **June 2024** - The information about project kick-off meeting has been published on Polish Foundrymen's Association news website (<https://stowarzyszenie-stop.pl/en/uncategorized/kick-off-meeting-networking-for-advancing-excellence-and-capacity-in-light-weight-castings-for-foundry-4-0-in-poland-netcastpl4-0/>);
- **June 23-26, 2024** - First presentation of the project during international scientific conference SPCI-XIII, Krakow, Poland; The Symposium was organized by AGH University of Kraków Faculty of Foundry Engineering. It gathered around 80 participants representing 17 countries: Japan, China, USA, Brazil, Italy, Finland, Romania, France, Slovakia, Germany, Sweden, Ukraine, Austria, Norway, Swiss and Poland (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/first-public-presentation-of-netcastpl4-0-during-international-conference-spci-xiii-2024/>);



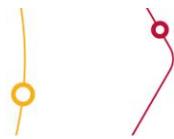
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- **July 2024** - Set up of the Project's website – first version;
- **July 2024** - creating accounts on social media (<https://www.facebook.com/people/NetCast-PL40/61561661678930/>; <https://www.linkedin.com/company/netcastpl-4-0/posts/?feedView=all>); <https://x.com/4Netcastpl?mx=2>);
- **August 26-30, 2024** - Promotion of the project during ESOMAT 2024 – 13TH European Symposium on Martensitic Transformation, Italy (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/public-presentation-of-netcastpl4-0-during-the-national-conference-of-the-italian-association-of-metallurgy-associazione-italiana-di-metallurgia-aim/>);
- **September 11-13, 2024** - Promotion of the project during AIM – National Conference, Italy (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/public-presentation-of-netcastpl4-0-during-the-national-conference-of-the-italian-association-of-metallurgy-associazione-italiana-di-metallurgia-aim/>);
- **September 22-25, 2024** - Promotion of the project during The 3rd Carl R. Loper Conference (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/public-presentation-of-netcastpl4-0-during-the-3rd-carl-r-loper-conference-on-processing-of-metallic-materials-through-casting-and-solidification-in-romania/>);
- **September 24-26, 2024** - Promotion of the project at 25th International Fair of Technologies for Foundry METAL, Kielce, Poland (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/netcastpl4-0-at-the-international-fair-of-technologies-for-foundry-2024/>);
- **September 27, 2024** - Promotion of the project at Malopolska Researchers' Night at AGH (Krakow) (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/netcastpl4-0-project-present-at-the-malopolska-researchers-night-2024-in-krakow/>);
- **September 27, 2024** - Promotion of the project during “Co.Science – Meet Research to Connect Science and Society” project presentation in Milan (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/presentation-of-netcastpl4-0-during-co-science-meet-research-to-connect-science-and-society-presentation-in-milan/>);
- **September 2024** - Set up of the Project's web platform - <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/>;
- **October 25-30, 2024** - Promotion of the project during The 75th World Foundry Congress (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/netcastpl4-0-in-china-prof-marcin-gorny-honored-with-first-prize-for-presentation-of-best-scientific-paper-at-75th-world-foundry-congress/>);
- **October 2024** - Project's advertisement was printed in magazine: Przegląd Odlewnictwa – Foundry Journal of the Polish Foundrymen's Association, ISSN 0033-2275, Issue 9-10/2024; The magazine was distributed among the participants of World Foundry Congress (October 25-30, 2024, China);
- **October 28, 2024** - Newsletter #1 was prepared and sent to around 300 contacts (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/1Newsletter-Network-NetCastPL4.0-New-Horizons-in-Foundry-Industry.pdf>);
- **November 2024** - Project's advertisement was sent for printing in magazine: Przegląd Odlewnictwa – Foundry Journal of the Polish Foundrymen's Association, ISSN 0033-2275, Issue 11-12/2024; The magazine will be distributed during Polish Foundryman's Day 2024 (December 13, 2024, Krakow, Poland);
- **November 21, 2024** - Promotion of the project during Inaugural meeting of the Social Council of the Faculty of Foundry Engineering AGH for the 2024-2028 term; representatives of around 15 companies attended the meeting (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/inaugural-meeting-of-the-social-council-of-the-faculty-of-foundry-engineering-agh-for-the-2024-2028-term/>);



