



liten



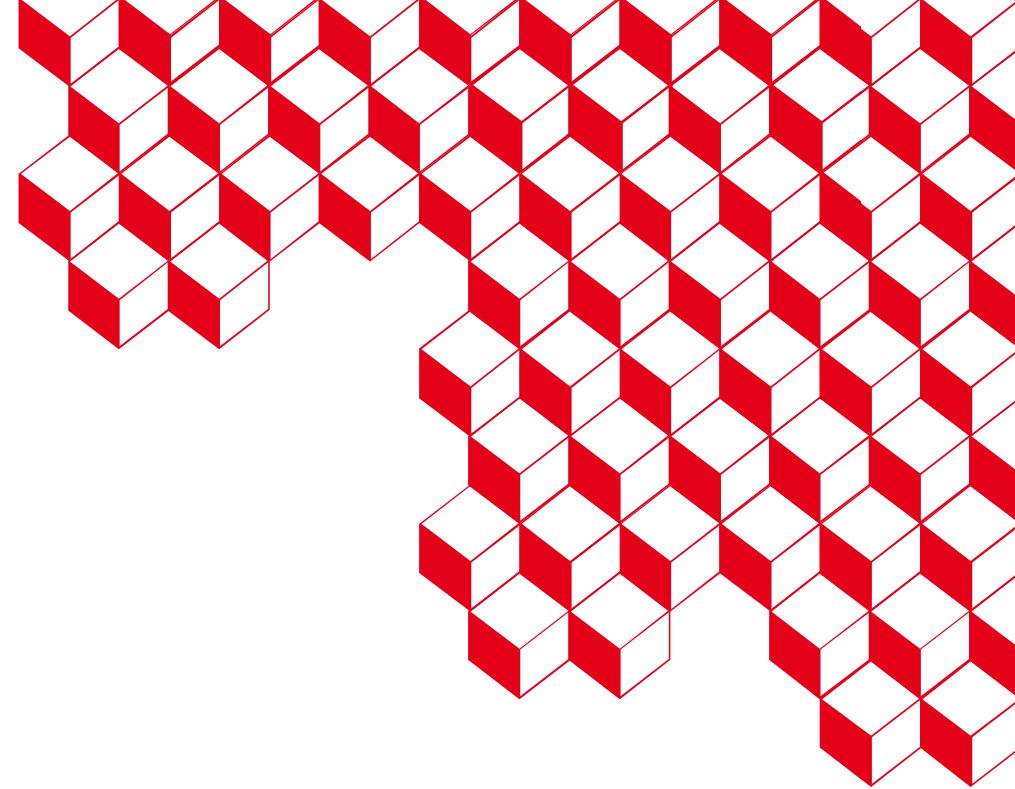
# New challenges for high performance permanent magnets

*Gérard DELETTE*



# OUTLINE

- 1. Permanent magnets in emerging wind energy and automotive markets**
- 2. Key technologies developed at CEA-Liten**
- 3. Implementation of Circular Economy: the Magnolia Project**



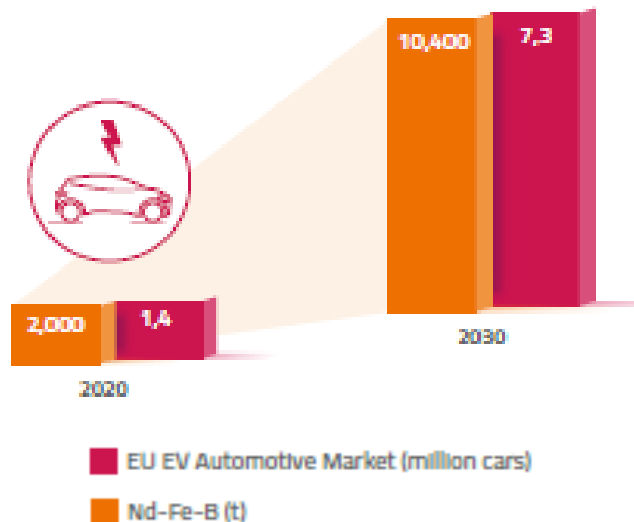
# Permanent magnets in emerging wind energy and automotive markets:

