



## **European Lightweighting Network (ELN) - Factsheet**

Lightweighting is a cross-sectoral technology that plays a crucial role in advancing the European Green Deal. By optimizing materials, design, and production processes, lightweighting contributes significantly to sustainability efforts across industries such as energy, mobility, and infrastructure. To maintain Europe's leadership in this key technology, close collaboration among stakeholders, strong networks, and continuous research and development are essential.

The European Lightweighting Network (ELN) brings together Austria, Belgium, Germany, Poland, Slovakia, Spain and Sweden to develop a shared vision for Europe's lightweighting potential. Its framework and activities are designed to leverage lightweight technologies in support of Green Deal objectives by:

- **Developing a European Lightweighting Strategy** based on the ELN Whitepaper on Lightweighting.
- **Co-creating a joint Research Agenda – “Lightweight for a Sustainable Future”** – to guide European and national initiatives.
- **Launching joint funding calls** for bi- and multilateral projects in lightweight technologies, such as the Eureka Call on Lightweighting (2023, 2024, 2025 in preparation).
- **Organizing delegation visits** to connect research institutions and industrial partners across member countries.
- **Assessing the economic impact of lightweighting** on employment, innovation, and GDP through the Lightweighting Satellite Accounting methodology (e.g. Austria, Germany, Sweden).
- **Hosting ELN Conferences** as a platform for collaboration between public administration, research institutions, and industry. Past conferences have been held in Germany, Austria, Sweden, and Belgium. The 5th ELN Conference will take place in Kraków, Poland, on June 4-5, 2025.

The lightweighting community has already benefited significantly from ELN's initiatives and open collaborations, including the introduction of a new Eureka funding call and expanded PhD network exchanges. To maintain momentum and build a strong European-wide impact, ELN welcomes new partners eager to contribute to this growing alliance.