# HERDOLD MECKESHEIM COPERION

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### Massimo Serapioni

General Manager Business Unit Recycling I Coperion

# **Recycling Days** Day 1

**Chris Dow** Chris Dow I Business Development Manager, Business Unit Recycling I Coperion



### **Coperion presentations about**





### **Tour and live demonstrations**





### **Guest Speakers**

Plastics Recycling - State of Play | Challenges & Opportunities Prof. Edward Kosior | Founder and CEO | Nextek





Panel Discussion - Recycling seen from different perspectivesx
 James Samworth I Partner - Renewable Infrastructure, Private Equity, M&A I Schroders Greencoat LLP
 Prof. Edward Kosior I Founder and CEO I Nextek
 Christian Crepet I Petcore Board Member – Textile Recycling Specialist



**Plastics in Circular Economy - Requirements and Challenges** 

**Prof. Daniel Schwendemann** I Institute for Material Science and Plastics Processing (IWK) OST University of Applied Sciences Eastern Switzerland



# **Evening event** SURPRISE



# AGENDA | NOV 06, 2024

### 09:30 Welcome and Introduction to Coperion

Massimo Serapioni I General Manager Business Unit Recycling I Coperion Chris Dow I Business Development Manager, Business Unit Recycling I Coperion

### 09:45 Introduction to Recycling Business Unit Massimo Serapioni I General Manager Business Unit Recycling I Coperion

Diastics Desusting State of Diay | Challenges & Opportun

10:15 Plastics Recycling - State of Play | Challenges & Opportunities Prof. Edward Kosior I Founder and CEO I Nextek

### 11:00 Coffee break

11:15 Solutions for Efficient Recycling: Herbold Washlines and Latest Developments in Water Treatment Technology

Achim Ebel I Head of Sales I Herbold Meckesheim Kürşat Başdemir I General Manager I Ekosistem Ltd.

12:00 Lunch



# AGENDA | NOV 06, 2024

### 13:00 Coperion Extrusion Technology - Innovation for the Recycling Industry

Jochen Schofer I Head of Sales Recycling I Coperion Frank Mack I Head of Process Technology Engineering Plastics I Coperion

# 14:00Plant Tour and Live Demonstration in<br/>the Recycling Innovation Center

15:00 Coffee break

### 15:15 **Panel Discussion - Recycling seen from different perspectives**

Prof. Edward Kosior I Founder and CEO I Nextek Christian Crepet I Petcore Board Member - Textile Recycling Specialist Prof. Daniel Schwendemann I Institute for Material Science and Plastics Processing (IWK) OST University of Applied Sciences Eastern Switzerland Chris Dow I Business Development Manager, Business Unit Recycling I Coperion

### 19:00 **Evening event**

# HERDOLD MECKESHEIM COPERION



# Introduction to Recycling Business Unit

**Massimo Serapioni** General Manager Business Unit Recycling I Coperion



# SHAPE WHAT MATTERS FOR TOMORROW

# SHAPE

The world is constantly changing, so are we

To be able to provide total solutions. For a wide range of challenges



# For more recycling of all kinds of plastic





















We are **5,000 employees** worldwide, combining engineering expertise, quality and reliability

# WHAT MATTERS

Every day our experts work on high-quality process technology – optimized for the best end products, highest efficiency and sustainability









# The Coperion network





# Business Unit Recycling

coperion

# Where we are coming from







# Why are we here







# Recycling Business Unit – New common product range

The integration of Herbold and former Schenck Process FPM allow us to offer the Recycling industry best in class equipment as well as full scale Recycling plants by leveraging Coperion's engineering capabilities.

HERbold

coperion





# Business Unit Recycling – Why we are the right partner

Coperion and Herbold – A new level of expertise in plastics recycling

What makes Coperion Recycling unique and the best partner:

- Bringing strong brands together Offering best in class process
- Serving you **globally**
- Targeted product development with high in-house production rate
- Decades of experience and process know-how in plastics and plastics O
   One stop shop

- Tailor-made solutions for all recycling processes en CC Food-grade PET bottle t • Food-grade PET bottle-to-bottle refinences with brand approval with our SSP partner (Coca Cola)
  - **Recycling Innovation Centers** in Europe and testing facilities around the world to support our customers.

Industry technillogy offering est quality, lower opex, maximal throughput and flexibility

**Best Total Cost of Ownership** 

Worldwide support







# HERDOLD MECKESHEIM COPERION



# Challenges, Innovations and the Circular Economy confronting the recycling of post-consumer plastics

**Prof. Edward Kosior** Managing Director | Nextek Ltd and NEXTLOOPP Ltd.



Challenges, Innovations and the Circular Economy confronting the recycling of post-consumer plastics

PROF. EDWARD KOSIOR Managing Director Nextek Ltd and NEXTLOOPP Ltd London UK, Sydney Australia, NY USA and Pune India

# COPERION RECYCLING DAYS 6&7 NOVEMBER 2024





# NEXTEK LTD WHAT WE DO

Recycling plant design and Feasibility studies.