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- **December 02, 2024** - Promotion of the project during Foundryman's Day 2024 at Faculty of Foundry Engineering AGH University (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/foundrymans-day-2024-at-faculty-of-foundry-engineering-agh-university/>);
- **December 2024** - Project's advertisement placed for 1 month period on the Polish Foundrymen's Association main website;
- **December 13, 2024** - Promotion of the project during Polish Foundrymen's Day 2024 to representatives of national and international foundry business and scientific units; event gathered more than 230 participants (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/netcastpl4-0-presented-during-the-polish-foundrymans-day-2024-2/>);
- **January 20, 2025** – Invitation for seminar organized within the project on January 22, 2026 was prepared and sent to around 400 contacts (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/2Newsletter-Invitation-to-the-first-NetCastPL4.0-Seminar.pdf>);
- **February 13, 2025** - Invitation for seminar organized within the project on February 24, 2025 was prepared and sent to around 400 contacts (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/3Newsletter-Invitation-to-the-next-NetCastPL4.0-Seminar.pdf>);
- **March 11, 2025** - Invitation for the V International Conference of Casting and Materials Engineering ICCME 25 with discussion panel co-organized by NetCastPL4.0 project (October 27-28, 2025) was prepared and sent to around 440 contacts (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/We-invite-you-to-the-ICCME-25-conferenc.pdf>);
- **March 18, 2026** - Invitation for seminar organized within the project on March 24, 2025 was prepared and sent to around 440 contacts (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/4Newsletter-Join-the-NetCastPL4.0-Seminar-on-Modern-Casting-Alloys.pdf>);
- **April 01, 2025** - Invitation for 1st NetCastPL4.0 Convention: Sharing best practices on Open Access organized within the project on April 11, 2025 was prepared and sent to around 440 contacts (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/%F0%9F%92%BB%F0%9F%93%86Join-us-for-the-1st-NetCastPL4.pdf>);
- **April 02-04, 2025** - 3 presentations during Spolupraca 2025 Conference, Rajecké Teplice, Slovakia (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/3-presentations-connected-with-netcastpl4-0-research-during-spolupraca-2025-conference/>);
- **April 25, 2025** - Newsletter #2 was prepared and sent to around 440 contacts (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/How-NetCastPL4.0-Supports-Innovation-in-Lightweight-Castings-%E2%80%93-See-Whats-New.pdf>);
- **April 29-30, 2025** - 2 presentations during ECIG 2025, Milan, Italy (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/2-presentations-connected-with-netcastpl4-0-research-during-ecig-2025-in-milan/>);
- **May 22, 2026** - Invitation for seminar organized within the project on May 26, 2025 was prepared and sent to around 440 contacts (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/Seminar-Invitation.pdf>);
- **June 03-06, 2025** - NetCastPL4.0 was promoted during the FOCAS T Foundry Salon during ITM INDUSTRY EUROPE 2025 in Poznań Poland, where many representatives from industry were present



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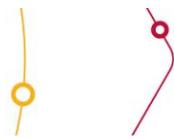
(<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/netcastpl4-0-at-the-focast-foundry-salon-during-itm-industry-europe-2025-in-poznan/>);

