

Why is there plastic in the ocean? What effect does this have? What can we do about it?

RICS, 12 Great George Street, Parliament Square London, SW1P 3AD

Event page Press Release Thank you to all of our excellent speakers and to everyone who attended. This pack contains a summary with links to the full presentations.

For further information please contact Barry Turner, Director of Plastics & Flexible Packaging at the BPF. bturner@bpf.co.uk
07785771880

Introduction

10.25 Chairperson's Introduction - Earl of Lindsay 10.30 Introduction from the BPF - Barry Turner, British Plastics Federation

Understanding the problem

10.35 Plastics in the Ocean: What Do We Know? - <u>Professor Richard Thompson, University of Plymouth</u> 11.00 Public Communication: From Plastics Pollution to Solutions - <u>Dr Lesley Henderson Brunel University</u>

Solutions

- 11.50 Innovative Behaviour Change #StreetsAhead campaign Tracy Phipps, Brighton and Hove City Council & Gavin Ellis, Hubbub
- 12.10 Education in Schools Lee Wray-Davies, Keep Britain Tidy
- 12.30 Operation Clean Sweep: Implementing Best Practice Helen Jordan, BPF & Neil Parsons, Logoplaste
- 12.50 Achieving a Circular Economy in Flexible Packaging Pascal Meyer, Amcor
- 14.10 Can our oceans greatest threat be humanity's richest opportunity? David Katz, The Plastics Bank
- 14.30 Improving Technical Recycling Capacity in Developing Countries Jean-Paul Bindelle, Engineers Without Borders
- 14.50 Tackling Plastics Waste at Source in Developing Countries Zoë Lenkiewicz, Waste Aid
- 15.10 Propelling Plastics into a Circular Economy Adrian Griffiths, Recycling Technologies
- 15.30 Turning conversations into action Mark Pawsey MP & Barry Turner



Introduction from the BPF - Barry Turner, British Plastics Federation





Why this event?

- Lack of understanding of causes and sources of marine litter and waste
- Possible lack of awareness of required interventions and how these may need to differ depending where in the world you are.
- Lots of media profile but little in way of solutions

What we hope you will leave with

- A better understanding of causes and sources
- A better understanding of some of the solutions we could implement both now and in the future to prevent marine litter and waste
- A resolve to want to be a part of the process to eliminate all waste leaking into our oceans
- An understanding that the best way forward is via co-ordinated action

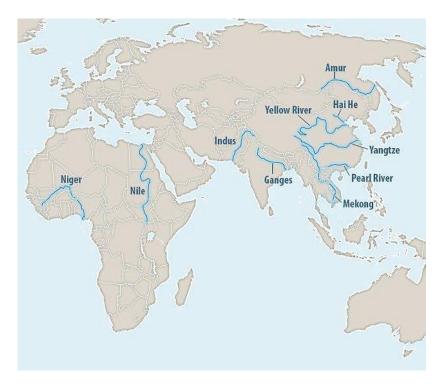




The sources of marine litter



Jambeck et al. 'Plastic waste inputs from land into the ocean'. Science



88–95% of plastic in the ocean comes from just 10 rivers

Schmidt, Krauth, Wagner 'Export of Plastic Debris by Rivers into the Sea', *Environ. Sci. Technol.* 2017.





The most likely items to be found

Items found on beaches	Items found underwater
Technical Report by the Joint Research Centre (JRC), the European Commission's science and knowledge service. Marine Beach Litter in Europe. 2016	<u>Project Aware</u> – Dive Against Debris. <u>Annual Review 2016.</u>
Nets + ropes Plastic caps and lids Cigarette butts Crisp and sweet wrappers Lolly sticks String and cord < 1 cm diameter Cotton bud sticks Plastic drink bottles Plastic food containers	Fishing line Plastic fragments Fishing sinkers, lures, hooks Plastic food wrappers Beverage cans (aluminium) Beverage bottles (glass) Glass & ceramic fragments Plastic bags (grocery/retail) Plastic spoons, plates, forks, knives



