PIRAP newsletter - July 2016

Share with your members / customers ....
Please forward this newsletter to any contacts you have who would be interested in the work taking place through PIRAP. The newsletter is also available at www.wrap.org.uk/pirap and http://www.bpf.co.uk/topics/pirap.aspx.

WRAP update

- WRAP's project looking at optimising the recycling process for PET thermoforms collected from the domestic waste stream is nearing its completion. The results from this project should be published later in the summer on WRAP's website.
- Work on behalf of the government looking at consistency in recycling is continuing with working groups being set up to look at particular areas of the supply chain and how they can assist in this process. A vision for England should be published next month.
- WRAP will be holding a workshop to discuss the outcomes of the Fluorescent ink project on 13th July in London. Please contact Marcel Arsand – marcel.arsand@wrap.org.uk if you would like to attend this event.

Case studies

Plasticity (Worldwide Ltd)
Plasticity is a new signatory to PIRAP who recycle rigid plastic as well as films from across the UK. Plasticity work with their customers to help increase plastic recycling and reduce contamination levels. This includes training staff at Household Waste and Recycling Centre (HWRC), providing pictureboard signs for use on site and leaflets and brochures. They also encourage HWRC staff to visit their facility to see first-hand how plastic is recycled.

For more information please visit their website here.

Regain polymers and Sicut Enterprises
BPF member, Regain Polymers, has formed a partnership with Sicut Enterprises to make their range of recycled plastic composites for UK and European customers. This will meet a growing demand for durable material to replace timber; this includes its Ecotrax® railway sleeper. This will provide a local end market for household and commerical waste in Europe.

To find out more please click here.

TOMRA Sorting chosen by Monoworld Recycling Ltd
TOMRA Sorting is the chosen technology partner of Monoworld Recycling Ltd (MRL) who have built a £9 million state-of-the-art plastics recycling facility (PRF) in Rushden, Northamptonshire. Monoworld, Rushden is the UK's first mixed plastics to extrusion HDPE and PP recycling plant. The sensor-based sorting technology supplied by TOMRA Sorting separates the mixed baled plastics into PET, HDPE, PP, film, paper, steel and aluminium. The PRF is also able to handle post-consumer pots, tubs, trays and mixed bottles, with TOMRA's technology capable of sorting black plastics from post-consumer trays. The recovered HDPE and PP materials are used in-house in the hot wash plant to produce a high quality washed flake which is supplied back to extrusion, injection moulding and pipe applications in the UK and Europe. The other material fractions are sold to customers throughout the UK and Europe.
For more information please click here.

**Promoting PIRAP**

Helen Jordan from the British Plastics Federation did a presentation on PIRAP at the Plastics Recycling Expo (PRE) 2016 at PDM. This was an opportunity to promote the aims and vision of PIRAP to visitors and exhibitors at the event. PIRAP was first launch at the PRE 2015 so it was also a chance to look back over the first year of the programme and present on the progress which has been made.

Claire Shrewsbury presented details on two of the technical projects being funded by WRAP at the same conference. The first was the results from the work examining the potential to use fluorescent markers to help improve plastics sorting. The second project has been looking at how to optimise the sorting and processing of clear PET from pots, tubs and trays in order to maximise yield to improve the economics of reprocessing this material. Claire also included a brief update on PIRAP as part of her PRE presentation.

**Marine Litter Action Network (MLAN)**

The British Plastics Federation and PlasticsEurope attended the MLAN annual network workshop on 26th May. It was run using a facilitated technique 'Open Space Technology' so delegates were invited to pitch ideas for working sessions, everyone could then pick to attend sessions of interest to them. There were lots of interesting discussion from how to recycle plastic packaging from beach cleans to financial incentives to reduce littering and how to tackle litter and encourage recycling at large sporting events.

Although marine litter is not part of the remit of PIRAP, MLAN is another example of how the plastic industry can work with different stakeholders towards a collective aim.

**Dates for your diary**

- **Recycling Week** - 12th - 18th September 2016. Theme: The Unusual Suspects
- **Recoup conference** - 29th September 2016, Peterborough
- **BPF Recycling Seminar** - 23rd November, Wales
- **IdentiPlast 2017** - 22nd and 23rd February 2017, Vienna

**New Signatory**

Plasticity (worldwide) Ltd recycles mixed rigid plastic packaging from councils, waste management companies, retailers and manufacturers. They also recycle polypropylene and polyethylene based films from across the UK. More information is available in their case study.
Mars Recycling Technology recycles a range of plastics from PET and HDPE bottles, to PET preforma and PVC and PP scrap. Mars Recycling Technology's parent company, Mars Flexible Packaging Europe Limited, manufacture flexible packaging.

MBA Polymers are the world leader at producing post-consumer recycled plastics from end-of-life durable goods. Their advanced mechanical processes first separate polymeric materials from highly complex waste products, then further cleans, sorts and purifies the resulting plastics by type and grade. They produce a pure, consistent and reliable material which can be used in demanding applications - replacing virgin plastics and closing the loop.

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](mailto: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.