Strategic advice to Multi-National Corporations and Recycling Co's.

Food-grade recycling of post consumer plastics – process development.

Research and development of novel materials and processes including plastics and bioplastics.

Business support, productivity improvement and problem solving.

Ground breaking projects for governments and major commercial organisations in the EU, UK, India, Malaysia, USA, South America, Middle East, North Africa and Australia/NZ.

Strong ties to Universities and Scientific Centres of Excellence in the UK and Europe.

# AWARDS





# WHERE ARE WE HEADING WITH PLASTICS

#### Business as usual- 2040

- On the way to Zero Net Carbon economy
- The tipping point is 2030.
- Plastic production will be 400 million tpa
- Plastic will be 20% of oil production.
- Population 9.2 billion people to be fed.
- Food waste is typically 35%
- 35,500 species on extinction list
- 11.2 billion tpa solid waste (2021)
- Leakage to oceans would be 29million tpa

#### System Change is necessary to avoid the worst impacts!



#### **Global Plastics Production**

# Changing the plastics system: better for the economy, the environment, and communities

Continuing on our current Business-as-Usual trajectory will nearly triple the annual flow of plastic into the ocean by 2040, with severe environmental, economic, and social impacts. A cleaner, more sustainable future is possible with concerted action starting in 2020 across the entire global plastics system, with lower costs to governments and lower greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.



# WHAT WE CAN EXPECT IN THE FUTURE - with Maximum Intervention

Plastics WILL be an important part of the future (except for single use plastics!).

Plastics will be key in reducing carbon emissions and reducing food waste.

Producers can expect to do MORE with Design, Recycling, Recycled Content.

Improved Sorting and Recycling technologies for packaging will deliver greater circularity and recycled content.



None of this is rocket science!

# **Progress towards UK Plastics Pact Targets**



Target	Progress (2022)	Likelihood of meeting Target
Target 1: Elimination of Problematic & Unnecessary Plastic	<ul> <li>99.4% reduction in units</li> <li>55% reduction in PS/PVC</li> <li>8% reduction in total single use plastics</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Further effort on PS/PVC</li> <li>Loose fresh produce</li> </ul>
Target 2: 100% Recyclable, Reusable or Compostable	<ul> <li>71% recyclable</li> <li>73% recyclable or reusable</li> <li>94% of rigids are now recyclable</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Could achieve 78% recyclable (kerbside) and 97% recyclable at kerbside or supermarkets</li> </ul>
Target 3: 70% Effective Recycling Rate	• 55% recycled	• Will require kerbside collections for films & flexibles and investment in infrastructure
Target 4: 30% Average Recycled Content	<ul> <li>24% average recycled content</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Will require revisions to the Plastics Packaging Tax, or PET to do the majority of heavy lifting.</li> </ul>
# Brand Owners requirements for recycled plastics

- Improved colour control
- Improved material consistency
- Odour reduction in recycled plastics for HDPE, PP and LDPE
- Food Grade Recycled Plastics for HDPE, PP and LDPE
- Recycling plant boost in quality and output to brand owner standards





### CHALLENGES TO THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

- The majority of resins and products have been designed to be processed once only not recycled.
- Recycling friendly STABILISED formulations and designs are needed.
- In the circular economy, you can only recycle what is put out by the retailers.
- Printing inks and pigmentation limit re-use and yield of most valued resins.
- Not all packaging is recyclable. (100% recyclable by 2025???)
- Mono materials are more widely recyclable to high value.
- Food grade recycling is essential for the circular economy especially for polyolefins and films.
- EU reg 1616/2022 has new requirements to establish EFSA compliance.

Yield Limitations on collections. (assuming all plastics are available for recycling) 75% collection x 95% sorting x 85% recycling = 60% Recovery



#### CIRCULAR RECYCLED PLASTICS – QUALITY ATTRIBUTES

- Recycled Plastics are made from mixtures of grades
- Properties (processing and mechanical) are an average of the inputs so they don't line up exactly with virgin grades
- 100% rPlastic DOES NOT equal 100% virgin Plastic
- Blending with an appropriate grade of virgin polymer will allow re-alignment of the properties close the standard virgin grade.
- Blending minimises colour variation and processing variation
- Manufacturing is more stable when recycled content is spread over more packaging than concentrated into fewer products







### **COLLECTION RATES in USA (2024)?**

National Residential Recycling Rates by Material Category\*

(in Tons Per Year)