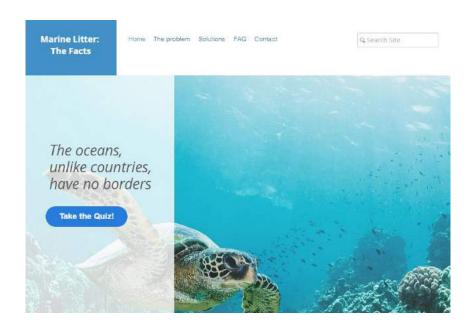


Information available



www.polymerzone.co.uk



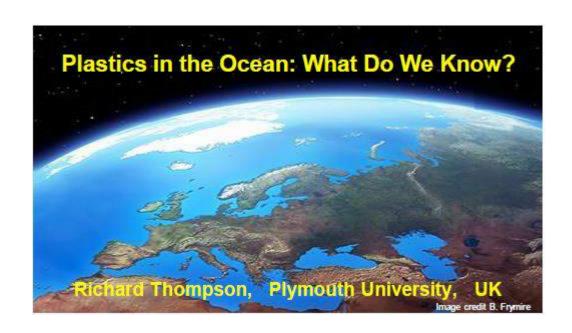


www.marinelitterthefacts.com

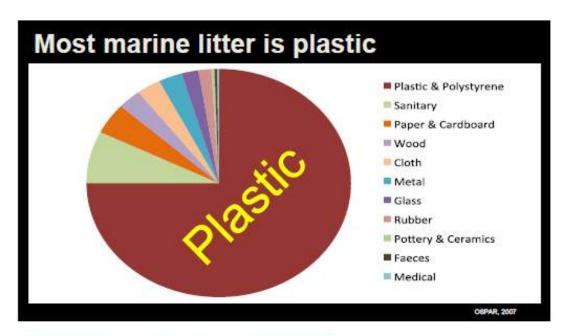


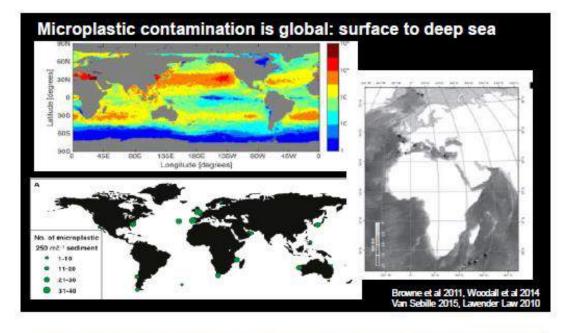


Plastics in the Ocean: What Do We Know? - <u>Professor Richard Thompson, University of</u> <u>Plymouth</u>











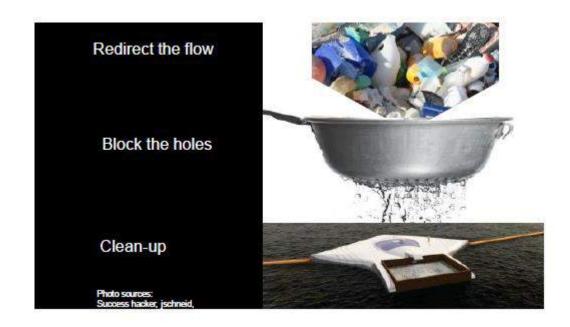




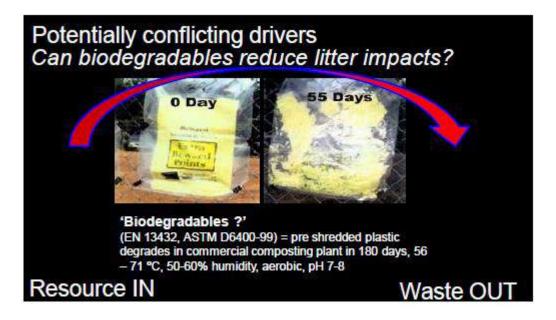














Essential to understand regional variation

Table 1. Waste estimates for 2010 for the top 20 countries ranked by mans of minimum phastic waste (in units of millions of spetic tens per year).

From discost a concern consultration in St. Tapper middle income LM. Issue makes involved. To kee near with refer is a consultration in the countries of the countries considered pop, population agent agent and MAT million metric land.

