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**Coperion and Sirmax at K 2019**

**Sirmax Relies on Coperion ZSK Technology for Bioplastics**

*Düsseldorf, October 17, 2019* – Italian compounder Sirmax (in Padua) is expanding its commitment to sustainable plastics. Recently, Sirmax acquired a 70% share of Microtec Srl (Padua, Italy), a manufacturer and marketer of biopolymer compounds with the commercial name of BioComp®.

With two new ZSK extruders from Coperion, Sirmax Microtec expects to double its output of biocompounds beginning in early 2020. Coperion designed both ZSK 70 Mc18 twin screw extruders especially for production of bioplastics. These 70 mm screw diameter extruders are equipped with ZS-B side feeders and ZS-EG side devolatilization units.

Representatives of Sirmax and Coperion met at Sirmax’s booth F63 in Hall 8B at the K show.

“With Microtec’s capabilities and Coperion's technology expertise, it’s possible to develop biobased materials for traditional areas of application such as automobiles and household devices. Even the application spectrum for non-durable products, such as single-use flatware, trash bags, and food packaging can be expanded in this way. Long term, we’re planning to expand our bioplastics production to 16,000 tons per year. In Coperion, we see the right partner to travel this road with us”, explained Massimo Pavin, CEO of Sirmax. “Investments will support the production of a wide range of sustainable compound which will increase the actual Sirmax product portfolio, in line with the multi-product strategy of the company. The additional capacity will be used to produce compounds based on starch biopolymers, co-polyesters (PBAT), polylactic acid (PLA) and polybutylene succinate (PBS)”

Peter von Hoffmann, General Manager Business Unit Engineering Plastics & Special Applications at Coperion, added: “We’re very proud to be able to support Sirmax in markedly expanding production of sustainable plastics. In materials made partially or completely from sustainable materials, we see an important ray of hope on the long road to bringing about a circular economy in the plastics industry. That’s why it’s especially important to us to support innovative companies like Sirmax on their way to the future with our comprehensive, process expertise and our technologies.”

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Coperion is the international market and technology leader in compounding and extrusion systems, feeding and weighing technology, bulk materials handling systems and services. Coperion designs, develops, manufactures and maintains systems, machines and components for the plastics, chemicals, pharmaceutical, food and minerals industries. Within its four divisions – Compounding & Extrusion, Equipment & Systems, Materials Handling and Service – Coperion has 2,500 employees and nearly 30 sales and service companies worldwide. Coperion K-Tron is part of the Equipment & Systems division of Coperion. For more information visit [www.coperion.com](http://www.coperion.com) or email [info@coperion.com](mailto:info@coperion.com).

Headquartered in Cittadella (Padua, Italy), Sirmax is one of the most important and growing world compounders operating in several sectors (automotive, household appliances, power tools, electrical, electronics, construction and furniture industries). Established in the 1960s, today the group has six production facilities in Italy, two in Poland, one in Brazil, one in USA (a second plant will start-up in Q3 2020), two in India, as well as 4 technical sales oﬃces in Europe. It counts 700 employees and estimated revenues for roughly 400 Million euro in 2019. The group’s growth strategy is based on constant research and development activity, in collaboration with the most famous Italian Universities. For more information visit [www.sirmax.com](http://www.sirmax.com) or email [sales@sirmax.com](mailto:sales@sirmax.com)

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You will find this press release in German and English together with the pictures in printable quality for download at

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