



FOUNTAIN

**PER AND POLYFLUORINATED ALKYL SUBSTANCES IN
GROUNDWATER: WATER TREATMENT FOR INDUSTRIAL
USE IN THE SURFACE FINISHING INDUSTRY**



Co-funded by
the European Union

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Press release | 2nd September 2026

PFAS and Sustainability in Surface Treatments: A.I.F.M. Featured in the Training Course at P&E Coating Days 2026

On October 8th, at the Kilometro Rosso Innovation District, a meeting promoted as part of the landmark event for surface technologies will take place. Key topics will include industrial applications, future perspectives, alternatives, and innovative remediation solutions from the European project LIFE FOUNTAIN, alongside practical laboratory demonstrations.

P&E COATING DAYS
COATING AND SURFACE TREATMENT TECHNOLOGIES
7-8 OTTOBRE

ANVER
ASSOCIAZIONE VERNICATURA INDUSTRIALE
ASSOCIATION OF INDUSTRIAL COATING

LA RIVISTA DEL COLORE

Kilometro Rosso
Innovation district

FORMAZIONE
8 OTTOBRE
h 11.00

**SOSTENIBILITÀ -
RECUPERO PRODOTTI E VALORE
DAI SOTTOPRODOTTI DI PROCESSO**

**PFAS nelle tecnologie di superficie:
prestazioni, rischi e prospettive**

Organizzato in
collaborazione con **Gruppo GASER**

As part of the 2026 edition of **P&E Coating Days** (scheduled for October 7-8 at the Kilometro Rosso Innovation District in Stezzano, Bergamo), an important training course will take place on Thursday, October 8, focusing on a key topic for the future of the surface treatment sector: **"Sustainability - Product Recovery and Value Creation from Process By-products"**.

The course program includes the lecture **"PFAS in Surface Technologies: Performance, Risks, and Perspectives"** (11:00 AM – 1:00 PM), delivered by **Prof. Luca Magagnin** (President of A.I.F.M. and Professor at Politecnico di Milano). Part of the presentation will be dedicated to an in-depth look at the European project **LIFE FOUNTAIN**, in which A.I.F.M. and Politecnico di Milano are consortium partners.

Lecture topics: between industrial performance and environmental responsibility

PFAS (per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances) have been at the center of industrial attention for decades due to their exceptional water repellency, oil repellency, and thermal stability. However, their high persistence and bioaccumulative potential present a critical challenge for the environmental and human health protection, driving the sector toward stricter regulations and alternative solutions.

Prof. Magagnin's lecture aims to provide an overview of the chemical structure and characteristics of PFAS, examining their use in surface treatments, their environmental impact, and future market perspectives.

Special emphasis will be given to remediation and removal technologies: the innovative solution developed within the **LIFE FOUNTAIN** project (co-funded by the European Union) will be presented, which uses functionalized magnetic particles for the treatment and purification of groundwater and process wastewater.

Live demonstrations and laboratory activities

The theoretical session will be complemented by an immersive educational experience at the R&D Tech Hub laboratories of **GRUPPO GASER** (also a partner in the LIFE FOUNTAIN project), located within the Kilometro Rosso Innovation District itself. The participants will witness two field tests:

- The application of **CERAKOTE®**: the high-performance, PFAS-free ceramic-polymer coating resistant to corrosion, wear, and chemical agents, presented as a concrete and sustainable alternative for surface finishing.
- Practical demonstration of the **LIFE FOUNTAIN** process in operation.

HOW TO ATTEND

Access to the training course and presentations at P&E Coating Days 2026 requires prior registration. You can get your free admission ticket and reserve your spot for the talks and training modules by visiting www.ecocoating.com and entering the invitation code **PE2026-AIF-!**

IL TUO CODICE INVITO

PE2026-AIF-!

Utilizza questo codice durante la registrazione online per scaricare il tuo biglietto gratuito e scegliere i talks e i corsi di formazione.

REGISTRATI ORA SU
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About "P&E Coating Days"

Organized by La rivista del Colore on the initiative of ANVER (Italian Industrial Coating Association), the "P&E Coating Days" serve as a benchmark event for the surface treatment sector, offering a unique opportunity to explore key current topics. The event focuses on technological innovations, process optimization, and coating applications across various industrial sectors, with a strong emphasis on environmental sustainability, safety, and regulatory compliance. With a comprehensive schedule of conferences, workshops, and training modules, P&E Coating Days drives professional exchange and knowledge sharing, boosting industry growth and competitiveness. Full program and details at www.ecocoating.com.

LIFE FOUNTAIN AT A GLANCE

The LIFE FOUNTAIN project (Per and PolyFluorinated Alkyl Substances in grOUNDwaTer: water treatment for industrial use in the surfACE finishing iNdustry) aims to reduce PFAS pollution in groundwater and aquifers using an innovative multidisciplinary approach that combines several technologies, such as:

- the development of functionalized magnetic nanoparticles for PFAS detection and capture;
- analytical strategies for High-resolution mass spectrometry (HRMS) screening to identify PFAS chemical fingerprints;
- advanced oxidation processes for PFAS breakdown.

By developing innovative treatment technologies, LIFE FOUNTAIN enables the reuse of treated groundwater in surface finishing and the downstream treatment of industrial wastewater - restoring aquifers and cutting water consumption.

The project is designed to deliver targeted solutions—technically and economically sustainable, socially acceptable, and environmentally positive—as well as business opportunities to boost the competitive edge of industrial companies.

LIFE FOUNTAIN is co-funded by the EU LIFE Programme under Grant Agreement No. 101074321.

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