- **September 09, 2025** - Launch of the project's YouTube channel - <https://www.youtube.com/@NetCastPL4.0>;
- **September 14-18, 2025** - 3 presentations connected with NetCastPL4.0 research during the EURTOMAT 2025 Conference, Granada, Spain (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/3-presentations-connected-with-netcastpl4-0-research-during-the-eurtomat-2025-conference/>);
- **September 24-25, 2025** - NetCastPL4.0 was present at HRS4R Days at AGH University of Krakow (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/netcastpl4-0-was-present-at-hrs4r-days-at-agh-university-of-krakow/>);
- **September 26, 2025** - Matopolska Researchers' Night 2025 in Krakow (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/netcastpl4-0-present-malopolska-researchers-night-krakow/>);
- **September 26, 2025** - European Researchers' Night 2025 in Milan (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/netcastpl4-0-present-during-2025-milano/>);
- **October 10, 2025** - Newsletter #3 was prepared and sent to around 440 contacts (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/The-Latest-from-NetCastPL4.0-Progress-Partnerships-and-Momentum.pdf>);
- **October 27, 2025** - 5 presentations during ICCME 25 conference, Krakow, Poland (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/netcastpl4-0-co-organizer-of-iccme-25/>);
- **November 14-16, 2025** - Presentation of the project during Conference in Chongqing, China;
- **November 16, 2025** - Presentation at the Yanshan University of Technology, School of Mechanical Engineering, China;
- **November 16, 2025** - Presentation at the Taiyaun University of Technology, School of Mechanical Engineering, China;
- **November 27, 2025** - Presentation at the Lyceum Bagatta, Desenzano del Garda, Italy;
- **December 05, 2025** - The project was promoted during School in Sesto San Giovanni (MI) by scientific and dissemination lessons in Altiero Spinelli High in Sesto San Giovanni;
- **December 05, 2025** – Invitation for seminar organized within the project on December 08, 2025 was prepared and sent to around 430 contacts (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/Seminar-Invitation-december.pdf>);
- **December 15, 2025** - Meeting with key stakeholders in the Italian Foundry sectors: AIM, ASSOFOND, SINFONET, Milan, Italy.
- **January 13, 2026** - Invitation for seminar organized within the project on January 20, 2026 was prepared and sent to around 430 contacts (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/Seminar-Invitation-january.pdf>);
- **January 23, 2026** - Invitation for XXXII International Scientific Conference of Polish, Czech and Slovak Foundrymen “WSPÓŁPRACA 2026” with project conference on April 20-22, 2026 was prepared and sent to around 430 contacts (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/We-invite-you-to-the-WSPOLPRACA-2026-.pdf>);



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- **February 02, 2026** – Info Day at AGH Faculty of Foundry Engineering (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/netcastpl4-0-info-day/>);
- **February 20, 2026** – Meeting with network partners is planned to be organized.



3.2 Network partners

Currently the NetCastPL4.0 Network consists of 35 partners from scientific and industrial entities (including SMEs) and is still open for new members also from NGOs, EU Innovation Clusters and citizens associations.

Scientific units as network members currently:

- ✓ AGH University of Krakow, Poland (**project partner**),
- ✓ CNR-ICMATE, Italy (**project partner**),
- ✓ AALTO University, Finland (**project partner**),
- ✓ Rzeszow University of Technology, Faculty of Mechanics and Technology, Poland (**network partner** since Jan 30, 2025);
- ✓ Lodz University of Technology, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Poland (**network partner** since Feb 19, 2025);
- ✓ Poznan University of Technology, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Poland (**network partner** since Feb 28, 2025);
- ✓ Silesian University of Technology, Poland (**network partner** since Feb 28, 2025);
- ✓ Warsaw University of Technology, Faculty of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering, Poland (**network partner** since Apr 22, 2025);
- ✓ Łukasiewicz Research Network – Institute of Non-Ferrous Metals, Poland (**network partner** since May 20, 2025).

Organizations as network members currently:

- ✓ The Polish Foundrymen's Association (**network partner** since Jan 31, 2025);
- ✓ The Foundry Chamber of Commerce in Poland (**network partner** since Feb 13, 2025);
- ✓ SINFONET (Smart and INnovative FOundry NETwork) (**network partner** since Dec 23, 2025).

Enterprises as network members currently:

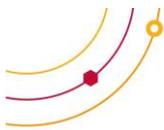
- ✓ Consolidated Precision Products (**network partner** since Jan 17, 2025);
- ✓ EUROCAST INDUSTRIES Sp. z o.o. Sp. K. (**network partner** since Jan 22, 2025); **SME**
- ✓ Stellantis Gliwice Division i Engine Production Plan Tychy Ltd. (**network partner** since Jan 28, 2025);
- ✓ KPR PRODLEW-KRAKÓW Sp. z o.o. (**network partner** since Jan 30, 2025); **SME**
- ✓ Zakład Metalurgiczny „WSK Rzeszów” Ltd. (**network partner** since Feb 06, 2025);
- ✓ DETUR CHEM sp. z o.o., (**network partner** since Feb 06, 2025); **SME**
- ✓ Odlewnia ZUB Sp. z o.o. (**network partner** since Feb 17, 2025); **SME**
- ✓ Odlewnie Polskie S.A. (**network partner** since Feb 18, 2025);
- ✓ Kawmet Foundry (**network partner** since Feb 20, 2025); **SME**
- ✓ TRAL (**network partner** since Feb 20, 2025); **SME**
- ✓ Specodlew Sp. z o.o. (**network partner** since Feb 21, 2025); **SME**
- ✓ Prec-Odlew (**network partner** since Mar 03, 2025); **SME**
- ✓ Teksid Iron Poland (**network partner** since Mar 07, 2025);
- ✓ MTM MODELE (**network partner** since Mar 11, 2025); **SME**
- ✓ Brembo Poland sp. z o.o. (**network partner** since Apr 14, 2025);