## 1 - STRONG DEMAND

### Automotive



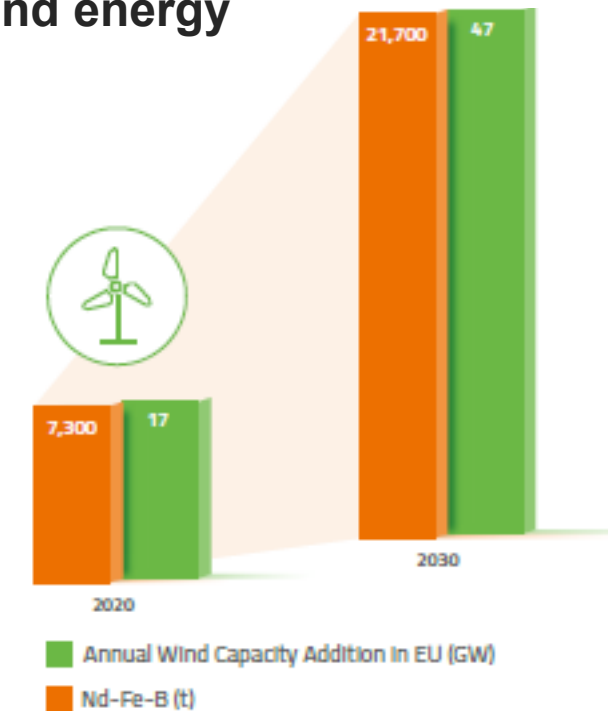
- Efficiency
- Compactness



### Wind energy



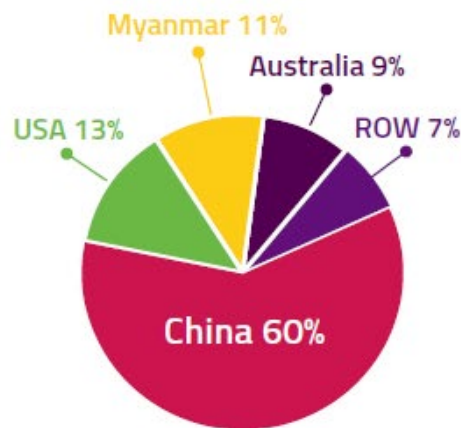
- Reliability
- Compactness



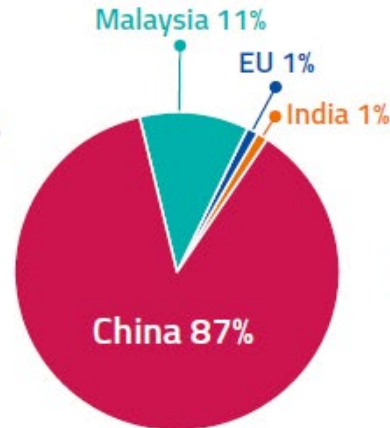
Increase in the EU demand x5 for automotive and x3 for wind turbines by 2030

