



Plastics in Packaging

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NEWSLINE

Aliplast film waste recycling initiative yields success



A plastics film waste recycling initiative between Aliplast and ceramics maker Panariagroup has resulted in an almost 95 per cent recovery rate.

The initiative – where Aliplast collects LDPE shrink film used to wrap pallets at Panariagroup before recycling it into packaging film – saves more than 450 tonnes of carbon dioxide a year, the companies claimed.

Aliplast said that when compared with the production of virgin plastics, the saving per kg of film produced using Aliplast technology is 2.03kg. Under the closed-loop system, approximately 230,000kg of PE waste is collected each year.

The partnership between the two Italian firms has also given Panariagroup excellent savings in the purchase of virgin material, Aliplast added.

A further advantage is that project falls under Aliplast's PARI (Plan for the Autonomous Management of Packaging Waste) system. In Italy, PARI companies quality for a reduced environmental contribution to the Government, resulting in economic savings for Aliplast customers.

The contribution applied is 40 per cent less than that of other consortia or similar systems, Aliplast said.

Panariagroup uses LDPE shrink film to wrap the pallets produced during the different processing phases. The process used for the production of the finished product consists of intermediate steps, during which the tiles are repeatedly packaged with different plastics films, resulting in the use of large quantities.

The recovery project involves Aliplast collecting the waste material from Panariagroup's five facilities.

The material is then sent to the Aliplast headquarters near Treviso, where it is converted into granules and then into a new packaging film, ready to once again enter Panariagroup's production cycle.



The partnership has been running since 2005. After an initial start-up phase at one of Panariagroup's facilities, the partnership was extended in 2010 to involve all of the Emilianowned company's ceramic production facilities.

Founded in 1982, Aliplast specialises in flexible PE films, PET sheets and regenerated polymers. Since 2017, it has been a subsidiary of Herambiente – itself owned by utility company Gruppo Hera

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