Rank	Country	£con. elassif.	Coastal pop. [millions]	Waste gen. rate {kg/ppd}	% plastic waste	% mismanaged waste	Mismanaged plastic waste [MM1/year]	% of total mismanaged plactic waste	Plastie marine dobris [MMT/year]
1	China Indonesia	LMI	262.9 1872	1.10	11	76 83	8.82 3.22	27.7	1,32 - 3.53 0.48 - 1.29
3	Philippines Vietnam	LMI	83.4	0.5 0.79	35 33	83 88	1.88	5.8	0.28-0.75
5	Sri Larika	LMI	34.6	-51	7	84	1.59	5.0	0.24-0.64
7	Thorland Expot	LMI	26.0	1.37	13	75 69	0.97	3.2	015-039
8	Malaysia Nigeria	LMI	22.9	1.92	13 13 13	57. 83	0.94	2.9	014-037
10	Bangladesh South Africa	LIMI	70.9 12.9	2.0	6	69 56	0.79	2.5	0.12-0.31
12	India	1,500	1875	0.34	12 3 12	87 60	0.60	1.9 16	0.09-0:24
14	Algeria Turkey	UMI	16.6 34.0	1.77	12	15 88	0.57	1.5	0.08-0.21
15 10	Pokistan	CMI	14.6 76.7	103	12 13 10	88 11	0.48	1.5	007-019
17	Burma	Li	19.0	0.44	17	89 66	0.46	14	0.07-0.18
10	Moracco North Korea	LMI	173	0.6	9	90	0.30	1.0	005-012
20	United States	MIC	112.9	258	13	2	0.28	0.9	0.04-0.11

Jambeck et al. 2015



Plastic Debris:

- 1) is a symptom of inefficient outdated business model
- 2) is not directly coupled to societal benefits
- 3) damages resources (economy, wildlife, services)
- synergistic benefits (resource efficiency / waste reduction) achieved by product re-design
- 5) solutions exist but there is no single solution
- 6) Focus on design for life and end of life
- is a highly visible, accessible, emotive problem harness this interest and focus it on better product design and better waste management

Further information:

Download full slides **here**

Contact Richard Thompson <u>here</u>

www.plymouth.ac.uk

Public Communication: From Plastics Pollution to Solutions - <u>Dr Lesley Henderson Brunel University</u>

Further information:

Lesley Henderson's research is not yet publicly available. You can read more about her research <u>here</u>

www.brunel.ac.uk

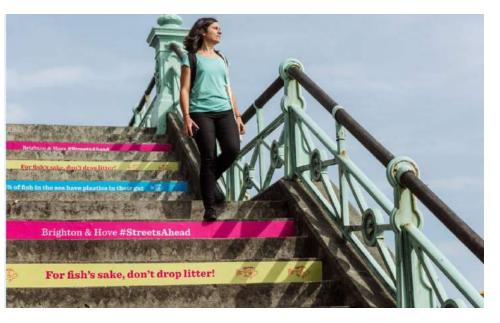


Innovative Behaviour Change #StreetsAhead campaign - Tracy Phipps, Brighton and Hove City Council & Gavin Ellis, Hubbub









<u>StreetsAhead -</u> <u>Brighton</u>





For Fish's Sake -London

Further information:

Download full slides **here**

Contact Hubbub and Tracey Phipps at hello@hubbub.org.uk

www.hubbub.org.uk www.brighton-hove.gov.uk In 2017 Brighton & Hove City Council in partnership with Hubbub implemented an innovative behaviour change campaign called #StreetsAhead to engage the local community and prevent littering. #StreetsAhead builds on the success of Hubbub's Neat Streets campaigns which use the latest behaviour change research and thinking from around the world to prevent litter. From flash-mobs to talking bins, and from naked bin men to chewing gum art, Hubbub have tested many different playful ways to reduce litter and are constantly refining their approach and testing new ideas. The campaign had excellent support on social media. It was funded by fines paid by those who litter and enforcement of penalties is proving popular amongst concerned residents, with 88% of the people surveyed saying there should be stricter fines for those who litter.

Hubbub have also been running a campaign in London called For Fish's Sake which encourage London's residents, commuters and tourists to stem the flow of litter into the River Thames. Using 'grate art', voting bins, videos highlighting the local community and much more the campaign showed excellent results in the reduction of litter. The campaign was independently evaluated and found that office workers at London Bridge were 62% less likely to drop litter following the interventions.