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- ✓ NEMAK Poland Sp. z o.o. (**network partner** since Apr 17, 2025);
- ✓ Limatherm S.A. (**network partner** since Apr 22, 2025);
- ✓ KGHM ZANAM (**network partner** since May 07, 2025);
- ✓ Innerco Ltd. (**network partner** since May 13, 2025); **SME**
- ✓ ASK Chemicals (**network partner** since May 22, 2025);
- ✓ Odlewnia SILUM Sp. z o.o. (**network partner** since Jul 10, 2025); **SME**
- ✓ FOSECO (**network partner** since Oct 16, 2025);
- ✓ Odlewnia Żeliwa Simiński-Ordon s.k.a. (**network partner** since Nov 12, 2025); **SME**;
- ✓ Bitech Training Ltd. (**network partner** since Feb 09, 2026); **SME**.

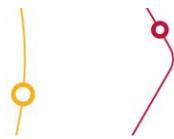
All network partners (fig. 1) are presented on project's web platform under the link: <https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/network-partners/>.



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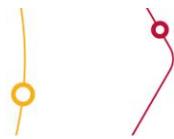
Fig. 1. NetCastPL4.0 network partners – status in M21.



4. Promotion of AGH visibility

Promotion of AGH visibility takes place during national and international conferences and other events, where project's goals and results are presented. The following examples of events where project was presented, promoting AGH University can be listed:

- ✓ SPCI-XIII 2024 - XIII International Symposium on the Science and Processing of Cast Iron (June 23-26, 2024, Krakow, Poland);
- ✓ ESOMAT 2024 – 13TH European Symposium on Martensitic Transformation (August 26-30, 2024, Lecco, Italy);
- ✓ AIM - National Conference (September 11-13, 2024, Napoli, Italy);
- ✓ The 3rd Carl R. Loper Conference (September 22-25, 2024, Brasov, Romania);
- ✓ 25th International Fair of Technologies for Foundry METAL (September 24-26, 2024, Kielce, Poland);
- ✓ Malopolska Researchers' Night (September 27, 2024, Krakow, Poland);
- ✓ Researchers' Night (September 27, 2024, Milano, Italy);
- ✓ The 75th World Foundry Congress (October 25-30, Deyang, China);
- ✓ Presentation during the Teaching days The Article n.9 of the Constitution of the Italian Republic: a meeting between civil society, science and technology at the Altiero Spinelli High School in Sesto San Giovanni (MI) (November 22-25, 2024, Italy);
- ✓ Polish Foundryman's Day 2024 (December 13, 2024, Krakow, Poland);
- ✓ National Materials Engineering Day (March 28, 2025, Krakow, Poland);
- ✓ ECI Meeting (April 29-30, 2025, Milan, Italy);
- ✓ XXXI International Scientific Conference of Polish, Czech and Slovak Foundrymen "Spoluprace 2025" (April 2-4, 2025, Slovakia);
- ✓ FOCAS Foundry Salon (June 3-6, 2025, Poznań, Poland);
- ✓ FEMS EUROMAT 2025 conference (September 14-18, 2025, Granada, Spain);
- ✓ HRS4R Days at AGH University of Krakow (September 24-25, 2025, Krakow, Poland);
- ✓ Researchers' Night (September 26, 2025, Krakow, Poland);
- ✓ Researchers' Night (September 26, 2025, Milano, Italy);
- ✓ Heat-Treat 2025 Conference (October 22-24, 2025, Detroit, USA);
- ✓ V International Conference of Casting and Materials Engineering ICCME 25 (October 27-28, 2025, Poland);
- ✓ Discussion panel organized within ICCME 25 conference (October 27, 2025, Poland);
- ✓ Coffee with NetcastPL4.0 organized within ICCME 25 conference (October 28, 2025, Poland);
- ✓ Conference in Chongqing (November 14-16, 2025, China);

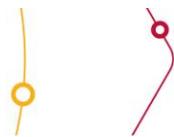
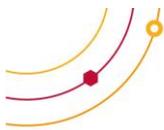


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- ✓ Presentation at the Yanshan University of Technology, School of Mechanical Engineering (November 16, 2025, China);
- ✓ Presentation at the Taiyaun University of Technology, School of Mechanical Engineering (November 16, 2025, China);
- ✓ Presentation at the Lyceum Bagatta, Desenzano del Garda, Italy (November 27, 2025, Italy);
- ✓ Presentation at the School in Sesto San Giovanni (MI) by scientific and dissemination lessons in Altiero Spinelli High in Sesto San Giovanni (December 5, 2025, Italy);
- ✓ Polish Foundryman's Day 2025 (December 12, 2025, Krakow, Poland).

