Conference on Plastic Waste
Brussels, 30 September 2013
• About us
• Manufacturers of Recycling Technology
• Recycling Market
• Options for Actions
About Us

- VDMA (Verband Deutscher Maschinen-und Anlagenbau - German Engineering Federation)
- VDMA is one of the largest and most important industrial associations in Europe
- > 3.100 mainly small and medium size companies in the engineering industry
- 39 VDMA individual associations represent the interests of companies
  - Plastics and Rubber Machines
    - > 210 Member companies
Mechanical Engineering Industry Takes Social Responsibility

• Companies of mechanical and plant engineering
  – An important driving force and engine behind pioneering technologies which enable many sustainable ideas
  – Sustainable production processes and products are not always obvious at first glance

• Blue Competence
  – Responsibility in relation to new energy concepts, how to handle scarce resources or protect the environment
Plastics and Rubber Machinery

- Mainly small and medium size companies (SMEs)
- ~50 companies are suppliers of machinery and/or individual plant components for the recycling industry
- ~20 companies are organized in a Recycling expert group
- Expert groups topics are markets, industry-specific dialogues, technological trends, cooperation with partner associations etc.
- General trend towards complete solutions from a single source requires close cooperation among SMEs
Manufacturers of Plastics Recycling Technology

• Well positioned industry for a long time
• K’ 92: Recycling Center
  Huge success
  – Demonstration of technological feasibility of the recovery of used plastic
  – Great interest among young people
• K 2013: Blue Competence and PR actions
• Machinery industry meets the challenge to satisfy the increasing demand for recycling technology
Recycling Industry — Good Working Partnership

• Manufacturers of recycling technology
  = Small and medium size enterprises (SMEs) predominantly

• Recyclers of Used Plastics & Plastics Waste
  = Small and medium size enterprises (SMEs) predominantly

• General trend toward complete solutions from a single source

• Focus on the development of recovery solutions for mutual benefit by close cooperation 😊❤😊
Recycling in Europe — Today

• Big differences in Europe

• 9 countries in Europe meet a recycling rate of more than 90%.

• Landfill is prohibited totally or restricted in these countries.

Source: Consultic Marketing & Industrieberatung GmbH, Alzenau (Germany), text partially translated by VDMA Plastics and Rubber

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Recycling in Europe — Potential existing

- „Divert from landfill“ promotes
  - higher recycling rates
  - opens new potentials
Recycling Market — Waste is not Waste

• Recycling of PET ☑️ ☑️ ☑️ ☑️ ☑️
• Sorted plastics waste ☑️ ☑️ ☑️
• Mixed plastics waste ☑️ / ☑️ / ☐
• Soiled plastics waste ☑️ ☑️ ☑️
Recycling Market — Recovery is a Challenge

- Recovery of used plastics into high quality raw materials is a very complex process
  - Quality depends on the performance of the process, the technology of collection, selection, cleaning and final processing
  - High amount of production know-how is required
  - Properties and combination of the materials are essential
  - Contaminated materials and its compositions can vary ⇒ Process technology to be adapted accordingly

- High tech recycling machinery technology guarantees optimum efficiency!
Recycling — Moving among different interests

• Balance of interests is the key
Options for Actions

- Plastics waste / Used plastics are valuable raw materials and should be recovered where ecologically and economically sensible
- Divert from landfill
- Increase of recycling process efficiencies
- Promotion of products made from used plastics
• Thank you for your attention!

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