

PRESS RELEASE

AST Group and Lindner Launch Centre of Competence for the Sustainable Use of Resources in HDPE Products

Erndtebrück (Germany), March 2021. The European manufacturer of plastic containers, drums and bottles, AST, has set a long-term target to increase the amount of recyclates used in its products and aims to supply their own 'raw materials'. For this reason, AST is investing in a new centre of competence with a complete plastics recycling line to process post-industrial and post-consumer HDPE (high density polyethylene). As a project partner, they are relying on the expertise and a system solution from Lindner.

Since 1977, AST Kunststoffverarbeitung GmbH has been producing high-quality packaging with approval for dangerous goods in Erndtebrück, Germany. Today, the company is a European market leader when it comes to plastic containers for chemical products or food, and it is working hard to increase the sustainability of its products by using recyclables.

If you ask AST what the new centre of competence is all about, the complexity of the topic quickly becomes clear. Here, legal requirements in terms of product safety meet the principles of the circular economy and EU strategies for avoiding plastic waste. The aim of the new project is to gather experience, pave the way for future strategies and introduce the use of recyclates in the series production of technically demanding HDPE containers and drums. Ultimately, the company wants to produce a sustainable flow of raw materials in their own right. The new centre of competence is a pilot project that aims to harness the experience and expertise at the AST locations in southern Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands and Great Britain.

AST has chosen the Austrian industry pioneer Lindner as its technology and development partner. The washing and sorting components come from Lindner Washtech, a company specialising in plastics recycling, which is also responsible, together with AST, for the facility's entire engineering. The shredders of the parent company Lindner Recyclingtech complete the system solution. Hauke Grabau, responsible for recycling at AST, explains: 'We transform premium plastics into high-quality containers, drums and bottles and believe that this raw material should not go the general recovery route. With the new centre of competence, we want to retain this valuable material in the loop. My many years of experience in the field of plastics recycling have shown me that Lindner offers the best overall package and expertise in mechanically recovering polymers. We have seen from the very beginning that Lindner is willing to tackle new problems and that we can learn from each other in the joint development of this project.'



AST Kunststoffverarbeitung GmbH headquarters in Erndtebrück, Germany



Hauke Grabau, responsible for recycling at AST: 'With the new centre of competence, we aim to increase the amount of recyclates used in our products in the long term.'

About Lindner Recyclingtech GmbH, Spittal an der Drau/Austria (www.lindner.com):

The Lindner family business has been offering innovative, tried-and-tested shredding solutions for decades. At its production facilities in Spittal/Drau and Feistritz/Drau in Austria, Lindner manufactures machines and system components that are exported to almost one hundred countries. In addition to stationary and mobile shredders for waste processing, the portfolio also includes complete systems for plastics recycling, SRF and waste wood processing. The shredders can be used among other things for municipal solid waste, commercial and industrial waste, waste wood, plastics, packaging material, paper and light scrap.

About Lindner Washtech GmbH, Großbottwar/Germany (www.lindner-washtech.com): Lindner Recyclingtech's subsidiary is a world-leading manufacturer of industrial washing and sorting systems for film and rigid plastics. From planning to development, design, production and service, everything comes from a single source.

More information:

Mag. Pia Steiner, PR & Marketing, Lindner-Recyclingtech GmbH

Villacher Strasse 48, 9800 Spittal an der Drau, Austria

Phone: +43 4762 2742-729, Email: pia.steiner@lindner.com