Material	Tons Generated	Tons Recycled	Recycling Rate	Total Tons Lost (homes & MRFs)	% Lost (homes & MRFs)
PET Bottles**	3,412,310	971,215	28%	2,441,095	72%
Non-bottle PET	748,974	58,443	8%	690,531	92%
HDPE Natural Bottles	739,178	188,704	26%	550,474	74%
HDPE Colored Bottles	928,780	208,624	22%	720,155	78%
Polypropylene Containers	1,225,325	94,881	8%	1,130,444	92%
Plastics 3-7 (minus Polypropylene)	754,006	8,909	1%	745,097	99%
Bulky Rigid Plastics	1,516,711	17,231	1%	1,499,479	99%
Film & Flexible	4,787,126	4,569	<1%	4,782,556	>99%
TOTAL	47,366,519	10,138,381	21%	37,228,139	79%



#### State-by-State Residential Recycling Rates\*



### USA Recycling Rates by state

- The recovery of recyclable post consumer materials varies across the states from 8% to 37%
- Demonstrating presence of infrastructure for recycling

#### Figure 16 State-by-State Residential Recyclable Material Lost (in Tons Per Year)





#### Recyclable materials (all) lost Tons/yr



The biggest losses = the best PP growth potential



## Circular Economy - NEXT: Red Bin/Black Bag Recycling

- The "wastestream" destined for landfill or waste-toenergy contains many recyclable materials including Plastics, metals, glass, paper, organics.
- The World Bank projects that 2.76 billion CO2e savings could be made through residual waste treatment
- Each of these materials have a value and once recovered and recycled will reduce the need for new resources to be dug out of the ground.
- The technology is readily available and already in practice in countries that have a Zero Waste approach by choice or necessity
- Netherlands, Taiwan, Crete, Wales, Kamikatsu (Japan), Vancouver (Canada), Flanders (Belgium), Cappanori (Italy) Thiruvananthapuram (India)

#### **2030 Scenario for Municipal Waste GHG Emissions** 30% Increase on World Bank projections (excluding biogenic CO<sub>2</sub>)



## GHG emissions of Competitive recycling options

Figure 20: Greenhouse gas emissions of 1 metric ton of plastic utility Different treatment options have vastly different greenhouse impacts



# Regulation in a Circular Economy (EU)

 The European Commission has changed the Directive on Plastics and Packaging Waste to a Regulation

has the following mandatory targets i.e it will be illegal to not have:

- All packaging recyclable or reusable by 2030
- Recycled Content targets
  - 30% for contact sensitive packaging made from PET by 2030 and 50% by 2040
  - 10% for contact sensitive packaging made from plastic materials other than PET by 2030 and 50% by 2040
  - 30% for single-use plastic beverage bottles by 2030 and 65% by 2040
  - 35% for other packaging by 2030 and 65% by 2040

Other packaging, including packaging made of biodegradable plastic polymers, must allow material recycling without affecting the recyclability of other waste streams

The biggest market for plastics is food packaging so food grade compliance is crucial to meeting these targets.



### **RECYCLED PLASTICS & FOOD LAW**



Plastics for food contact are always evaluated for any migration that might occur when in contact with food material

Must use food grade packaging as input

Migrating substances are considered to be food additives

Threshold of Regulation – a level which the probable exposure to a potentially toxic substance is a negligible risk (0.5 ppb Dietary Concentration)

Any recycling process must demonstrate its ability to remove potential contaminants due to consumer misuse via a challenge test



Must not endanger human health, deteriorate the organoleptic characteristics of the food, or cause unacceptable change the food

Only materials that have been manufactured compliant to EU Regulation No. 10/2011 can be used in the recycling process

The migration of substances from the packaging into food, must not exceed thresholds of toxicological concern

Any recycling process must demonstrate its ability to remove potential contaminants or prevent contamination in a closed-loop system New regulation 2022/1616 (Oct 2022)



# EFSA Scientific Opinion of safe assessment of recycling processes – worst case principles

Cleaning efficiency

- Determination of the contamination levels in the input stream (including misused bottles)
- Determination of the cleaning efficiency • of the recycling process (challenge test).
- Calculation of the residual concentration of contaminants (Cres) after recycling (based on a normalized input concentration)
- Evaluation of the exposure (infants, toddlers, adults)
- Calculation of the maximum bottle wall concentrations (Cmod)
- Comparison of Cres with Cmod
- The process can be considered as safe if Cres < Cmod for all kinds of contaminants

#### **EFSA Criteria for Recycled PET in Direct Food Contact**



#### DESIGN FOR FOOD-GRADE CIRCULAR ECONOMY RECYCLING. REMOVING AND CONTROLLING COLOUR TO BOOST RECYCLING

- The key challenges for food grade recycling are twofold:
  - 1. Recovering the food grade fraction of packaging for recycling
  - 2. Boosting the yield of the most favoured colours (natural and white) to improve economics
- controlled use of pigmentation could be used to improve food grade sorting and increase yield.
- All food products should be preferably free of of pigment where possible; otherwise if opacity is needed, pigmented white.
- Non-food products would be in light pastel colours thereby using smaller concentrations of pigments.
- Hazardous products would be pigmented in black carbon black or detectable black pigments).
- Sorting by transparent/pastel/black colouration of packaging is very simply achieved by the use of wellestablished, accurate and relatively low-cost automatic sorting technology using the visible light spectrum and cameras for detection.