# Permanent magnets in emerging wind energy and automotive markets:

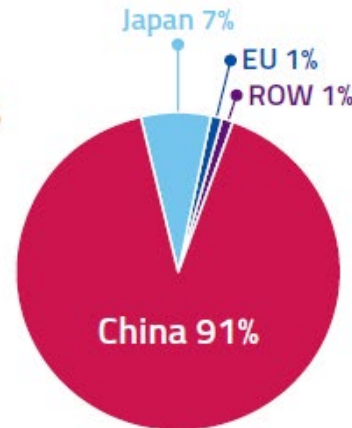
## 2 – EU DEPENDANCE



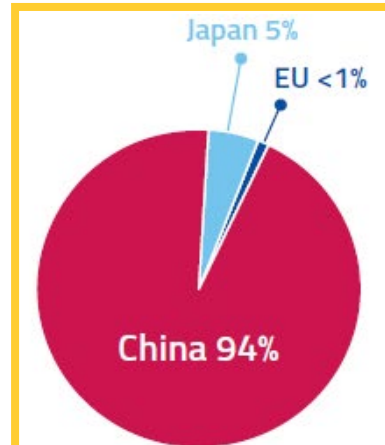
Rare Earth Oxide Mining



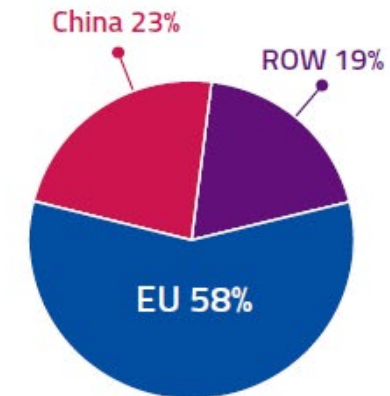
Rare Earth Oxide Processing



Rare Earth Metals



Permanent Magnets



Example: Wind Turbines

25-30 % Nd, Pr  
0-5 % Dy, Tb  
PM route

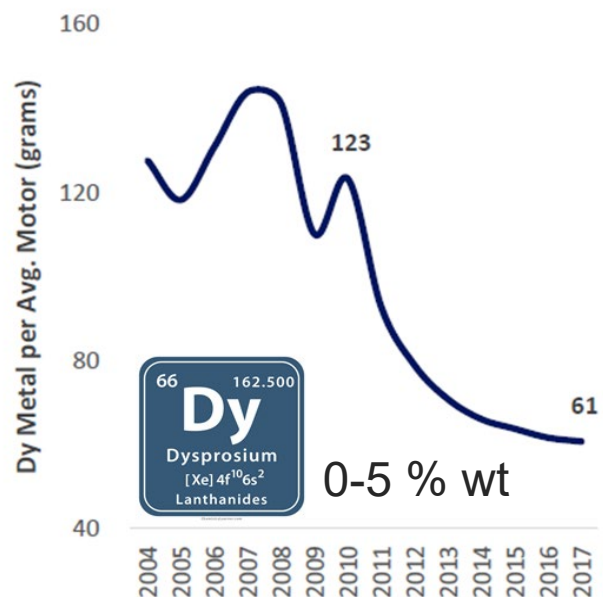
From rare earths mining to wind turbine manufacturing: estimated market shares in 2019.

Sources: Team analysis and Roskill 2018; Adamas Intelligence 2019; Peteves 2017;

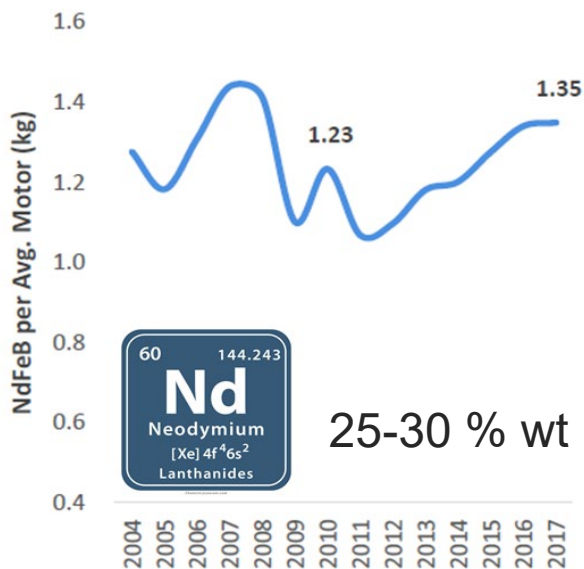
Carrara et al. 2020; IEA 2021; USGS 2021.

# Permanent magnets in emerging wind energy and automotive markets:

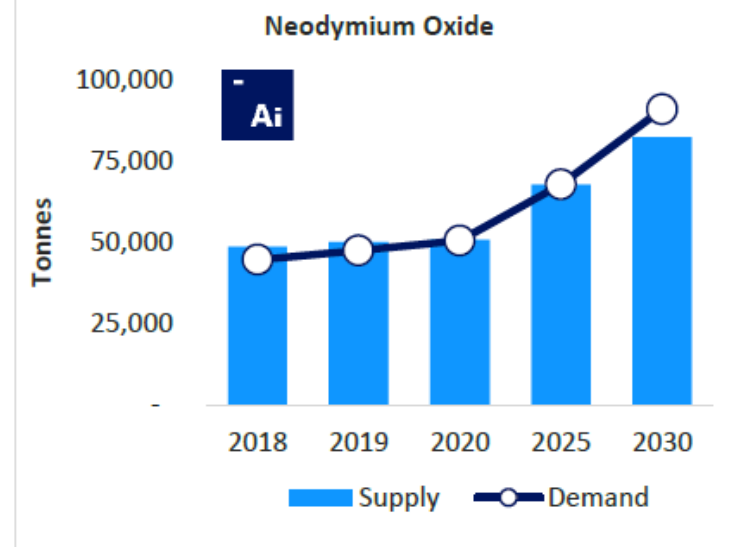
## 3 – SUPPLY RISK



More efficient use of HREE (Dy, Tb) implemented in magnet industry during the last decade



