



PRESS RELEASE

## Blade Made gives new life to decommissioned wind mill blades

**BILBAO, 4 April 2022. The Wind Industry is all about responsibility, sustainability and clean energy. And while we're talking about sustainability, the decommissioning of the first generations of wind parks has taught us the valuable lesson that there is a very large flow of blades coming our way. Blade Made is scaling up designs and organisation to be able to repurpose vast amounts of decommissioned blades and give them a prolonged life as playground, sound barrier and so many other installations.**

Each year we discard an increasing number of blades, which shall gradually amount to approximately 20,000 blades per year globally. This increase in blades is not a problem, but an opportunity to change the way we currently treat our waste. Blades are made of Glass Fibre Reinforced Plastics (GRP). Only the very recently launched blades can be recycled.

Windmills that are decommissioned will be dismantled and some parts might be fit for repair or replacement, but the blades usually end up shredded and incinerated. Or, for instance in Great Britain and the US, the blades are landfilled. Some see EOL strategies focus on recycling. But it takes a lot of energy to recycle, which usually results in downgrading the material qualities, which actually makes it downcycling.

The benefit in using the blades as material for Blade Made installations is threefold:

1. Blade Made saves virgin materials that otherwise would have been used to make these playgrounds, sound barriers and other installations.
2. it reduce carbon emissions by up to 90% compared to conventional solutions, which helps to flatten the curve of global warming.
3. by keeping this material in use for many years Blade Made thinks that big-footprint-incineration can be phased out, because recycling technology keeps developing.

So far Blade Made has reused 25 blades in the Netherlands in outdoor projects.

Besides these proven possibilities like playgrounds, urban furniture and artworks, Blade Made now acts as a global player and also focusses on scalable designs like sound barriers that, with incorporated biodiversity, create beautiful recreational areas on the non-road side and use a vast number of blades per installation so as to really have circular impact.



Blade Made is an impact company and participates in the annual sector exhibition in Bilbao on the invitation of Wind Europe. With its presence, Blade Made would like to reach out to the wind sector to partner up for impact in EOL.

Blade Made is established by its creators from Superuse Studios, their long-time ambassadors from New Citizen Design and their US partner Newton Brown Urban Design. Blade Made has an international, heterogenous and effectively aligned organization, with studios in Europe, USA and China, to service global markets on a local level.

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