# CASE STUDY: Competitive INTELLIGENT SORTING into food use packaging

Globally, Near Infra Red (NIR) and visible signatures are used to identify the polymer type and colour at very high speeds.

No markers are needed for sorting into polymer types such as PET, HDPE, PP, LLDPE etc

The important technologies of marker sorting (Spectroscopic, Neural network (Artificial Intelligence ) and Digital product markings will deliver more precise separation for recycling.

#### No.1 Priority is FOOD-GRADE Prior Use

No.2 Priority is Non-Food Grade Prior Use No.3 Priority is Toxic products No.4 Priority is Difficult to Recycle packaging



Digital watermarks Filigrade and Digimark

#### What if bottles could talk to the auto detectors!



#### Fluorescent markers on labels





NEXTLOOPP's mission is to close the loop on food grade post consumer Polypropylene

**NEXTLOOPP Innovation Technologies** 

Design for Recycling

Post consumer characterisation

Sorting into food and non-food fractions

Cleaning

Decontamination/ deodorisation

Processing into new food grade products







### **NEXTLOOPP** ahead of the curve

Since launching NEXTLOOPP Europe in 2020, we have been deploying our technologies to sort and decontaminate post-consumer PP packaging.

#### **NEXTLOOPP TECHNOLOGIES**

### GAINnext <sup>TM</sup> (TOMRA)

Sorting food-grade packaging

PPristine<sup>TM</sup>

Decontamination technology

Having explored best in class technologies to efficiently separate food from non-food packaging, the project has opted for GAINnext<sup>™</sup>, TOMRA's AI technology that sorts at > 95% purity, meeting the stringent food safety authorities' standards



# Sorting Food Packaging using "deep learning"

Recent trials with TOMRA'S GAINnext<sup>™</sup> achieved > 97 percent food contact packs with yields as high as hand sorting.





This sorting breakthrough will dramatically speed up the adoption of food-grade recycling operations for polyolefins.





# Designing food-grade PP packs for sorting using AI - GAINnext<sup>TM</sup>





## Examples-Packs which look similar....



- Non-food brands could adopt coloured opaque packs to not risk being sorted as white food-grade PP
- Ice-cream containers could be selected as non-food.
- Transparent tubs would more likely be selected as food grade.

Sorting alone does not deliver food grade recyclate

# NEXTLOOPP PPristine

DECONTAMINATION IN MELT AND SOLID STATE

The next step after sorting is high performance decontamination

Decontamination efficiency achieved by NEXTLOOPP PPristine technology.

Process		luene Chlorobenzene g/kg) (mg/kg)			Phenyl-cyclohexane (mg/kg)		Benzophenone (mg/kg)		Hexyl salicylate (mg/kg)		lsopropyl myristate (mg/kg)	
M Wt	92.1	Decon (%)	112.5	Decon (%)	160	Decon (%)	182.2	Decon (%)	222.3	Decon (%)	270.4	Decon (%)
Control*	1049	~	1151	~	970	~	720	~	962	~	843	~
NEXTLOOPP PPristine	<0.5	100%	<0.5	100%	1.7	99.8%	9.0	98.8%	22	97.7%	41	95.1%

Where 'Control' refers to measured concentration of surrogates in challenge test flake prior to any processing.



# Headspace GC/MS testing of PPristine™ Resin

# (Natural FG and INRT<sup>™</sup>)



PP pellet after decontamination

#### PPristine rPP resin - Output characterisation

- Important material properties
- Data showing suitability for food contact
- Organic and inorganic NIAS screening
- Migration/sensory testing
- Ames testing genotoxicity check

	3% Acetic acid	10% Ethanol	Olive oil overall migration mg/dm <sup>2</sup>		
Sample name	overall migration mg/dm <sup>2</sup>	overall migration mg/dm <sup>2</sup>			
PPristine Natural	1.38	1.30	6.54		
PPristine White	2.49	1.09	9.66		
PPristine Colour	3.47	1.45	8.70		
PPristine IM	0.78	1.04	6.58		
PPristine INRT	2.67	1.46	6.59		

Property	Natural	White	Coloured
Pellets per 5 g	147	136	174
Tensile stress at yield (MPa)	30.5	28.5	28.0
Tensile strain at yield (%)	9.0	6.3	6.1
Tensile modulus (MPa)	1,183	1,255	1,248
Flexural modulus (MPa)	1,379	1,426	1,376
Izod impact, notched, 23 °C (kJ/m²)	5.1	5.7	5.4
Izod impact, notched, -20 °C (kJ/m <sup>2</sup> )	3.0	3.6	3.5
Melt flow rate (g/10min)	14.1	20.2	27.3