Strong rise in the LREE (Nd, Pr) demand that may exceed the production capabilities by 2030



Source: Adamas Intelligence

### How to maintain high performances with less raw materials ?



# How to maintain high performances with less raw materials ?

## 1. REDUCTION & SUBSTITUTION

- Heavy rare earth reduction
- Light rare earth substitution in current materials
- Lean rare earth materials (NEW MAGNETS)

## 2. 3D DESIGN

- Netshape process (PIM, Additive manufacturing)
- Ecodesign (in collaboration with IFPEN)

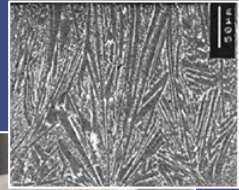
## 3. RECYCLING

Recovery of critical materials from EOL magnets and magnet remanufacturing by short loops with LCA

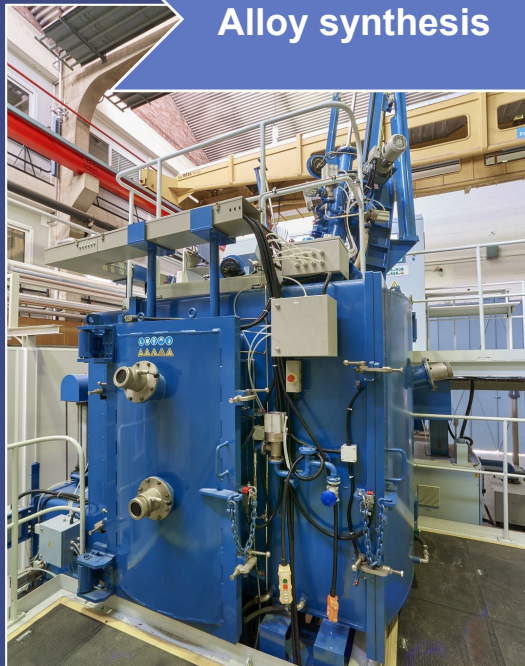
# Powder Metallurgy process overview

## Strip casting

As cast  
ribbons  
NdFeB



Alloy synthesis

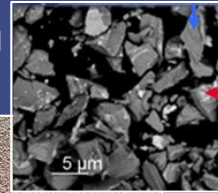
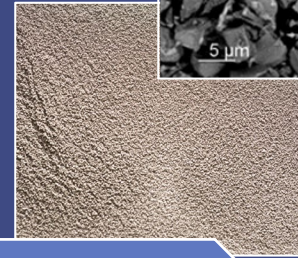


