



EU Plastics Tax off the table



Report on the Food Contact Conference



EuPC Recycling Survey



EuPC Annual Meeting 2018



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Our Colleague Michel Loubry



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EU Plastics Tax off the table



On May 2nd, the European Commission has presented its proposal of a budget for the period 2021-2027. The document acknowledges the gap left in European Finances by the Brexit and the need for extra resources, to be gained through savings and new European sources.

Since the launch of the Plastics Strategy, the budget Commissioner Gunther Oettinger has started to look at plastics as a source of possible income, through the means of an EU Tax. **EuPC** advocated strongly against such a tax on the plastics industry. Eventually, the European Commission has proposed new sources of income which are linked to key EU policies. Among which, as far as plastics is concerned, "a national contribution calculated on the amount of non-recycled plastic packaging waste. This will create an incentive for Member States to reduce packaging waste and stimulate Europe's transition towards a circular economy by implementing the European plastics strategy".

Furthermore, the Commission recognises that, at the same time, Member States would be free to take the most suitable measures to achieve those goals, in line with the principle of subsidiarity and apply a uniform call rate to the weight of plastic packaging waste that is not recycled, with the actual call rate not exceeding EUR 1,00 per kilogram. It is now the turn of the Council and the European Parliament to have a say to this proposal and the overall budget.

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EuPC/PCE Food Contact Plastics Seminar 2018 took place in Brussels



On 19 and 20 April 2018, **EuPC** with the support of Polymer Comply Europe held its annual Food Contact Plastics Seminar in Brussels. The seminar was attended by a broad spectrum of participants from the plastics food packaging industry, food industry, laboratories, and regulators. The theme of the seminar was Ensuring Safety of Products with panellists providing valuable insight into the current and future regulatory framework.

On the first day, the speakers gave their perspectives on topics such as the EU Plastics Strategy and its implications for the converting sector, the regulatory context of microplastics, latest developments on the Chinese food contact regulations. Also, both the food and drink industry as well as a major PET preforms converter presented their perspective on ensuring safety of products.

On the second day, **EuPC** presented their proposal for the future EU regulatory framework for food contact materials via Dario Dainelli, Chair of the Food Contact Regulatory Expert Panel. The European Commission (DG Santé) provided an update on their current activities on the evaluation of the framework regulation and the authorization decisions for recycling processes. JRC presented the common project with **EuPC** on NIAS screening. Other topics such as mineral oils, printing inks and repeated-use-articles were discussed as well.

Overall, the event proved to be an excellent opportunity for industry stakeholders to connect, exchange and gain insights on assessing and managing risks where plastics in food packaging are concerned.

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2nd EuPC Survey on the use of rPM



EuPC's second survey on the use of recycled plastics materials (rPM) by plastics converters in Europe is still open for submissions. Launched in the 22nd January, the survey remains accessible for only two more weeks until the 15th May 2018.

The survey is open to all European plastics converting companies and accessible on the website of Polymer Comply Europe in 7 languages English, German, French, Italian, Spanish, Polish and Turkish: <http://bit.ly/rPMSurvey>.

The EU Plastics Strategy makes it imperative to gain more knowledge about the use of rPM in the European plastics converting industry to support the transition towards a more circular economy. The 2nd edition of our European rPM survey will enable us to further identify and specify the quality and supply issues we are facing, help us to find appropriate solutions for the future, and demonstrate our commitment to a more sustainable plastics economy.

The results will be presented during the 2018 **EuPC** Annual Meeting "A circular Future with Plastics" on the 24th and 25th May in Milan (Italy) with the presence of the EU Commissioner E. Bienkowska and leading CEOs of the plastics industry.

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Sebastiano Barisoni confirmed as moderator for EuPC Annual Meeting



Born in Rome, graduated in International Relations in Florence, professional journalist since 1996, after three years of experience in London at Bloomberg Television, in 1999 he joins Radio 24 where he deals with finance and savings initially conducting "Salvadanaio" to pass later to economic news of "Focus Economia", realized with the key players of the economic-financial day and with the contribution of journalists and analysts of Il Sole 24 Ore. He has covered all the steps in the organization of Radio 24 until becoming Executive Vice Director in 2013. From October 2015 he was a member of the Board of Oxfam Italia, an international NGO specialized in humanitarian aid and development projects. Dott. Barisoni will be moderating the second day of the **EuPC** 2018 Annual Meeting in Milan.

Registration still open, please follow this link: <https://circularfuturewithplastics.eu/en/registration>

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Circular Economy Mission to India in September 2018



EuPC has been invited by the EU Commission DG ENV to join with a industrial delegation a mission to India in September. The invitation letter comes from Commissioner Karmenu Vella and relates to a Circular Economy Mission to India between the 4th and 7th September 2018.

