

My posts now are mainly about the current trends in replacing low carbon natural materials with high carbon footprint synthetics. I believe that when we start replacing high-performance natural materials with fossil fuel-based products it's time to rethink our game plan.

Our industry is using recycled materials to make many of the core materials currently replacing Balsa. Nevertheless, at what cost? The processing and refining of recycled plastics used to make synthetic core materials do not have the low carbon, sustainability advantages of Balsa. They take huge amounts of energy to recycle and large volumes of chemicals to refine. We should be looking at alternatives for these synthetic materials not justifying them with the recycling banner.

Now we have cooperate giants claiming recyclable blades will be the answer to our future in the wind energy. Sinopro supports this entirely. We need these solutions to balance the progress of our industry. Their story is a high percentage of the blades are recycled materials. Well what's the carbon footprint, energy demand and by-product waste of recycling these materials to build these blades? All smoke and mirrors to take our eye off the ball. The ball being to stop manufacturing fossil fuel-based products when we have alternative natural materials that are better for our environment.

They should not try to convince us that these synthetics are friendlier for our planet than natural materials, as Balsa and I'll throw in a wild card, Hemp are.

I believe the challenge now for the inhabitants of this planet is to figure out how more natural materials can replace fossil fuel based synthetics. I do not think Mother Nature would argue with that logic.