## Milling

Embrittled ribbons



Micron sized  
powder



Hydrogen  
Decrepitating

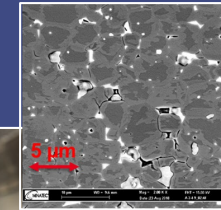


Jet-milling



## Sintering

dense  
magnets



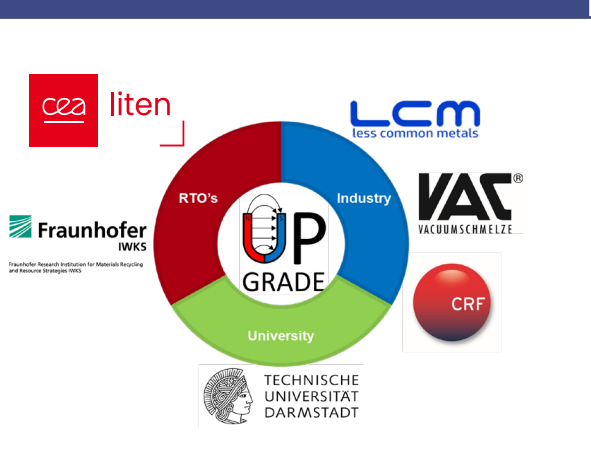
Pressing + Sintering



# 1. Reduction of critical materials

## UPGRADE's goal:

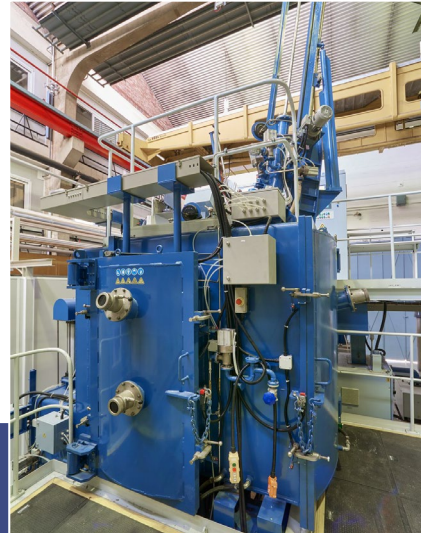
Development of a strip-cast process with improved casting conditions and alloy composition for a Dy-reduction of up to 2.5 wt.% in a fine-grained magnet



The logo for the UPGRADE project is a circular emblem divided into four quadrants: red (top-left), blue (top-right), green (bottom-left), and white (bottom-right). The center contains the text 'UPGRADE' with a stylized 'U' and 'P'. Surrounding the emblem are logos for 'ceea litem', 'LCM less common metals', 'Fraunhofer IWKS', 'VAC VACUUMSCHMELZE', and 'TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT DARMSTADT'. A red circle with 'CRF' is also present.

- Horizon2020 project
- Timeline: 01/2019 – 12/2021
- Budget: 1.9 M€

**ceea** Pilot scale strip casting  
15 Kg per batch



Implementable  
at industrial scale



no need for additional  
equipment costs

**LCM** less common metals Industrial strip casting  
600 Kg per batch

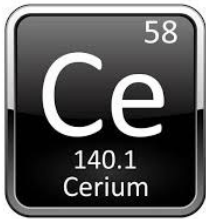


**KEY RESULT**

Reduction of 2.5 wt.% of Dy demonstrated



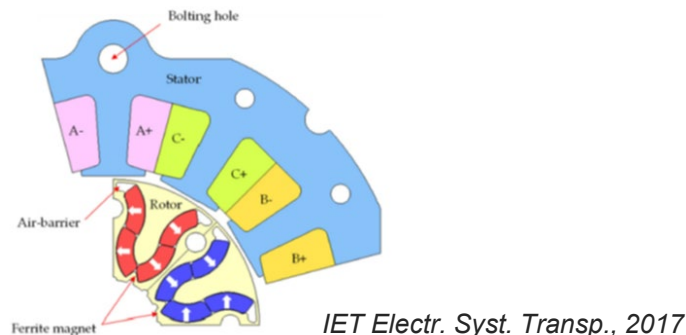
# 1. Substitution of critical materials



- Abundancy: more than 50% part of the rare earth in some deposit
- Large amount of unused Ce
- Price ratio favorable for Ce (5\$/Kg) / Nd (53\$/Kg) (2018)
- Lower magnetic properties

| Level of substitution                                   | Reference    | Results       | Target        |
|---|--------------|---------------|---------------|
|   | <b>0% Ce</b> | <b>20% Ce</b> | <b>30% Ce</b> |
| <b>Merit Factor</b><br>$BH_{max} [MGOe] + H_{cJ} [kOe]$ | 61.7         | 54.3          | 51            |
| <b>Performance penalty</b>                              |              | -12%          | -17,5%        |
| <b>Material cost gain</b>                               |              | +17.5%        | +26,5%        |

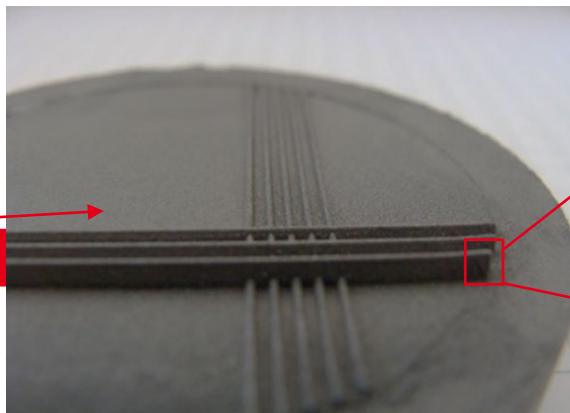
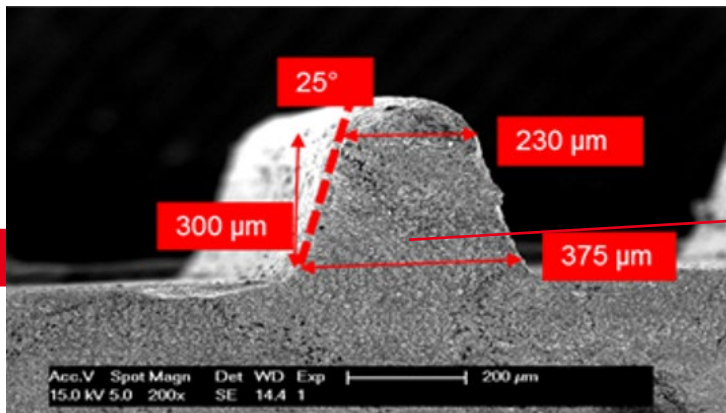
→ Full performances restored by machine redesign with non-standard magnet shapes



