

Position of PlasticsEurope on the 2nd Reading of the Waste Framework Directive

PlasticsEurope calls for flexible waste hierarchy that allows the selection of the most sustainable waste management option. Strict application of the waste hierarchy can lead to negative environmental effects, when viewed from a lifecycle perspective.

PlasticsEurope welcomes the recognition that energy recovery from remaining waste contributes to more efficient use of natural resources. Plastics are in principle "solid oil", and used plastics can therefore substitute fossil fuels in a range of recovery operations.

PlasticsEurope calls for a broad recycling definition that includes both mechanical recycling and feedstock recycling. Plastics offer different options for recycling. This must be fully explored to address the contribution of plastics to a sustainable society and to keep open the development of innovative recycling technologies.

The Plastics Industry presses for recycled polymers, if they fulfill the requirements of specific product legislation, to be defined as products and not as waste.

PlasticsEurope is one of the leading European trade associations with centres in Brussels, Frankfurt, London, Madrid, Milan and Paris. We are networking with European and national plastics associations and have more than 100 member companies, producing over 90% of all polymers across the EU27 member states plus Norway, Switzerland, Croatia and Turkey. The European plastics industry makes a significant contribution to the welfare in Europe by enabling innovation, creating quality of life to citizens and facilitating resource efficiency and climate protection.

More than 1.6 million people are working in about 50.000 companies (mainly small and medium sized companies in the converting sector) to create a turnover in excess of 280 billion € per year. The plastics industry includes polymer producers - represented by PlasticsEurope, converters - represented by EuPC and machine manufacturers - represented by EUROMAP. For further info see the web links:

www.plasticseurope.org www.plasticsconverters.eu www.euromap.org

We would be very happy to discuss our industry's positions on these important issues with you in greater detail. Please contact:

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