



Provides

Deep Eutectic Solvents  
for Sustainable Paper  
Production

[www.providespaper.eu](http://www.providespaper.eu)

# Carbon reduction in the paper industry by Deep Eutectic Solvents

*Finance for Innovation: Towards the ETS Innovation Fund*

*23 March 2017, Brussels*

A Westenbroek

# The dream

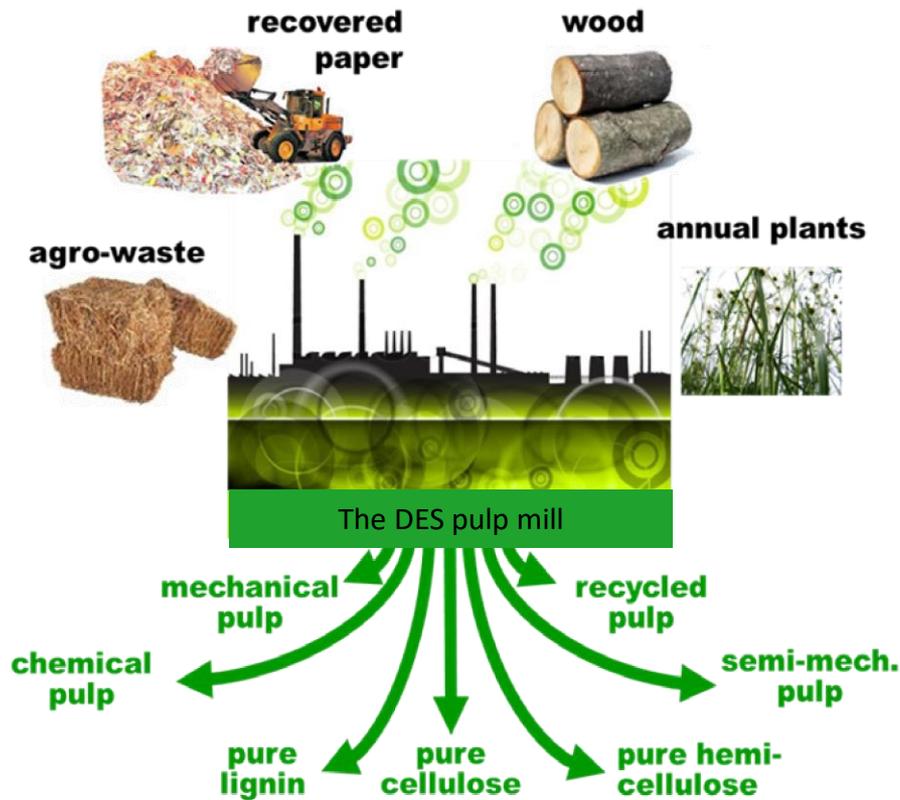
Any lignocellulosic raw material  
from any source  
with a very low energy and  
environmental impact