We would be grateful if you could confirm by Friday 15th June 2018 whether you are interested to participate to this Circular

Economy Mission. Companies with interest in the Indian market who are willing to join this mission shall contact **EuPC** as soon as possible

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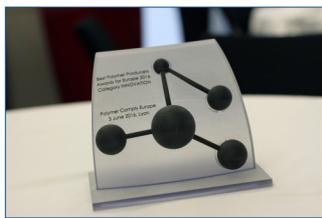
The plastics industry is losing a friend and a dedicated professional



It is with great regret that we have to inform you that Michel Loubry, Director PlasticsEurope West Region, has passed away last week after fighting for many months his disease. We all will remember Michel as a very strong advocate of the plastics industry and a great professional. All our thoughts are now with his family and close friends which were many.

Michel was not only a great advocate of the plastics industry he was also very much involved in keeping up with all our network of associations in Europe and beyond. For sure we will all miss him very much.

Best Polymer Producers Awards 2018



With the **EuPC** Annual Meeting in Milan the Best Polymer Producers Awards for Europe Ceremony on 24 May is approaching with big steps. The voting tool is still open for two more weeks until 11 May 2018, so don't miss out on the chance to rate your polymer suppliers here: <http://bit.ly/PolymerAwards>

All users of polymers in Europe can access the online customers' satisfaction survey - free of charge and in strict confidence - and rate their suppliers performances from mid-2017 up to now.

In the rating tool plastics converters can choose their suppliers in each of the 9 different polymer type categories HDPE, LDPE, LLDPE, PC, PET, PP, PS, PVC and ABS. Once selected, the supplier can then be rated according to the criteria "Delivery Reliability, Polymer Quality, Regulatory Compliance, Communication and Innovation".

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3D Printing Workshop & Survey



The 3D Printing platform of European Plastics Converters (**EuPC**) is organising a workshop on 3D Printing within the plastics converting industry. The workshop will take place during the two-day conference A Circular Future with Plastics on the 25th May in Milan, Italy.

The two-hour workshop will give participants the opportunity to learn more about the advantages that 3DP can have for plastics converting companies by showcasing concrete examples of existing and working ways to use 3DP in the plastics converting industry. Confirmed presentations will come from materialise, Lehmann & Voss & Co and P3D.

To raise awareness and stimulate the consideration of 3DP, **EuPC** drafted a vision paper and a survey designed to provide a better view of the current status of 3DP in the plastics converting industry. The survey is open to all plastics converting companies and will help **EuPC** to develop tailor-made information that can benefit the entire plastics converting industry in Europe. The survey is accessible [here](#).

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MedPharmPlast Europe summer conference on 4-5 July 2018 in Lyon



On 4-5 July experts from the medical device and pharmaceutical packaging industry will gather in Lyon for the MPPE summer conference "Material Characterization & Risk Assessment" in collaboration with Nelson Labs Europe.

Expert speakers from the ISO 10993 Committee, VDI Committee, Nemera, Nelson Labs, OFI, Sealed Air, Terumo and **EuPC** will give the latest insights on key, industry defining topics. Day One will focus on the changes to the ISO 10993, the selection of raw material for risk reduction as well as the toxicological assessment of extractables & leachables. On the second day the main topics include biocompatibility, the Medical Device Regulation as well as sustainability issues in the plastics industry. The detailed programme can be found on the [website of MedPharmPlast Europe](#).

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Elections in Vinyl Films and Sheets Europe



In the last meeting of Vinyl Films and Sheets Europe which was held in Brussels on the 10th of April, Roberto Bozzi (Vulcaflex) was re-elected as VFSE president until 2020. Also, a new Board of Directors was nominated for the next two years and for the first time, the packaging sector will be represented by two members from EPFMA.

The Board of Directors consists of the following 6 members: Michel Py (Cifra), Gabriele Ditsch (Berry Plastics), Magnus Jörsmo (Draka Polimers), Emmanuel Legrand (Griffine) and Christophe Rosse (Klöckner Pentaplast – Linpac Packaging Pontivy).

The strategy for plastics was the focus of a meeting where the VFSE members visited the European Parliament and learned first-hand how the legislative process works to approve any initiative that could affect the PVC industry. Mr Nuno Melo, Member of the European Parliament and member of the VinylPlus Monitoring Committee, met the VFSE members and was informed about the challenges of the sector.

Next meeting is foreseen by October 2018.

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Upcoming Meetings

EuMBC Conference	17 May 2018 <i>Brussels</i>
EuPC Steering Committee	24 May 2018 <i>Milan, Italy</i>
EuPC Annual Meeting	24-25 May 2018 <i>Milan, Italy</i>
EuPC Packaging Conference	25 September 2018 <i>Brussels</i>
EuPC Packaging Division ExCom	26 September 2018 <i>Brussels</i>
EuPC Steering Committee	27 September 2018 <i>Brussels</i>
PlasFuelSys Networking Event	9 October 2018 <i>Brussels</i>
Members Executive Forum	24 October 2018 <i>Tbd</i>
Packaging Division Executive Committee	14 November 2018 <i>Tbd</i>
EuPC Steering Committee	15 November 2018 <i>Tbd</i>

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