# 2. 3D Design



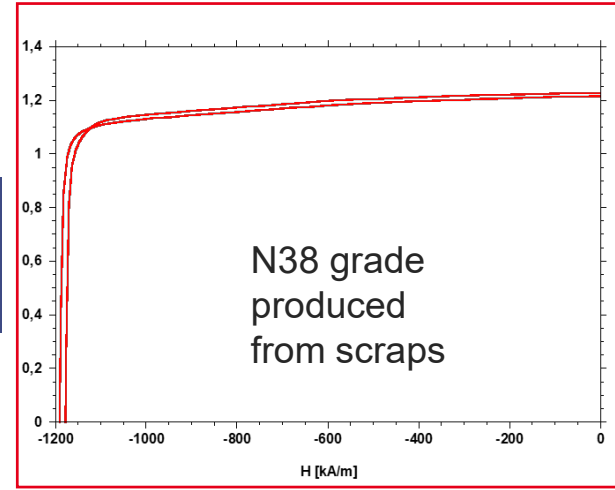
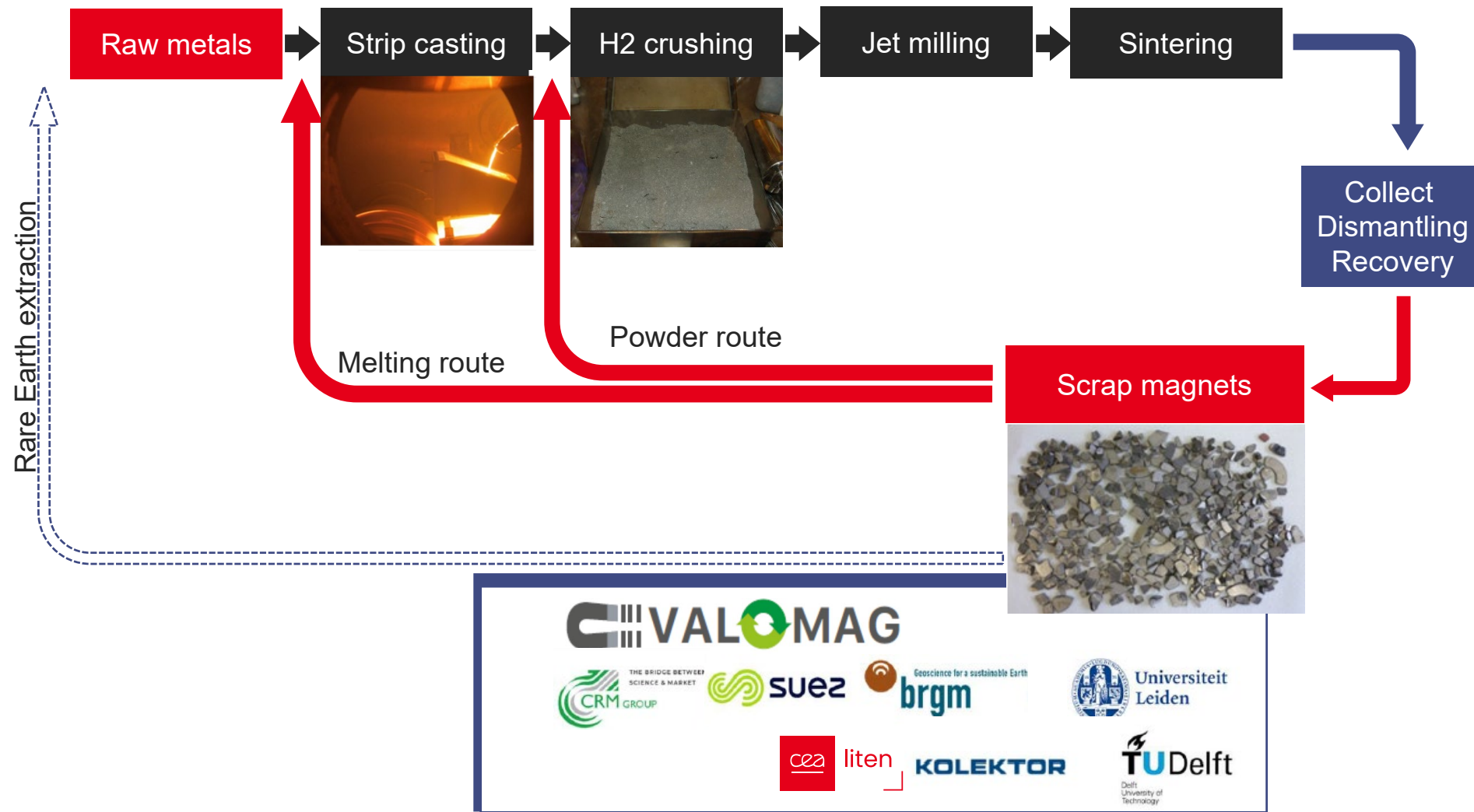
PIM PROCESS