The information about the events were AGH as the leader of NetCastPL4.0 project is promoted is placed on project's web platform (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/>) - in Events section (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/events/>) and in News section (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/news/>), in project's social media: Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/people/NetCast-PL40/61561661678930/>), X (<https://x.com/4Netcastpl>) & LinkedIn (<https://www.linkedin.com/company/netcastpl-4-0/>) connected with more than 1030 contacts now, as well as on project' You Tube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/@NetCastPL4.0>). It is also placed on AGH University main webpage (<https://www.agh.edu.pl/>). AGH visibility is also promoted on partner's websites. It is promoted on Polish Foundrymen Association (<https://stowarzyszenie-stop.pl/>) and on Foundry Chamber of Commerce in Poland (<https://www.oig.com.pl/>) – organizations, which are NetCastPL4.0 network partners.

For further promotion of AGH University **project conference** will be organized in the frame of XXXII International Scientific Conference of Polish, Czech and Slovak Foundrymen "WSPÓŁPRACA 2026" co-organized by AGH University FFE (April 20-22, 2026, the Sulistaw Palace, Grodków, Poland) (<https://konferencja-wspolpraca.agh.edu.pl/>) – Fig. 2. The cyclical scientific conference of Polish, Czech and Slovak foundrymen is an international event organized in 2026 for the 32nd time. The conference brings together scientists and industry representatives from three friendly countries and beyond. It is traditionally an annual opportunity to meet and exchange scientific research results between both scientists and foundry practitioners. The project conference is organized in the frame of international conference with long tradition to target all stakeholders. In 2026 the conference will be co-organized by Polish site –represented by AGH University of Krakow. The conference website is designed on AGH University platform to make the university more visible (fig. 3).



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netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/events/xxxii-international-scientific-conference-of-polish-czech-and-slovak-foundrymen-wspolpraca/

NETCASTPL4.0 - NETWORKING -

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Project Conference

PROJECT CONFERENCE

XXXII International Scientific Conference of Polish, Czech and Slovak Foundrymen "Współpraca 2026"

April 20-22 Sulisław Palace, Grodków, Poland

As a PROJECT CONFERENCE a scientific session from NetCastPL4.0 is planned to be organized within the frame of International Scientific Conference of Polish, Czech and Slovak Foundrymen "Współpraca". In April 2026 in Poland the XXXII edition of the conference is scheduled.

Fig. 2. The information about project conference on NetCastPL4.0 web platform.

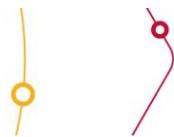
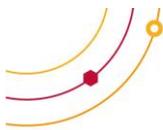
konferencja-wspolpraca.agh.edu.pl

AGH International Scientific Conference of Polish, Czech and Slovak Foundrymen

About Conference Conference programme Registration Call for papers NetCastPL4.0 Organizers Venue Contact

"WSPÓLPRACA 2026"

XXXII International Scientific Conference of Polish, Czech and Slovak Foundrymen "WSPÓLPRACA 2026", Grodków, Poland, April 20-22, 2026



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Fig. 3. The “WSPÓŁPRACA 2026” Conference web site (main banner and project’s banner) placed on AGH University platform.

Additionally, all the actions presented in chapters 2 and activities presented in chapter 3 are to promote AGH visibility. To further promote the visibility of AGH, the activities such as Open Days at AGH and partners, periodically organized at AGH meetings with SMEs are and will be organized.

Promoting AGH University NetCasPL4.0 project will be present at events taking place during next months of the project.

Actions taken for promotion of AGH visibility were described in details in D7.2 Plan for Dissemination, Communication and Exploitation. The previous and future events, where project is present, are also presented on project’s web platform (<https://netcastpl4-0.agh.edu.pl/events/>).