PIRAP newsletter - May 2016

I hope you found the March newsletter useful and informative.

Share with your members / customers ....
Following the PIRAP Steering group meeting on 21st April it was agreed that more people needed to be aware of the work taking place through PIRAP. Please could you forward this newsletter to your members or customers to help spread the message more widely.

WRAP update
An update to the 2011 Plastics Market Situation Report has been published. The report found that:

- Plastic arisings were estimated at 3.7 million tonnes (2.2 million tonnes is plastic packaging).
- 891,000 tonnes of plastic packaging was recycled in 2015 which is a 50% increase on the data reported in the 2009 Plastic Market Report.
- The UK exported 791,000 tonnes of plastic in 2015. China was the main destination for this but since the introduction of Operation Green Fence (OGF), to prevent poor quality recovered material from being imported into China, there has been an increase in material going to other countries.
- Global production capacity of bioplastics is projected to increase from 3.5 million tonnes in 2011 to 12 million tonnes in 2020.
- In 2013/14 local authorities collected 500,000 tonnes of plastic packaging. This is due to an increase in local authorities collecting plastic bottles at the kerbside and the introduction of Pots, Tubs and Trays (PTT) to collection schemes (67% of local authorities now collect PTT).

To read the full report please click here.

Rigid Plastics Packaging in the Commercial and Industrial Sectors
A report has just been released by WRAP estimating the tonnages associated with rigid plastic packaging in the Commercial and Industrial (C&I) sectors.
It found that approximately 336,000 tonnes of rigid plastics packaging arises in the Commercial and Industrial sector and 140,000 tonnes is recycled (~40%).
To read the full report please click here.

Increasing plastics recycling
New Plastic Recycling Resource pack
Pledge4plastics and Recycle Now have worked together to provide a new set of resources to help encourage plastic recycling. The communication materials include digital resources, posters, pull-up banners, leaflets and videos.
These resources are available to all businesses and local authorities.

The resource pack has been downloaded nearly 3000 times and the ‘How is Plastics Recycled Video’ has been viewed over 9000 times. Pledge4plastics ‘The Secret view of recycled plastics’ has now been viewed nearly 200,000 times.
To download the resource pack click [here](#).

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### Case studies

**NEXTEK - PRISM project**

Nextek along with its partners who include WRAP and BPF member Evolve Polymers have received funding for its project to identify new luminescent material which can be applied, invisibly, to labels on plastic packaging. This technology will allow low-cost sorting of materials and improve quality. The project will develop new fluorescent materials from novel metal oxides as well as converting reprocessed powders from recycled fluorescent lamps.

The first phase of this project was discussed in the WRAP update in the March newsletter. The second phase is looking a further optimisation of the system and how the markers react through the supply chain including if they are completely destroyed in reprocessing.

The press release from Nextek is attached to this newsletter.

**Ecodek® - Payers Park, Folkstone**

Ecodek®, a BPF member, make a recycled and durable, wood polymer composite decking board system. This has recently been used as part of the redevelopment of an abandoned site into a new park, Payers Park. Ecodek® was used for the boardwalk and walkways and also to make seating. The boardwalk needed to be hard-wearing and slip resistant. All the walkways need to be long lasting, safe, accessible and in keeping with the new landscape. Ecodek® met these criteria and will need minimal maintenance from the local council, Shepway District Council.

To read the case study please click [here](#).

**Zero Waste Scotland and Impact solutions video on BOSS**

Baffled Oscillation Separation System (BOSS) is a new technology by Impact Solutions supported by Zero Waste Scotland. The BOSS system uses technology used in the pharmaceutical industry for mixing to separate PP and PE from each other in water.

Please click [here](#) to watch the video or there is more information on Impact solutions' website.

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### Useful reports

**British Retail Consortium - A Better Retailing Climate progress report 2015**

Some of the progress reported from the participating retailers is that:

- Waste sent to landfill has reduced by 39% from 2005 to 2016
- Waste reduced by 26%
- Trials have been taking place on innovative approaches to recycling such as recycling soft plastics waste into warehouse packaging
- In-store carbon emissions have been cut by 35% relative to growth and that retailer have been working with suppliers to cut carbon chains across their supply chains by sharing best practice.

To read the report please click [here](#).
Petcore Europe: The recycling of thermoforms an important challenge for the PET value chain
The PET Thermoforms Working Group is aiming to improve the image of PET thermoforms by providing sustainable and reliable end of life solutions. The report discusses ongoing trials taking place in France and Belgium looking at the quality and percentage of PET thermoforms that can be included in PET bales without affecting the quality of the r-PET. There is also a discussion about work on designing for recycling and in particular label types and how to make these easier to remove.

Please find attached the full press article.

RECOUP - Plastics Recycling 2016
RECOUP's 2016 brochure contains some interesting case studies on 'Pushing the limits for Innovation and Recyclability' (LINPAC), 'Recruiting Recyclers' (OPRL) and 'Packaging And Sustainability - The Need to Find A Balance' (RPC). There are also examples of new innovative products which have won European and UK awards. The European winner was a business chair designed to be easy disassembled without specific tools so each part can be separated for recycling. The UK winner was Filacycle which is a 100% recycled filament for 3D printing.

To read the report please click here.

Dates for your diary

- **PDM Event Plastics** - 14th - 15th June 2016 - Telford International Centre, Telford.

Packaging Programme Area Manager Claire Shrewsbury will be at this event giving an update on WRAP's technical projects. This includes presenting results from the latest work on using fluorescent ink markers to improve plastic sorting which examined how the inks behave within the supply chain and then during the recycling process. She will also share some indicative results from work that has been done on optimising the sorting and reprocessing of clear PET that are derived from pots, tubs and trays.

- **Recycling Week** - 12th - 18th September 2016. Theme: The Unusual Suspects

- **Recoup conference** - 29th September 2016, Peterborough

New Signatory

Luxus is one of the largest independent plastics recycling companies in the UK and has state-of-the-art facilities that enable it to process film and rigid plastic scrap. Recycling expertise covers toll processing, closed and open loop Bin-2-Bin schemes, oil tank recycling, security shredding, plus the recycling of automotive parts, exhibition carpet, pipe, film and rigid plastic materials.
Luxus also develops and manufactures thermoplastic compounds from prime and recycled polymers utilising the services of its own comprehensive on site technical support, testing and analysis laboratory.

To see the full list of signatories please click [here](#).

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**If you have any updates or case studies relevant to PIRAP for the newsletter please contact hjordan@bpf.co.uk.**

PIRAP is an industry action plan that highlights where improvements may be made to enhance collection rates, adopt best-in-class collection methods, optimise sorting infrastructure and develop end markets for recycled plastics.

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[Logo of British Plastics Federation, WRAP, and PlasticsEurope]