#### IML AND PRINT REMOVAL - COLOUR IMPROVEMENT Mechanical Cleaning during wet washing

Recycling with IML labels left on



### Design to Recycle: NextCycle IML from MCC Verstraete





- Removable IMLs Verstraete's NextCycle IML
- Fully printed (non-bleeding inks) without adhesives.
- These labels are designed to be removed prior to extrusion at the grinding steps or air elutriation stage and separated from the rigid flakes

### Design to Recycle: SealPeel from MCC Verstraete

- Foil-lidded containers make recycling less effective due to
  - Al Foil remnants on the lid result in PP tubs ending up in the residue stream
  - Melt filtration is made dramatically difficult causing reductions in throughput and yield
- During trials full mono PP packaging achieved a 14% higher yield during the sorting phase.
- Aluminium seals often get damaged during transport.
- The PP SealPPeel lids are twice as puncture resistant compared with thinner aluminium seals.
- The pack is easy to open and microwavable
- it is also visually appealing and provides higher graphic quality to improve branding.



#### **REMOVABLE ADHESIVES FROM BOSTIK**

- Adhesives with phthalate plasticisers
  - Many endocrine disrupting / toxic to reproduction
  - Conflicts some permitted use with FDA indirect use but excluded from 10/2011
  - MEHP / BEHP / DOTP frequently observed in labels
  - Some alternatives available i.e. adipates (see 10/2011)

#### Label removal

- One long term study finds an average of 2.2 % of HDPE flakes with labels attached after conventional hotwash process
- Poor delamination = carry over of glues and inks
- Glues causing gels and black speck impurities
- Label carry over causing issues with genotoxic activity and circularity
- Should stay with the label when they peel off
- Ideally do not leach plasticisers



### **NEXTLOOPP** - Creating a Circular Economy for rPP



# COTOCLEAN

Cleaning Plastic Film To Food-Grade Standards using super critical CO<sub>2</sub>

Creating food-grade destinations for films.

Alliance Prize Solutions to Address Flexible Plastics in Household Waste NY Stock Exchange 29th November 2022



Decontaminates LLDPE, HDPE & PP films and chemical contamination in US FDA and EFSA challenge tests

Removes >99% of oils

**Deodorises films – no smell** 

De-inks with "green" co-solvents - improves colour and quality

**De-metallises multi-layer films – boosts yields** 



Large Scale batch processing with super critical CO<sub>2</sub>



# Our Approach- % Decontamination Rates -Based on EFSA "Challenge test" method for food grade recycled polymers.

Contaminant	LDPE				PP		HDPE			
	Initial (ppm)	Final (ppm)	% removed	Initial (ppm)	Final (ppm)	% removed	Initial (ppm)	Final (ppm)	% removed	
Toluene	73	0	100.00%	188	0	100.00%	42	0	100.00%	
Chlorobenzene	201	0	100.00%	507	0	100.00%	85	0	100.00%	
Limonene	980	<10	99.00%	1549	0	100.00%	368	0	100.00%	
Phenylcyclohexane	2242	38	98.30%	2366	7	99.70%	729	7	99.10%	
Hexyl Salicylate	3584	11	99.70%	2725	26	99.10%	1046	21	98.00%	
Benzophenone	2755	<10	99.60%	2202	3	99.90%	800	1	99.90%	
Isopropyl Myristate	3926	9	99.80%	2703	27	99.00%	1056	17	98.40%	

#### Large Scale Challenge Test Analysis



### COTOOCLEAN Delamination of multilayer films



### COTOOCLEAN De-Inking and Oil removal



#### **Oil Removal**



#### BEFORE

Oil saturated film sample, simulation of surface contamination from food.



#### AFTER

After CO<sub>2</sub> cleaning >99% oil was removed.

### What happens to Polyolefins in Recycling

- Polyolefins progressively change colour as it is recycled due to oxidation
- Too high temperatures during decontamination and extrusion can make it worse
- Recycling at high substitution levels can mean higher initial colour and faster change in properties after recycling.
- Running at 100% recycling rate will quickly cause a change in colour and melt index

Number of cycles	Proportion of original material present after a given number of cycles										
	% Recycled rate										
	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%	90%	100%	
1	10.00%	20.00%	30.00%	40.00%	50.00%	60.00%	70.00%	80.00%	90.00%	100.00%	
2	1.00%	4.00%	9.00%	16.00%	25.00%	36.00%	49.00%	64.00%	81.00%	100.00%	
3	0.10%	0.80%	2.70%	6.40%	12.50%	21.60%	34.30%	51.20%	72.90%	100.00%	
4	0.01%	0.16%	0.81%	2.56%	6.25%	12.96%	24.01%	40.96%	65.61%	100.00%	
5	0.00%	0.03%	0.24%	1.02%	3.13%	7.78%	16.81%	32.77%	59.05%	100.00%	
6	0.00%	0.01%	0.07%	0.41%	1.56%	4.67%	11.76%	26.21%	53.14%	100.00%	
7	0.00%	0.00%	0.02%	0.16%	0.78%	2.80%	8.24%	20.97%	47.83%	100.00%	
8	0.00%	0.00%	0.01%	0.07%	0.39%	1.68%	5.76%	16.78%	43.05%	100.00%	
9	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.03%	0.20%	1.01%	4.04%	13.42%	38.74%	100.00%	
10	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.01%	0.10%	0.60%	2.82%	10.74%	34.87%	100.00%	