Lessons learnt included:

- community engagement and collaboration are key
- people respond to people
- films of the local community bring the issue back to people's every day lives
- linking marine litter to everyday street litter works well
- bright and loud works well

In the future Hubbub will be extending the For Fish's Sake campaign to other parts of London and to other cities in the UK and beyond. Already the hashtag has been picked up as far afield as Australia.

Education in Schools - <u>Lee Wray-Davies, Keep</u> <u>Britain Tidy</u>





Eco-Schools Global





- 19.5 million students
- · 1.39 million teachers
- 52,700+ schools
- 67 countries



The largest educational programme on the planet

Eco-Schools England



- · Over 18,300 registered Eco-Schools
- Working on three or five of our 9 Eco-Schools Topics:

School Grounds

Waste

Litter

Energy

Biodiversity

Healthy Living

Global Citizenship

Transport

Water



Further information:

Download full slides <u>here</u>
Contact Lee Wray- Davies:
eco-schools@keepbritaintidy.org

www.eco-schools.org.uk

Seven Step Framework





Plastic 'Theme'





Wrigley Litter Less Campaign, Leicester



- 15 de santois maraning together with litter they have collected
- Plastic bottles to be collected separately

Great British 'School' Clean



2nd March – 10,000 schools!



Operation Clean Sweep: Implementing Best Practice - <u>Helen Jordan, BPF & Neil Parsons,</u> Logoplaste

Operation Clean Sweep

7th February 2018

Helen Jordan Sustainability Issues Executive





Marine Litter Event

How to Prevent Plastics Entering the Ocean

Wednesday 7 February

Operation Clean Sweep

Neil Parsons









Operation Clean Sweep®

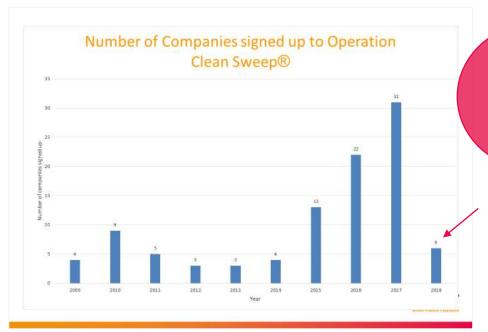
• Industry led initiative to ensure plastic flakes, pellets and powders are contained within sites.



34 Countries are signed up to Operation Clean Sweep





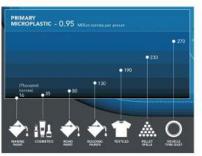


Over 100 companies are signed up to OCS In the UK

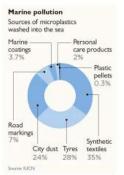
2018 figures are up to 7th Feb only

Microplastics

- Small pieces of plastic 5mm or less in size
- · Sources of microplastics



Source: Euromia, 2016 Plastics in the Marine Environment. Where do they come from? Where do they go?



Source: Boucher, J and Friet D (2017) Primary Microplastics in the Contax A Nobbol Evaluation of Sources. Gland, Seitzerland: IUCN, 43pp



Survey results

92%

Did a check or audit – 56% did daily checks

95%

Had no spills or contained spills – all companies have taken action

85%

Trained their staff

32%

Had worked with the supply chain.



Five key steps to success

- 1. Risk assessment- where are the pellets coming from, where are they going, what are the vulnerable areas.
- 2.Education and awareness delivery drivers and training of new procedures
- 3.Containment drain protection, catch trays, improvements to material handling systems
- 4.Improved cleaning equipment portable vacuum cleaners
- 5. Monitoring cleaning plans and self audits











Benefits

Reduction in the amount of pellets lost – going onto the floor- at the raw material transfer process.

Significant reduction in the number of pellets entering the water system and land.

Employees engaged with increased awareness

Lost cost solutions to a problem we have experienced for several years!

PlasticsEurope



Resources for OCS supporters









How can you get involved?

- Sign up at www.operationcleansweep.co.uk
- Share case studies
- Encourage your supply chain and customers to sign up to Operation Clean Sweep®.



