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Recycling initiatives



Vinyl Plus is the new ten-year Voluntary Commitment of the European PVC industry. It is built on the achievements of the Vinyl 2010

programme and takes the next important steps in tackling the sustainability challenges for PVC. The regional scope of the programme is the EU-27 countries plus Norway and Switzerland. Five key sustainable development challenges have been identified for PVC, together with a set of working principles:

- **Controlled-Loop Management:**
The more efficient use and control of PVC throughout its life cycle
- **Organochlorine Emissions:**
Ensure that persistent organic compounds do not accumulate in nature and that other emissions are reduced
- **Sustainable Additives:**
Review the use of PVC additives and move towards more sustainable additive systems
- **Sustainable Energy Use:**
Minimise climate impacts through reducing energy and raw material use, potentially endeavouring to switch to renewable sources and promoting sustainable innovation
- **Sustainability Awareness:**
Continue to build sustainability awareness across the value chain, including stakeholders inside and outside the industry, to accelerate resolving our sustainability challenges.

The Vinyl 2010 voluntary commitment, set up in 2000 established an infrastructure for the collection and recycling of PVC in Europe. Prior to 2000, PVC had been dismissed by many as “unrecyclable”, fit only for landfill. Today, the Recovinyl network supports more than 150 recycling companies across Europe, including the UK, recycling over 260,000 tonnes of post-consumer PVC waste per year. Vinyl plus includes the target of recycling 800,000 tonnes/year of PVC by 2020.

The material formulations used by Marley have been lead free since 2008 and trials are on-going to adopt organic-based materials. A number of recycling initiatives are in place and trials are ongoing with the re-introduction of post-consumer waste into the production process.

Carbon reduction

We have signed up to the Climate Change Agreement (CCA) a Government initiative which allows energy-intensive businesses to receive up to a 65% discount on The Climate Change Levy (an energy tax) by meeting energy reduction or carbon-saving targets.

- Monitor energy use and reduce by 2.5% per annum
- Use energy for approved activities only

Further improvement measures include working smarter to reduce the Company's carbon footprint:

- In 2005 we reduced the amount of waste sent to landfill by two-thirds. Today we send no waste to landfill. We separate and recycle wood, cardboard, metal and plastic packaging. Waste from process start up and shut down is recycled back into the process.
- The more efficient processing of waste production material by using shredding and pulverising processes. This not only saves space but allows the material to be reused, whereas in previous years this material would go to landfill.
- The heating system in our manufacturing plant uses heat recovered from process usage. This heat recovery system reduces the requirement for gas significantly.
- 40% of our forklift truck fleet now runs on LPG fuel, a cleaner burning fuel than diesel especially with respect to carbon particles and NOx gases. This is particularly beneficial for the semi-enclosed environments in the manufacturing areas. The LPG powered trucks are also refueled from a central reservoir, which makes them as easy as diesel to refuel, an advantage over the older gas-bottle fed trucks.
- We have on-site system of water/oil separation (a by-product of the extrusion process). The system processes 22,000 litres of oil and oil & water mixes per annum reducing consumption and avoiding challenging waste disposal requirements.
- The lighting in our warehouses has been linked to motion-sensor circuits, where the lights automatically switch off when there is no movement in the area for a certain period.
- Our logistics operation makes use of all opportunities for back-hauling, vehicles from our customers as well as our own are utilised to maximise efficiencies. All vehicles are fitted with a device containing the ‘ad blue’ additive to neutralise exhaust emissions.