



EPR Club | DSD LUNCH DEBATE

The role of bioplastics in a circular economy – sustainable application and recovery

14 October 2014 | 12.30 – 14.30

AGENDA

12:30 Gathering and informal networking

12:50 Welcome and introduction

Françoise Bonnet, Secretary General, ACR+

Helmut Schmitz, Director of Public Affairs, DSD

13:00 Expert keynotes

Dr. Harald Käb, Narocon Innovation Consulting

o Market development of and perspectives on bioplastics

The market for bioplastic materials and products has steadily increased at a growth rate of more than 20 per cent over the last few years. Brand owners like Coca-Cola, Danone and P&G use bioplastics in the packaging sector (e.g. biobased PET). Biobased plastics that are chemically identical to conventional plastics, the so-called “drop-in solutions”, are enjoying particularly promising market opportunities.

Christian Garaffa, Novamont S.p.A.

o Milan organic waste (“food waste”) collection model

Milan’s integrated waste collection and disposal system is attracting the interest of municipalities from all around the world. One key aspect of the collection system is the use of compostable waste bags made from bioplastics – produced by Novamont – which can be processed in anaerobic breakdown and composting facilities. With an average of 90 kg of organic waste per habitant collected each year, Milan is European leader in this field.

Dr. Michael Heyde, Systec Plastics GmbH

o Integrating bioplastics into a circular economy

Bioplastics pose great challenges for existing recycling and composting infrastructure. Because of different chemical composition and material characteristics of bioplastics for mechanical recycling as well as industrial composting special solutions are needed. Today, the majority of bioplastics is still sent to incineration plants. In order to prevent the loss of valuable resources we need a dialogue on how to close the loop for bioplastics and integrate this material stream into circular economy infrastructure.

13:30 Open round table discussion

Facilitators: Françoise Bonnet, ACR+ and Helmut Schmitz, DSD

o What is the role for bioplastics in Europe’s transition towards a circular economy?

14:20 Conclusions and closing

Françoise Bonnet, Secretary General, ACR+

Helmut Schmitz, Director of Public Affairs, DSD