Resources for OCS supporters





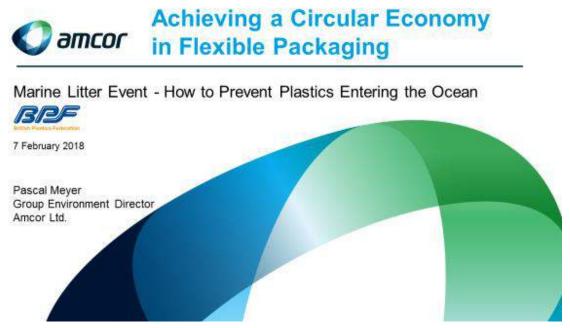


Further information:

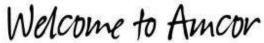
Helen Jordan's slides are available here
hjordan@bpf.co.uk
www.operationcleansweep.co.uk

Neil Parson's slides are available here
www.logoplaste.com

Achieving a Circular Economy in Flexible Packaging - Pascal Meyer, Amcor







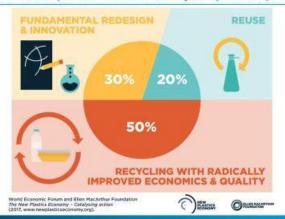


amcor

Packaging plays an important role



Key levers to improve sustainability of plastic packaging

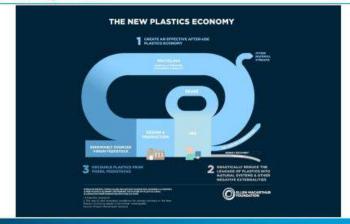




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The circularity vision

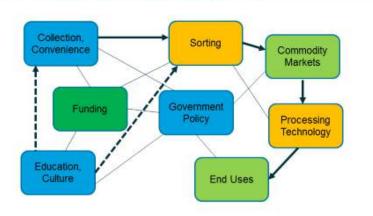






Elements of recycling / recovery systems

11 companies have made similar commitments





Further information:

Download full slides <u>here</u>
Contact Pascal Meyer, Amcor
https://www.amcor.com/contact
-us

www.amcor.com





Amcor partnerships address global challenges

World Food Programme

 Amcor technical guidance on materials and integrity of packaging for foods including lipid-based nutrient supplements for children under five, Super Cereal, and vegetable oil



New Plastics Economy

 With core partners in the Ellen McArthur Foundation, including MARS, Unilever, and Veolia, Amcor is rethinking and redesigning the future of plastic packaging



Trash Free Seas Alliance

 The aim of the TFSA's current phase is to establish political and economic conditions necessary to accelerate waste management solutions to reduce marine debris



Earthwatch

 Since 2001 Amcor has sent employees on an annual science-based expedition. Since 2015, Amcor's Earthwatch expeditions have focused on the issue of marine debris.



Regional Sustainability Initiatives

Where Amcor's expertise is helping to identify and implement practical and economic recycling options for plastic packaging



 Cross industry effort lead by American Chemistry Council to develop recycling solutions for flexible packaging in US

situation



 AUS & NZ scheme allowing consumers to return soft plastics for collection and use of recycled material in manufacture of plastic products (e.g. fitness equipment, outdoor furniture etc)

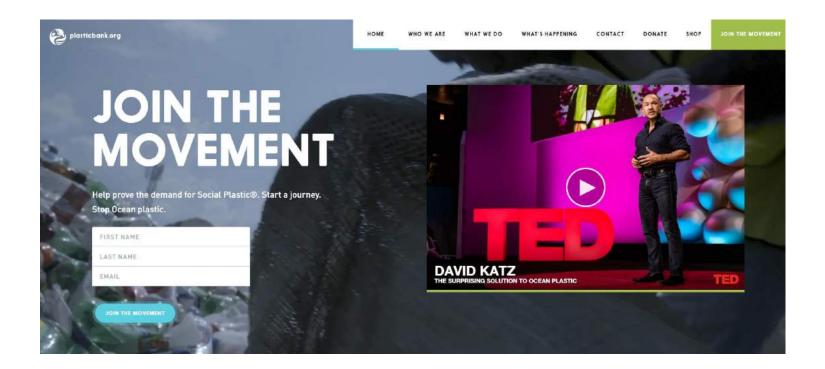


 European collaboration across value chain to facilitate greater postconsumer flexible packaging recycling in more European countries





Can our oceans greatest threat be humanity's richest opportunity? - <u>David Katz, The Plastics Bank</u>







The Plastic Bank enables people in developing countries to derive a stable source of income by collection plastic for recycling. The Plastic Bank connects them to a consistent global recycling market. By enabling the exchange of plastic for money, items or Blockchain secured digital tokens, they reveal the value in plastic. This empowers recycling ecosystems around the world and stops the flow of plastic into our oceans. All while helping people living in poverty build better futures. The value of Social Plastic® goes beyond the commodity price of plastic: a ladder of opportunity is created for the world's poor by providing access to income, goods and services and plastic is kept out of the ocean.

