

Welcome to the PolyStyreneLoop Newsletter

The PolyStyreneLoop Foundation is a non-profit organization set up under Dutch law, focusing on the operational implementation of a circular economy. The Foundation's key project is to prepare the construction and operation a large-scale demonstration plant that will provide a sustainable, closed-loop route for the recycling of polystyrene (PS) insulation waste foam, destruction of the flame retardant HBCDD and for the recovery of bromine.

The first phase of the project is coming to an end; all critical elements are now being brought together, including project funding, designing a corporate structure and ensuring regulatory compliance. A key step is the expected acceptance of the envisaged recycling method as pre-treatment for waste under the UNEP Basel Convention

Our website is online!

Visit www.polystyreneloop.org and stay in the loop!

Finance and governance

The construction of the recycling plant requires a substantial investment sum and a dedicated project management. An industry cooperative will be set up to finance the demonstration plant. This cooperative will include several partners of the value chain, such as foam recyclers, system applicators, EPS and XPS producers and converters, as well as flame retardant producers and waste collectors.

Negotiations with RABO bank are ongoing in order to secure the cash flows for the first operational years.

The foundation also applied for complementary subsidies under the European LIFE 2020+ program. The application passed successfully the first evaluation step, receiving high scores recognizing in particular the PSLoop project contribution to the EU objective of a circular economy. A final decision on the grant is expected in Spring of 2017.

Life Cycle Assessment

TÜV Rheinland is currently doing an LCA study comparing incineration with physico-chemical recycling, with a view to validating this dissolution process like CreaSolv® as an additional credible end of life option for ETICS. Initial results are encouraging.

Regulatory developments

International level

Technical guidelines for the treatment of HBCDD-containing hazardous waste are currently being developed in the framework of the Basel Convention. A proposal prepared by Canada aims to list the dissolution process for the separation of polystyrene and HBCDD as a valid pre-

treatment process and to have it included as a best available waste treatment technique, along with incineration. This proposal was accepted at technical level during a meeting held in Bonn on 20-21 February. This paves the way for a positive final decision, expected for April 2017, during the COP-13, Conference of Parties meeting of the Basel Convention.

Meanwhile industry shared with the working group (SIWG) of the UNEP Basel committee a document explaining the position on the use of analytical methods to determine the HBCD level in PS foam waste to verify that it is below the required low POP-level.

Stakeholder Engagement

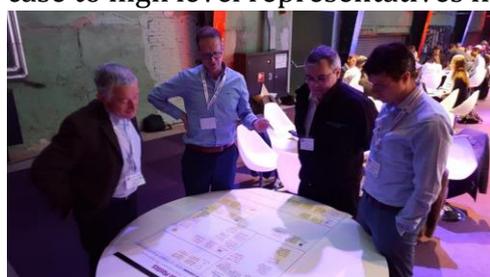
PolyStyreneLoop Workshop, 18 October 2016 in Brussels

35 professionals from the (E)PS foam supply chain attended the PolyStyreneLoop workshop in Brussels organized by EFRA. The project team gave a detailed update on the project proceedings, and on the way forward.



EU-conference on Plastics in a Circular Economy, 8-9 December 2016, Rotterdam

Frank van Doormalen and Lein Tange were invited to present the PolyStyreneLoop business case to high level representatives from the EU Commission and the Dutch authorities. 200 people attended this conference, focused on dialogues on Circular Economy business cases. In round table sessions, the PolyStyreneLoop case was discussed and issues, limitations, strategy, success and opportunities were reviewed. The project was acknowledged as a valuable solution in the Circular Economy debate. More information on the [PolyStyreneLoop website](#).



KIDV-Verdiepingsbijeenkomst 9 February 2017

Jan Noordegraaf presented the PolyStyreneLoop project to an audience of 120 participants. The project was one of four innovative recycling approaches that were discussed amongst an audience of plastic packaging specialists, recyclers and research experts.

Upcoming activities

A poster presentation of the PolyStyreneLoop project will take place during the PlasticsEurope conference Identiplast (20-22 February, Vienna).

Network PolyStyreneLoop

Foundation partners PolyStyreneLoop

ICL-IP, Unipol Holland, Stybenex, Sunpor Kunststoffe, Synbra Technology.

Financing partners

EAE (European Association of ETICS), EFRA (European Flame Retardant Association), EUMEPS (European Manufacturers of EPS), Exiba (European XPS Association), IVH (Industrievereinigung Hartschaum, Germany), FVWDVS (Fachverband Wärmeverbundsysteme Germany), PlasticsEurope EPS MC (BE), Stybenex (Netherlands)

Dedicated project partners

DeVries Recycling (NL), ECOFILL Recycling (BE), Fischer Gruppe (D), Isobouw (NL,D), KRAS Recycling (NL), Poredo Recycling (NL), Total (FR), Unidek (NL), Synthos (PL) Termokomfort (NL)

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This newsletter is issued by Stichting PolyStyrene Loop, Zeedijk 25, 4871 NM Etten-Leur