### Chemical recycling of Plastics (LDPE, HDPE, PP and PET)

- Thermal Cracking of plastics (PYROLYSIS) decomposes plastics to gas and liquid products that can be filtered and used as part replacement for petroleum oil and rerefined to make new monomers and then polymers.
- Chemical Recycling Depolymerisation of Polymers to Monomers PET & PS) several technologies available but all require a Polymerisation Plant to re-make the polymer.





Decomposition of Plastics to Oils and Naphtha Feedstock – L to R. Plastic Energy, ReNew, Recycling Technologies, Blue Alp, Quantafuel,
### How do we accelerate a Circular Economy for Plastics?

#### 1. Infrastructure

 Create greater MRF resources to sort Recyclables and Post-Consumer Household "Waste"

#### **2. Recycled Content in Packaging**

- Every product should be designed to be circular
- Recycled plastics should be manufactured locally NOT imported

#### 3. Innovation in the Circular Economy

challenges remain for innovation

- Sorting food grade from non-food grade packaging to implement food-grade recycling technologies
- Recovery of plastics from waste before landfill
- High performance plastics properties in closed loops in existing and new applications

#### What will help to Make a Difference

- A shared vision in Chemical-Waste-Recycling Industry Associations and buy-in by Brands and Convertors
- Big recycling operations for high quality plastics in every major population centre
- Research that focuses on greater efficiency and participation in the circular economy
- Large Petro-chemical operations that scale up "Chemical Recycling" for difficult-to-recycle plastics.
- Bans on oxo-degradable plastics that distract or damage circularity
- Government taxes on packaging without recycled content to stimulate the timelines





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### HERDOLD MECKESHEIM COPERION



### Herbold Washing Technologies Solutions for Efficient Recycling: Herbold Wash lines and Developments in Water Treatment Technology

Achim Ebel VP of Sales I Herbold Meckesheim

**Kürşat Başdemir** General Manager I Ekosistem Ltd.

















### HERDOLD MECKESHEIM COPERION

**EKOSISTEM & HERBOLD** 

# CIRCLE OF LIFE STARTS WITH WATER

PRESENTATION

### INTRODUCTION

Washing involves removing impurities from a product to ensure cleanliness.
Water acts as the medium that carries away these impurities after they have been removed mechanically, physically, or chemically. The more efficient the transportation of impurities, the more effective the cleaning process.
Eko-Save Wastewater Recycling Systems in a plastic recycling wash plant offer several significant environmental and economic benefits. Here's a breakdown of the key advantages:

# COMPARISON

OLD SYSTEM

# OLD SYSTEM

#### 1. High Water Consumption

- Water consumption per kilogram of product is significantly higher.
- Basic chemical treatment of wastewater leads to an accumulation of organic pollutants (COD), requiring frequent water renewal. The frequency of renewal increases based on the contamination level of the raw material.

#### 2.Increased Chemical Usage

 As wastewater pollution rises, the demand for chemicals also increases, resulting in higher operating costs and environmental impact.

# OLD SYSTEM

# OLD SYSTEM

2

#### 3. Impact on Product Quality

 Fluctuations in the quality of recirculated water directly affect the quality of the final product.

### 4. Small, Inefficient Water Circuits

 Numerous small circuits with minimal water exchange reduce efficiency and increase operational complexity.

# OLD SYSTEM

# COMPARISON

NEW SYSTEM

# NEW SYSTEM

#### 1. Water Efficiency at Its Best

- Water consumption is reduced to less than 500 ml per kilogram of product.
- With the majority of fresh water being recovered from treated wastewater, the overall consumption is only one-eighth to one-tenth of that in older systems.

#### **2.Lower Chemical Demand**

 Systems supported by biological treatment processes require fewer chemicals for wastewater purification, leading to cost savings and a smaller environmental footprint.

# NEW SYSTEM

## NEW SYSTEM

#### **3. Consistent Water Quality, Optimal Cleaning**

- The system continuously supplies high-quality water, ensuring optimal cleaning performance and process consistency.
- Water is tailored to meet the specific requirements of each wash stage, with purification extending beyond the DAF unit to achieve RO-quality water.

#### 4. Larger Circuits, Higher Efficiency

 Larger water circuits with significantly higher exchange rates improve operational efficiency by enhancing water flow and quality.

## NEW SYSTEM

# NEW SYSTEM

## 5. High Automation, Low Operator Costs

 Automated systems reduce manual intervention, lowering operational costs and increasing efficiency.