Interested companies and individuals can get involved in a variety of ways including purchasing Social Plastic®, purchasing products made from Social Plastic®, or making a donation. The Plastic Bank extracts 1 bottle from the environment for every \$.01 US. So, \$1000 USD will incentivise the extraction of 100,000 bottles.

Find out more at: www.plasticbank.org



Further information:

Contact David Katz https://www.plasticbank.org/contact/

Improving Technical Recycling Capacity in Developing Countries - <u>Jean-Paul Bindelle</u>, <u>Engineers Without Borders</u>





What is ISF (Engineers without Borders

- A Belgian NGO active since 1990
- Officially recognised NGO since 2000
- Fights against poverty in the world with projects
- supporting local initiatives
- · with appropriable technical solutions
- · self supporting technical and economically on a long term





WHAT IS TECHNICALLY NEEDED

Machines at very low prices (recovery equipment, ...)

Technical simplicity (difficulty manufacturing parts, lack of technical qualification) mainly developed by North and South engineers and technicians

As much as possible, no be depending of the electricity because of lack of electricity.

Easy to be copied by the South -> appropriable technologies are needed









How do we recycle?

Recycling is a chain with several operations

- Collection: the bags are collected throughout the city. Several tons per week are be treated to be competitive on the market
- Preparation of the material: sorting, cutting, scrub => will allow the raw material to be used in machines without damaging them
- 3. Shredding
- 4. Washing and drying
- 5. Agglomeration
- Industrial sales as raw material (pellets sorted, washed and clean) for manufacture of finished products ingénieurs



WASTE MANAGEMENT. MADAGASCAR

DOWNTOWN



Before the program, wastes around the refuse bins on hundreds of meters



Refuse bins cleand up and rebuilt



Daily collection of the refuse bins











Further information:

Download Jean-Paul's full presentation here
Contact Engineers Without Borders:
http://www.isf-iai.be/

info@isf-iai.be

Contact Jean-Paul Bindelle (volunteer bindelle@hotmail.com

Tackling Plastics Waste at Source in Developing Countries - Zoë Lenkiewicz, WasteAid UK









When people have no waste management service, they have no option other than to burn or dump their waste locally. In fact, there are 2 billion people in the world without decent waste collection and 3 billion without a proper waste disposal facility.

It is estimated that up to 70% of marine plastics come from unmanaged household waste in low-income countries. 38 of the 50 largest informal dumpsites in the world are on the coast, spilling waste directly into the sea. The health consequences of unmanaged waste are the most serious for children, who suffer from nutritional malabsorption and stunting by the age of 8, as well as respiratory problems and a significant increase in case of diarrhoea.

A United Nations / ISWA study found that, when all the costs to society are considered, it is 5 to 10 times cheaper to society to implement a sustainable waste management system than to do nothing.

Multiple benefits of plastics recycling

- ✓ Reducing pollution
- ✓ Improving health
- ✓ Providing income

Circular economy?























13 CLIMATE















The good news is that tackling waste, and moving to more circular based systems, can be an engine for sustainable development. Livelihoods from recycling generate a positive 'pull' to prevent plastic reaching the oceans. This 'pull' can sometimes be achieved by helping communities and industry work together to create demand for high quality post-consumer plastics.

We also need to engage on a community level to create markets for low grade material. The cost of transport fuel and fluctuating global markets can make a centralised recycling system collapse overnight. The transport cost for very low value materials often makes it uneconomical to recover.

We need to be supporting new circular economy business models and SMEs that are developing new product solutions from recycled plastics. There is an urgent need to act. While upstream design will ultimately help, that is a longer-term solution. We need to be collecting plastic now to make a difference now.







WasteAid UK works with communities where there is no waste management, to help turn waste into resource. We train people to analyse the waste materials polluting their environment, and help communities use the resources that are locally abundant. In this way they can turn the waste pollution problem into an economic opportunity.