**+** Geometrical details for cooling, assembly,...

**+** Up to 30 % material saving (cutting, grinding)

# 3. Recycling



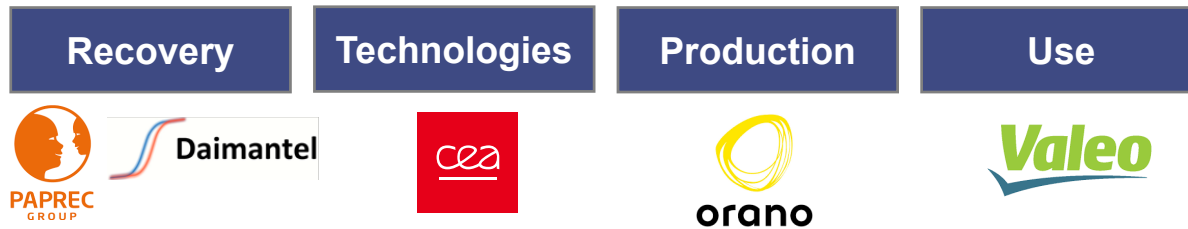
- + Commercial grade properties achievable
- + Chemical heterogeneity of collected magnets addressed
- + Magnet factory equipment

# Implementation of Circular Economy: the Magnolia Project

## Objectives

1. Organize an industrial value chain in France for manufacturing rare earth permanent magnets ( $\text{Nd}_2\text{Fe}_{14}\text{B}$ )
2. Secure raw materials sources in order to mitigate the Chinese monopoly
3. Implement the circular economy paradigm