Can be converted to

Fibers

Lignin

Chemicals



# Ambition

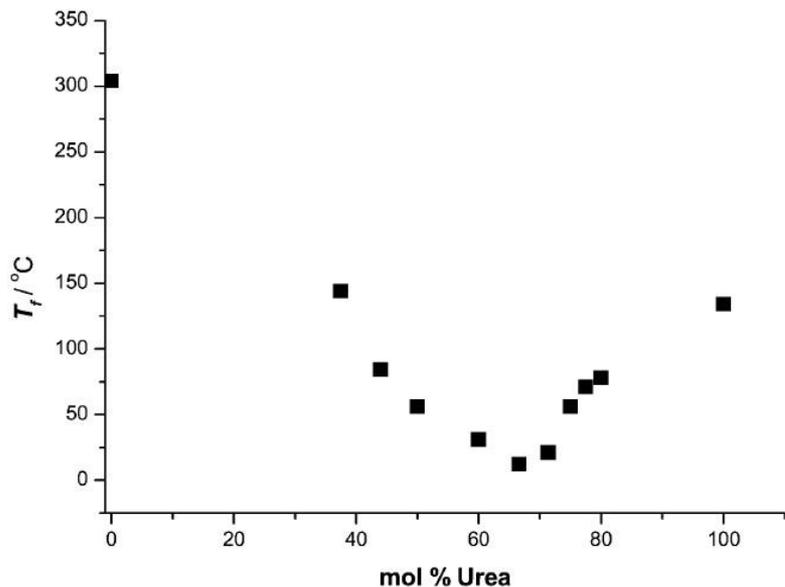


## **Approaching 80% CO<sub>2</sub> emission reduction by the application of Deep Eutectic Solvents (DESs)**

- Common development of the technology
- Europe-wide application

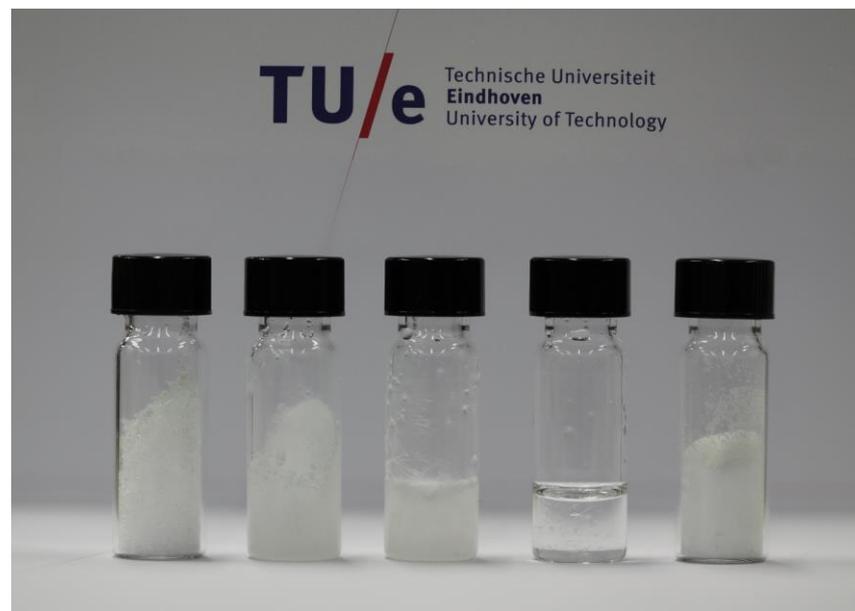
# About Deep Eutectic Solvents (DESs)

Deep Eutectic Solvents (DESs) are low transition temperature mixtures (LTTMs) consisting of at least one hydrogen bond donor (HBD) and one hydrogen bond acceptor (HBA) counterparts that result on a liquid mixture showing unusual low freezing point



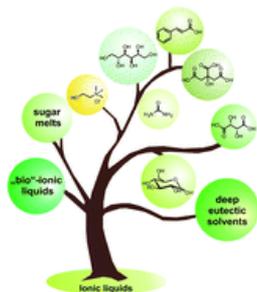
Freezing point of choline chloride / urea mixtures as a function of composition.

A.P. Abbott et al. Chem. Comm., 2003, 70-71



Visual representation of choline chloride / urea mixtures as a function of composition.

# Mimicking Nature



Hypothesis:  
DESs are used by plants to operate  
even during drought or frost periods.