The **Walk for WasteAid 2018** is taking place on 23 June, and everyone is invited to join. This year is a 25m trek across the 16 historic London bridges, to raise awareness and funds to help more communities keep more plastic out of the oceans. Sponsorship opportunities are available, please contact zoe@wasteaid.org.uk.



Further information:

Walk for WasteAid 2018 – more info and sponsorship

Zoe's full presentation and notes are available here

Contact Zoe Lenkiewicz zoe@wasteaid.org.uk

Propelling Plastics into a Circular Economy - Adrian Griffiths, Recycling Technologies





Chemical Recycling - the RT7000

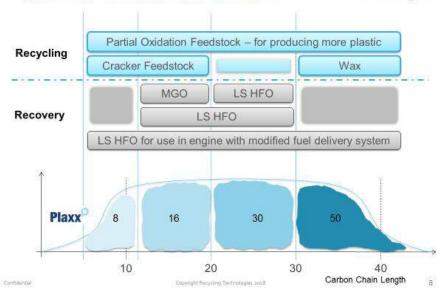


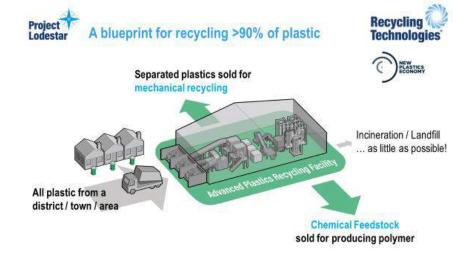




Use of Plaxx® - many high value applications





















Come and join us....



"I was keen to invest in such a worthwhile project. I enjoy being part of something that could really change the way we deal with waste plastic."

MELISSA LEEKE INVESTOR

Further information:

Adrian's full presentation is available here

Contact http://recyclingtechnologies.co.uk/contact/

https://recyclingtechnologies.co.uk

Turning conversations into action - <u>Mark</u> <u>Pawsey MP</u> & Barry Turner

Further information:

Barry Turner:

bturner@bpf.co.uk www.bpf.co.uk

Mark Pawsey MF

www.markpawsey.org.uk



Proposed pledge on marine litter

Due to the harmful effects of all litter and waste in our oceans we the attendees of the BPF marine litter event held on the 7th February 2017 agree to take collaborative action to reduce waste and litter entering our oceans.

This will include measures to:

- PRN Reform: Collaborate to ensure the revision of and the extension of the UK producer responsibility system supports the achievement of a truly circular economy, the elimination of waste and minimises the impact on the wider environment.
- Littering & Environment: Work with all relevant stakeholders to develop effective best practice measures to curb litter and the effects of its leakage into the wider environment. This will include support and collaboration on anti-littering and behavioural change and education initiatives.
- **Design**: Seek to collaborate to ensure our products are designed to ensure resource efficiency and end of life considerations are fully taken into account.
- Waste management: Openly share and develop best practice to improve waste management systems in the developing world.





PRN Industry Roundtable

- 1. Everyone should play their part this should result in the reduction or removal of the **de minimis** level to expand the number of obligated businesses (just as currently with batteries and all WEEE)
- 2. The system should financially reward recyclability
- 3. The system should financially **reward inclusion of recycled content**
- 4. Local authorities, businesses, and places of work should work towards a **standard base recycling system**, to provide certainty for all and allow the introduction of a universal labelling system.
- 5. The proceeds of the new PRN fund would be distributed by an **independent body** that should include cross-sector industry members to achieve desired outcomes a precedent model of this is ENTRUST for the Landfill Tax.
- 6. All **reprocessors** and exporters of packaging waste must be obligated to be part of the system to ensure we measure the true recycling rates. Also, PERNs should be modified, not least to **remove** their inherent advantage over PRNs.





What the Pledge could lead to

- Setting up a forum to bring experts together from all stakeholders to coordinate action in the 4 areas of:
 - 1) Effective PRN reform
 - 2)Less litter and waste
 - 3)Ecodesign being the norm
 - 4)Effective waste management interventions in developing nations
- Ensuring future producer responsibility is more strategic and supports the changes we all need to see.
- Co-ordinated actions on education, littering, waste and behavioural change.
- For those items most likely to be littered examining whether there are better alternatives and if so taking steps to migrate to those.
- Promoting effective interventions in waste management to developing nations.