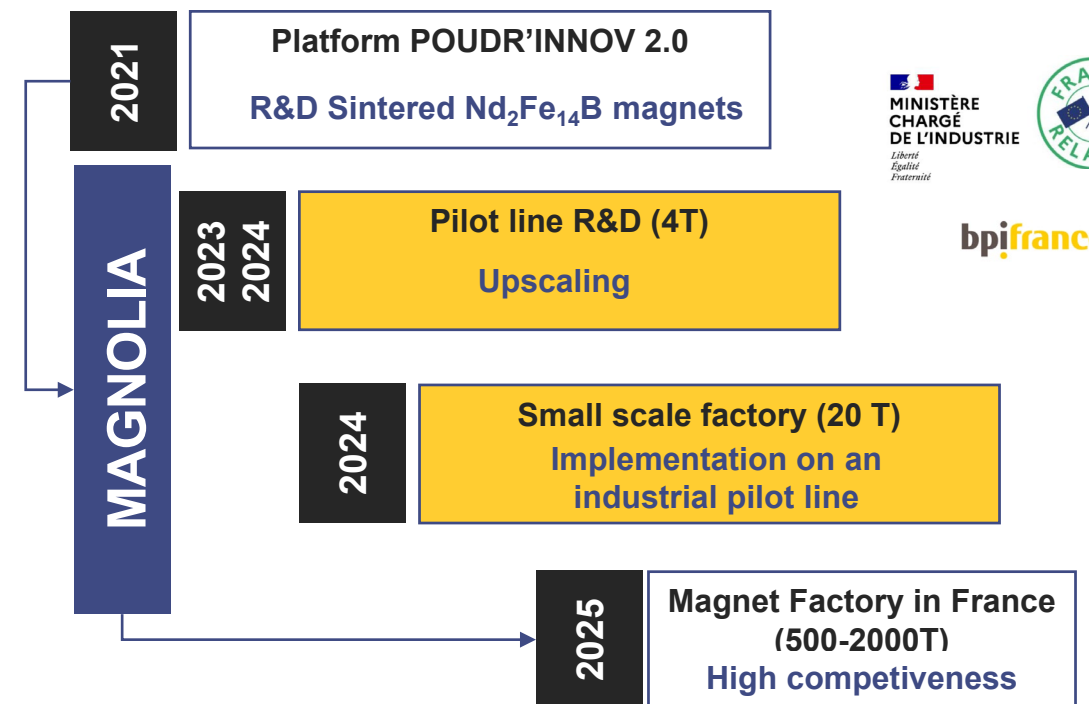
- 5 partners, leaders in their own activity



- Support from end users

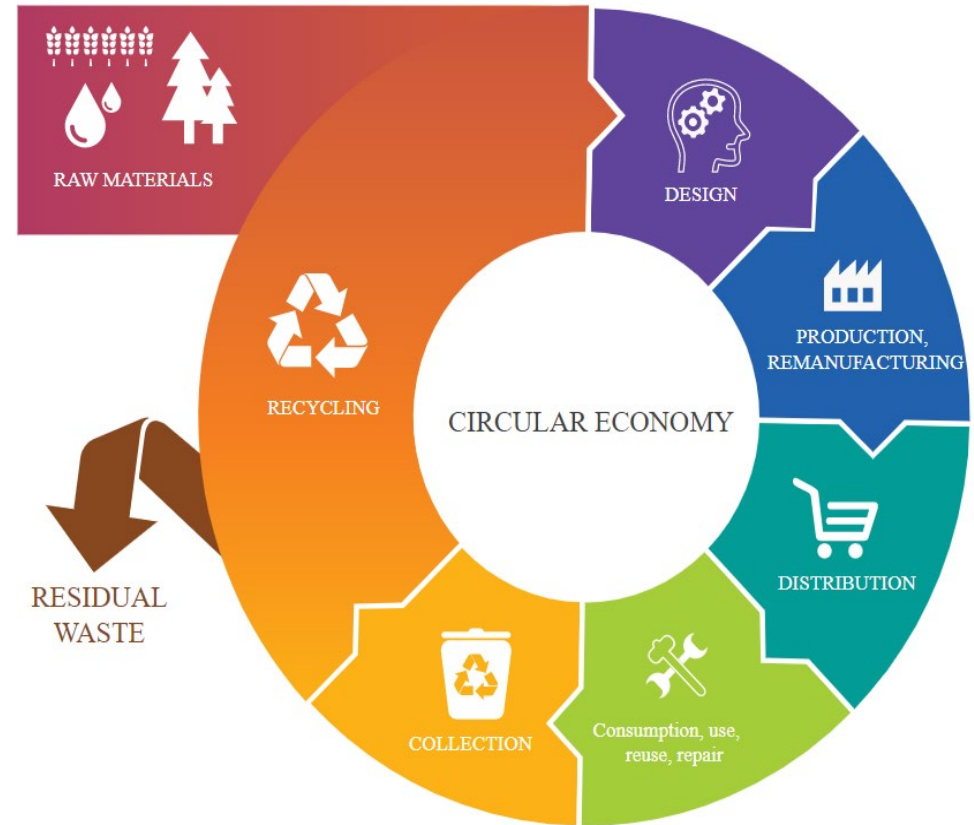
- 12.3 M€ Overall budget

## Timeline



# Conclusion

1. More circular economy in the magnets supply chain to face to the current challenges
2. Innovation activities of CEA-LITEN aim at producing high performance magnets with less critical (primary) raw materials
3. CEA-LITEN positioning enables advising, expertise and partnerships with industrial players





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**Thank's for  
your attention**