



## NEWSLETTER WINTER 2025

Dear reader,

Welcome to the fifth edition of the ZEFES Newsletter

In this edition, we share a summary of results from ZEFES and invite you to join us at the ZEFES Symposium at the beginning of next year. We also include coffee break interviews with our partners.

We would like to thank everyone for their contributions this year and wish you happy holidays and a pleasant end to the year.

Warm regards,

The ZEFES Team



The ZEFES consortium consists of partners from European countries. The project partners represent the entire value chain, from truck and trailer manufacturers to shippers and suppliers, research organizations and universities, as well as regulatory bodies. [Click here](#) to get an overview of all the ZEFES project partners.

### ZEFES 3rd Stakeholder Symposium



The ZEFES project is excited to announce its 3rd Stakeholder Symposium, taking place on 25 February and hosted by P&G in collaboration with ECS in Zeebrugge.

Zeebrugge.

This event brings together industry leaders, technology innovators, policymakers, and stakeholders committed to advancing zero-emission freight transport across Europe.

#### Network and Connect

Meet the ZEFES project partners, engage with fellow stakeholders, and explore opportunities for collaboration.

#### See the Future in Action

Experience an on-site demonstration featuring:

- Battery-electric vehicles (BEV) up to 64t GCW
- Megawatt Charging System (MCS) delivering up to 1.2 MW
- Battery-electric dolly for automated yard operations and EMS configurations

This is an opportunity to see cutting-edge technologies up close and understand their role in sustainable logistics.

#### Event Details

Date: 25 February 2026

Location: ECS, Zeebrugge (BE)

Don't miss this opportunity to connect, learn, and explore the latest developments in zero-emission freight solutions.



### Attended Events

- [AEVETO Session at the 2nd European Truck Charging Symposium](#)
- [ALICE Logistics Innovation Summit 2025](#)
- [SOLUTRANS 2025 – The 18th Edition of Europe's Leading Transport Trade Show](#)

### Call for abstracts Special Issue Energies: Control and Stability of Renewable–Electric Vehicle Coupled Power Systems

The global shift toward a sustainable energy future is driving the integration of renewable energy with electric vehicles (EVs). EVs are evolving from electricity consumers into grid-interactive assets through vehicle-to-grid (V2G) and smart charging.

The VUB is guest editor of a **Special Issue of Energies** on the modelling, control, and stability of renewable–EV coupled systems. Topics include EV integration, grid stability, V2G/V2X systems, real-time simulations, and digital twin applications.

**Guest Editors:** Dr Muhammad Talib Faiz, Prof. Dr Omar Hegazy, Prof. Dr Mohamed El Baghdadi (VUB)

**Submission Deadline:** 15 January 2026 via [the MDPI Energies online platform](#).

Publish in this Special Issue to increase visibility, connect with the research community, and contribute to

## Completion of key ZEFES project deliverables

ZEFES has successfully completed several important technical deliverables, marking further progress toward zero-emission freight solutions. The submitted deliverables include **D3.5 Mapping the HRS for HD FC trucks** and **D3.6 Mapping of charging stations**, which provide an overview of existing and planned refuelling and charging infrastructure relevant to heavy-duty operations.

In addition, **D5.4 Next generation battery electric trailers** has been finalised, addressing developments in trailer electrification technologies, alongside **D5.5 Commissioning, testing and verification of connectivity for BEV**, focusing on the validation of connectivity aspects for battery-electric vehicles. Finally, **D6.2 Commissioning, testing and verification of connectivity for FCEV** has been completed, covering equivalent activities for fuel-cell electric vehicles.

All deliverables have been formally submitted and will be made available on the ZEFES website in due course.

## The ZEFES coffee break interviews



### Get to know Laurent Gonnet from Renault trucks

*Laurent Gonnet is a mechanical engineer with a Master's degree in engineering and 30 years of experience in automotive product development, he has held a variety of management positions spanning product leadership, hierarchical management, and project or program management. Based in Lyon, France, he is pragmatic and business-oriented, with a strong ability to challenge organizations to meet both customer and business expectations.*

### What was your original motivation to become a researcher/project manager?

I am a senior project manager. As an engineer, I have started by developing new automotive products.

As a project manager, I am pleased to lead cross-functional teams to deliver more and more complex products to the market.



### Get to know Reinhard Schmid from AVL-List GmbH

*Reinhard Schmid studied mechanical engineering and business economics at the University of Technology in Graz. He dedicated his career to advancing vehicle electrification, working across leading passenger car and truck OEMs as well as Tier-1 supplier. Currently he works as lead engineer for on-road commercial vehicles at AVL-List GmbH*

### What was your original motivation to become a researcher/project manager?

I am driven by a passion for problem-solving and a strong desire to generate innovations with real-world impact. I want to contribute to the development of innovative technologies that enable low- or even zero-emission logistics and accelerate the transition toward cleaner, more efficient heavy-duty mobility.



### Get to know Stefanie van Damme from ALICE

*Stefanie Van Damme is the Project Manager of ZEFES at ALICE (Alliance for Logistic Innovation through Collaboration in Europe). ALICE is the European Technology Platform (ETP) for innovation in logistics and a membership organisation established to develop and implement a comprehensive, industry-led strategy for research, innovation, and market deployment in the field of logistics and supply chain management in Europe.*

ALICE supports, assists, and advises the European Commission in the implementation of EU research programmes, including Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe.

The overall aim is to accelerate the transition to net-zero-emission transport and logistics operations. To achieve this, interdisciplinary and multi-stakeholder collaborative innovation—such as that fostered through the ZEFES project—is essential. Within ZEFES, ALICE plays a key role in ensuring that industry perspectives are fully integrated and that project outcomes are aligned with real-world logistics needs. In addition, ALICE disseminates the results of ZEFES to the logistics industry and to the European Commission.

Interested in another coffee break? Read the complete interview with Fernando Lopez of Hitachi Energy [here](#).

## The ZEFES partners



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