### Let's Take a Look at the Advantages of the New System...

### EVERY DROP MATTERS FOR THE FUTURE

### **COST SAVINGS**

#### Reduced Water Expenses

The system significantly cuts costs by drastically lowering the need for fresh water from external sources. Treating and recycling water internally proves far more cost-effective in the long term than external treatment or discharge fees, even in regions with less stringent regulations.

#### Higher Automation

Eko-Save Waste Water Reuse Plants are entirely controlled by an automation system. The system includes measurement instruments for pressure, conductivity, temperature, flow meter, and oxygen concentration, allowing all data to be monitored in real time via SCADA. The remote access module also lets you view the facility's performance even when off-site. Thanks to the automation systems, operator costs are minimized to the lowest possible levels.

#### Environmental Responsibility

The new system not only reduces operational costs but also minimizes environmental pollution. By treating wastewater on-site, the facility reduces the release of harmful pollutants into the environment. This is especially important when considering the irony of recycling rigid materials while polluting water resources—this approach solves both challenges.

#### Water Conservation

The reduced reliance on freshwater promotes a more sustainable approach to resource management. This system supports global efforts to conserve water, aligning with sustainability goals and contributing to a circular economy in plastic recycling.

# 2

### **IMPROVED PROCESS EFFICIENCY**

#### 

#### **Enhanced Product Quality**

 Consistent use of treated and controlled water can improve the cleanliness of recycled material, leading to higherquality outputs.

#### Proven Technology

The First Eko-Save Plant has been operating successfully for the past 4 years, making it a well-established and reliable solution.

#### Closed Loop System

Eko-Save is especially Customized for Herbold washing lines. A well-designed wastewater recycling system creates a more efficient closed-loop process, minimizing the need for clean water. As a backup water source, wastewater from nearby treatment facilities can be utilized. This approach virtually eliminates the need for fresh water consumption.

3

### WATER CONSERVATION

#### **Reduction in Water Usage**

Recycling wastewater reduces the need for freshwater, which is often required in large quantities for washing and processing recycled plastic. This conservation is crucial in areas where water is scarce. The water requirement will be eight times less compared to systems without Eko-Save.

#### Sustainability

Plastic Recycling Factories can significantly reduce their environmental footprint by reusing water, contributing to more sustainable industrial practices. This significantly enhances the reputation of plastic recycling, showcasing it as a more sustainable and responsible industry.

# 4

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

#### Reduced Effluent Discharge:

By recycling wastewater, the volume of effluent (wastewater discharged into the environment) is reduced. This decreases the risk of polluting local water sources with chemicals or microplastics, ensuring the factory adheres to environmental regulations.

#### Drastic Micro Plastic Reduction

The regulation regarding removing microplastics in wastewater within the European Union is part of a broader initiative to reduce microplastic pollution. Currently, the EU has adopted several measures to address microplastics, with some specific regulations already in place. Thanks to MBR filtration, wastewater passes through a 0.04-micron filter before discharge, ensuring no microplastics are present.

#### Better Compliance with Environmental Regulations

Many countries have strict wastewater disposal laws. Recycling wastewater helps factories stay compliant, reducing the likelihood of fines or penalties.

**Our Common Ground** 

# 66

### WIN-WIN FOR BOTH THE BOTTOM LINE AND THE PLANET

WE SERVE A FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY WHILE PROMOTING ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY. IT'S A WIN-WIN FOR BOTH THE BOTTOM LINE AND THE PLANET, WHICH ALIGNS WITH LONG-TERM BUSINESS SUSTAINABILITY GOALS.

# Let's take a closer look at the system that delivers these benefits...

In a modern plastic recycling facility, the efficiency and sustainability of operations heavily depend on an effective wastewater treatment system. Transforming wastewater into high-quality freshwater begins with a series of carefully designed processes that ensure optimal filtration, reduced maintenance, and the protection of sensitive equipment.



### **CREATING AN ECO-FRIENDLY DESTINATION**



#### MECHANICAL TREATMENT

The first step in this journey is mechanical treatment, which uses a vibrating screen to filter out large particles. Unlike conventional methods, this vibrating screen provides superior filtration without the risk of clogging. This ensures smooth operation and continuous water flow, essential for the following stages.



#### EQUALIZATION TANK

Next, the equalization tank steps in, acting as a reservoir that collects and homogenizes all types of waste water. By blending the wastewater, the tank creates a consistent pH level, which means that less acid is needed for pH adjustment. This not only reduces chemical costs but also helps create a more stable and predictable treatment process.



#### DISSOLVED AIR FLOTATION

The process then moves to chemical treatment, combined with a Dissolved Air Flotation (DAF) unit, the Eko-DAF unit plays a crucial role in removing sand particles and suspended solids by using Nano bubbles from the water. This is particularly important because, without the DAF unit, tiny abrasive particles like sand could enter the granulator, causing unnecessary wear and tear on the blades. If not removed, these particles would gradually erode the blades, leading to frequent maintenance and reduced operational efficiency. The DAF unit, therefore, serves as a protective barrier, ensuring that the water entering the granulator is free from potentially damaging contaminants.