## Composed of natural products

- Amides
- Sugars
- Alcohols
- (amino) acids

## Chemical characteristics

- Biodegradable
- Miscible with H<sub>2</sub>O
- Non toxic

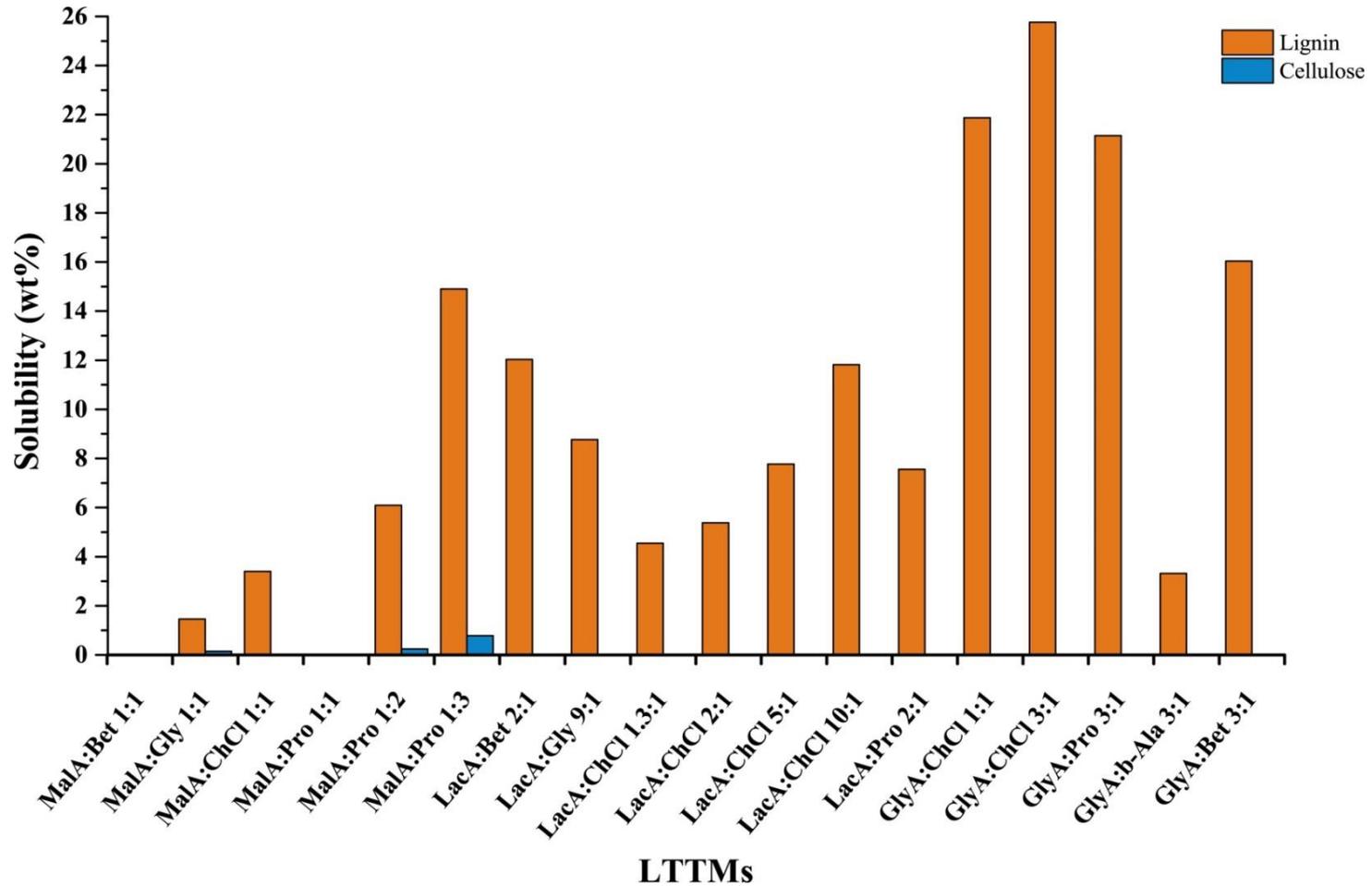
## Physical characteristics

- Low vapour pressure
- Low flammability
- Non-volatile



DESs are a sustainable and cheap alternative  
to far more cumbersome solvents used today.

# Why for paper industry?



# Scope



## Dissolving lignin

- Pure cellulose, lignin and hemicellulose
- Low cost
- From different sources (wood, straw)
  - Tailor made fibres depending on DES mixtures

## Dissolving cellulose

- Recovery of pure cellulose from papermaking residues
- Low cost
  - Clean dissolved pulp or building block for bio chemicals, materials or fuels

## Dissolving ink and other contaminants

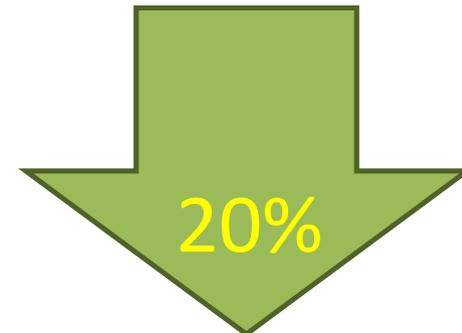
# Savings

- DES replaces traditional pulping processes.
- DES produces high quality cellulose, hemicellulose and sulphur-free / unchanged lignin.

Energy reduction



CO<sub>2</sub> reduction



The true savings lie outside the mill boundaries:  
If lignin replaces aromatics in the chemical industry  
→ up to – **90% overall energy and CO<sub>2</sub> savings**

## Further added value

---

- Biomass logistics → – 1 to – 2 Mt CO<sub>2</sub> emissions related to transport
- Lower investment costs → up to – 50%

# Participants



# Acknowledgement

This project has received funding from the Bio-Based Industries Joint Undertaking under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 668970.

