

CAREFORMANCE Recycling Centre: EREMA recycles 30 tonnes of plastic waste live at K

The CAREFORMANCE Recycling Centre was opened in the outdoor area FG 09.1 with high-ranking representatives of Plastics Recyclers Europe (PRE), European Plastics Converters (EuPC) and Borealis with "We recycle the K" as the guiding principle. Over 30 tonnes of plastic waste accumulated at the trade fair will be processed live during the show on EREMA's recycling system to make high-grade recyclates.

Düsseldorf, 19 October – Manfred Hackl of EREMA, Alfred Stern of Borealis, Ton Emans of PRE and Alexandre Dangis of EuPC all pressed the buzzer together for the grand opening of the Recycling Centre at the K trade fair. The joint presence of representatives of raw material producers, processors and recyclers is a strong signal. "The collaboration of the entire 'plastic' value chain has become more intensive in recent years and results in terms of product innovations – particularly in the case of recycling projects – deserve a special platform at K," emphasises Manfred Hackl, CEO of EREMA.

Recycling 4.0 live

EREMA will recycle over 30 tonnes of plastic waste live on an INTAREMA TVEplus 1108 recycling system during the K show. At the same time EREMA will also present the first Industry 4.0 package in the field of plastics recycling, with the trade fair motto of CAREFORMANCE. "Building on the Smart Start package presented at K 2013 and the Intarema systems' high degree of automation connected with it, EREMA has developed a Smart Factory package for producers and recyclers. On the one hand, the process data of the individual machines is analysed and, on the other, the production and recycling facilities are interconnected with the entire process chain," explains Manfred Hackl.

Visitors can judge for themselves the online measuring equipment, analysis and evaluation tools of CAREFORMANCE: the machine, quality and process data of the recycling process will be relayed in real time directly from the Recycling Centre to EREMA's booth in Hall 9 (Stand C05). Manfred Hackl is confident that this digital quality proof will further increase the amount of recyclate used in the production of plastics. Trade fair visitors will see once and for all at the exhibition of the highly innovative products how many branches of industry already rely on recycling. The exhibition in the Recycling Centre was organised by EREMA in cooperation with customers and PRE. The portfolio ranges from food-contact-compliant articles such as rPET drinks bottles and technical injection-moulded and modern packaging materials to lifestyle products such as sunglasses and skateboards.

Premiere for 100 per cent recyclable plastics packaging

Participants saw a convincing premiere in the sustainable production of plastics packaging at the opening ceremony: Borealis, Hosokawa Alpine, Bobst, GEA and EREMA presented the latest developments in the production of recyclable stand-up pouches. This collaboration of the companies makes it possible for the first time to produce pouches with a material combination based exclusively on PE. The companies involved demonstrate impressively how the closed plastic loop works: the pouches produced on site – including any production waste – are likewise recycled live and the recyclates processed directly on an OCS extruder to make blown film. Visitors can, therefore, judge the quality of the film made from the recycled PE pouches for themselves. Additionally, this recyclate was used prior to the K trade fair to make carrier bags too as a giveaway at the show. "I like to compare the plastic loop to a relay race. It is not enough if a part of

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the value chain thinks only in terms of their processing step. Every manufacturer or processor of plastics has to think one step further to reach the finish line successfully together," says Manfred Hackl.



Opening of the CAREFORMANCE Recycling Centre (from left to right: Manfred Hackl (CEO, EREMA Group), Alexandre Dangis (Managing Director, European Plastics Converters), Ton Emans (President, Plastics Recyclers Europe) and Alfred Stern (Executive Vice President Polyolefins and Innovation & Technology, Borealis)

Photo credit: EREMA

EREMA Group

The EREMA Group comprises EREMA, 3S, PURE LOOP (January 2015) and UMAC (beginning of 2016). With companies in the USA, China and Russia plus around 50 local representatives in all five continents, the EREMA Group has a reliable network to realise customised recycling solutions for international customers. Around 480 people around the world now work for the Austrian company group which is headquartered in Ansfelden near Linz.

EREMA Group in figures:

- 5,000** EREMA systems in operation around the world
- 480** employees in all 5 continents
- 132** million EUR turnover in fiscal year 2015/16
- 50** EREMA country representatives worldwide
- 14** million tonnes of plastic recycled every year with EREMA systems
- 13** facilities for customer test runs at the international EREMA trial centres
- 10** regional centres around the globe to provide customers with direct technical support

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