### **CREATING AN ECO-FRIENDLY DESTINATION**



#### **BIOLOGICAL TREATMENT**

Following the chemical treatment, the system moves into biological treatment, which is essential for removing organic impurities from the water. This stage relies on activated sludge, a biological agent that naturally breaks down organic matter, transforming the wastewater into a purer form. The biological treatment acts as the heart of the system, restoring the water to near-freshwater quality.



#### MEMBRANE BIO REACTOR

After the biological stage, the water is passed through Membrane Bioreactor (MBR) units, which provide an advanced level of filtration. These units are highly effective in capturing any remaining particles, ensuring the water is suitable to be fed into the next crucial stage:



#### REVERSE OSMOSIS SYSTEM

In the RO system, the water undergoes its final purification, emerging as high-quality fresh water that can be reused in hot wash and further systems. RO permeate water is precious in critical operations like the hot wash and other purification steps that require exceptionally clean water. Thanks to the effectiveness of the RO system, key impurities such as hardness, color, odor, and chemical oxygen demand (COD) are reduced to trace amounts, ensuring that the RO product water meets the stringent standards required for these sensitive stages of production.
#### **CREATING AN ECO-FRIENDLY DESTINATION**



#### DECANTER FOR SLUDGE DEWATERING

The decanter is a centrifugal machine used for dewatering sludge, the Output of the DAF Unit and Biological Treatment. In sludge treatment, decanters play a crucial role by reducing the water content of the sludge, making it easier and more cost-effective to handle and dispose of.

#### **Our Common Ground**

### 66

#### THIS SYSTEM REFLECTS THE COMMITMENT TO INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY, AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

THROUGH THESE STEPS—EACH INTRICATELY CONNECTED—THE WASTEWATER RECYCLING PROCESS NOT ONLY PROTECTS THE FACILITY'S EQUIPMENT AND REDUCES MAINTENANCE COSTS BUT ALSO CONTRIBUTES TO A MORE SUSTAINABLE AND COST-EFFECTIVE OPERATION. THIS SYSTEM REFLECTS THE COMMITMENT TO INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY, AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY, HALLMARKS OF A MODERN PLASTIC RECYCLING FACILITY.



# Thank you!

Achim Ebel VP of Sales I Herbold Meckesheim

**Kürşat Başdemir** General Manager I Ekosistem Ltd.

#### HERDOLD MECKESHEIM COPERION



### Coperion Extrusion Technology Innovation for the Recycling Industry

Jochen Schofer Head of Sales Recycling **Frank Mack** Head of Process Technology Engineering Plastics





#### Introduction.

2 Comparison ZSK and single screw extruder.

3

Summary and conclusion.













#### System comparison Extruder systems Single screw extruder Twin screw extruder Multiple screw extrud Ring-extr. Counter rotating Single screw Ko-Kneader Co rotating Planetary Characteristics Interm shing Tangential +++ + MAROUD Feed intake of bulk materials + + ++ +Downstream adding of bulk materials + + ++++ Downstream adding of liquids +++ ++ ++ + Powder ++ +++++++++++ Melting capability Pøllets ++ ++++ ++ + + +Áxial +++ +++++ +++++ Distributive mixing Crosswise + + +++ ++ + Dispersive mixing ++ ++++ + ++++++Degassing capability + + +++ ++++ ++ Pressure built-up capability ++ ++++ + + -Self cleaning No Yes Yes Yes No In planetary Yes Residence time distribution wide Narrow Narrow Very narrow Wide Narrow Narrow No Yes Screws No Yes Yes No Yes Modular design Barrels No Yes Yes Yes No Yes Yes Possibility of heating Yes Yes Yes Yes Screws Yes Yes Yes and /or cooling

Yes

Yes

Yes

#### Overview of extruder systems

Barrels

Yes

Yes

[Quelle: Der Doppelschneckenextruder, VDI-K]

Yes

Yes

HERDOLD

coperion





















#### Comparison ZSK and single screw extruder

Coperions new concept: FilCo (Filtration Compounder)





**Fil**tration and **Co**mpounding of pre-washed and sorted PCR streams in <u>one</u> process step

- Melting and blending of different polymers, **discharging** the melt from the twin screw and **returning** the filtered melt
- Adding of coarse fillers, fibers or crosslinking additives such as peroxide after filtration

#### Benefits

- Cost and energy savings due to reduction of the necessary aggregates (only one extruder required)
- Higher quality of recycled plastics due to one-time melting (low temperature history)
- Modular design offers efficiency and flexibility























## Thank you!

Jochen Schofer Head of Sales Recycling **Frank Mack** Head of Process Technology Engineering Plastics

#### HERDOLD MECKESHEIM COPERION

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