

PET Depolymerization Recycling Status

Bruno LANGLOIS-Carbios Co-Chair of the Depolymerization Recycling WG





- Depolymerisation WG Charter
- Chemical recycling : differentiation of technologies
- WG update
- Next regulatory works
- Industry Technology Readiness Level and highlights
- Next steps



Members of the SIG

14 companies









Depolymerization Recycling WG Charter

Clear targets for successful work

Determine Determine the criteria for acceptance of "Depolymerisation Recycling" for PET resin for food contact use Develop Develop data to inform regulators (EU Commission and EFSA) and help them to better understand the various technologies and regulate (or not) accordingly. Advocate with Legislators and Regulating Authorities to ensure acceptance of	Define	e what is "Depolymerisation Recycling" vs. mechanical recycling and feedstock recycling.
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"Depolymerisation recycling"	Advocate	
Work Work with regulators and other stakeholders to make PET waste available for commercial scale chemical depolymerisation .	Work	•
Propose If advisable, propose amendments to the Basel convention to lift potential obstacles which could limit the availability and transport of PET wastes.	Propose	



One name for <u>2 totally different processes</u>





Overview of recycling routes





Overview of recycling routes

	Feedstock Packaging	Feedstock Fibres	LCA	Yield	Food contact	Quality	Long term closed loop	Influence on Recycled content targets achievement
Mechanical Recycling	YES	NO	Most Favourable	>90% (PET to PET)	Yes, for some packaging only	Non Virgin	Maintained through limited number of cycles	Most Favourable
Chemical Depolymerisation	YES	YES	Favourable	>90% (PET to PET)	YES	Virgin	YES	Most favourable
Pyrolysis Gasification	YES	YES	Less Favourable	<70% (Plastic to oil)	YES	Virgin	YES	Less favourable



- The Depolymerisation WG has initiated:
 - Monomer NIAS evaluation program
 - TRL evaluation of the industry
 - General specification for monomers/oligomers
- Objective is to supply DG Santé with relevant data on recycled monomer quality and industry readiness with the objective to have the right regulation, at the right time, for commercial deployment → EC10/2011 and REACH

No creation of new regulation \rightarrow Time saving



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Regulatory- What came out ?

- Revision (recast) of Reg. 282/2008 to position depolymerisation recycling and mechanical recycling (targets mainly PET).
 - Processes producing monomers listed under 10/2010 outside the scope of 2082/2008, no new regulation
 - Excludes pyrolysis processes.
 - Process producing BHET listed either:
 - o under novel technology or
 - application for use under 10/2011
- Next steps for DG Santé is to establish regulation for Chemical Recycling, and possible revision of 10/2011





Regulatory- Next steps

- Pursue the work:
 - Monomer NIAS evaluation program
 - TRL follow-up
- New : BHET SIG creation, to fulfill obligations under 'Novel Technology'
 - Dossiers for EFSA and EC 10/2011 registration
 - Data collection
 - Consortium of participants to share work and costs
 - Avoid conflicting and confusing data sent to EFSA/EC



- We recognise that there is a lot of confusion between depolymerisation recycling and Pyrolysis/Gasification recovery:
 - Same generic name : 'chemical recycling'
 - > Lack of information regarding yield, raw materials, process, final products, LCA's and TRL
 - > NGO's, EC and other stakeholders 'affected'.
- Restart from "0" : explain the basics
 - PETCORE Depolymerisation WG position paper : read it, spread it



Technology Readiness Level of the sector

Industry supports EU driving circularity



- The industry is evolving quick
 - 4 majors industrial announcement (all in France)
- Supported by investment (est. €1bn)
- Commercial scale will support independance from oil
- Sector targets to be dimensioned to supply enough material to the market



- <u>Eastman</u>: **160 kta unit**. "Eastman [has] the capability to take hard-to-recycle polyester waste and sort, depolymerise and produce recycled PET at a single location".
- Loop Industries: 70 kta unit. "Loop Industries owns patented and proprietary technology that depolymerises no and low-value waste PET plastic and polyester fibre, including plastic bottles and packaging, carpets and textiles of any color, transparency or condition" [...] to its base building blocks (monomers)"
- <u>Carbios:</u> **50 kta unit**. "The goal is to build and operate in France the world's first industrialscale enzymatic [depolymerisation] PET bio-recycling plant"
- <u>Axens</u>: 80 kta unit. "Rewind[®] PET process [...] involves an optimized glycolysis based PET depolymerisation combined with specific purification steps aiming at removing all organic and inorganic compounds present in waste PET, including colorants and pigments. The product is a purified BHET (BHET: Bis(2-HydroxyEthyl) Terephthalate) monomer.



Next steps

Meet JRC for the Chemical recycling

Meet DG Santé

 \rightarrow Keep up the educational work that has started



BHET SIG participants to sign cooperation agreement and start working with a 3rd party for EFSA application.



Exchange with other PETCORE Europe WG's to structure feed stock supply chain for monomer recycling



Continue data collection on yield and LCA and demonstrate Depolymerisation Recycling has its place



Petcore Europe

Avenue de Broqueville 12, 1150 Brussels, Belgium

Tel.: +32 (0) 2 315 24 88

Email: info@petcore-europe.org

Website: <u>www.petcore-europe.org</u>

