ALPLA Group

Press release

**ALPLA moving into HDPE recycling**

Acquisition of the two Spanish recycling companies Suminco S.A. and Replacal S.L.

*Hard, 4 November 2019 – ALPLA, the global manufacturer of plastic packaging solutions, is further expanding its recycling activities – it is moving into polyolefin recycling with its acquisition of two companies based in Spain.*

With two of its own PET recycling plants in Austria and Poland (PET Recycling Team) and joint ventures in Mexico and Germany, ALPLA has long been an established partner in the field of PET recycling. These operations currently have an annual capacity of 70,000 tonnes. ALPLA is now taking the next step by buying two HDPE recycling plants.

ALPLA signed the purchase agreements for the acquisition of Suminco S.A. in Montcada (near Barcelona) and Replacal S.L. in Palencia (north of Madrid) in October. Both businesses belong to a Spanish family-owned enterprise with more than 35 years of experience in manufacturing HDPE recyclates. The annual capacity of the plants, which have a workforce totalling 50, will be expanded to 35,000 tonnes. The businesses will continue to operate under the existing management. The contracting partners have agreed not to disclose any further details.

**Availability and high quality**

‘The investment in the two recycling plants in Spain brings us one step closer to our overall goal of being the leading manufacturer of sustainable plastic packaging,’ explains Georg Lässer, Head of Recycling at ALPLA.

To date, a large proportion of Suminco and Replacal’s HDPE recyclates has gone into the manufacture of corrugated pipes for sewage systems and other industrial applications. ALPLA now intends to use suitable recyclates for packaging manufacture. ‘We are safeguarding our production plants’ material supply and are doing our bit to achieve a functioning circular economy,’ emphasises Lässer. The former owner Jose Peruga adds: ‘The strong and recognised quality of our products in post-consumer recycling for more than three decades together with the synergies that will be created with ALPLA will allow us to improve the quality of our products even more. And ALPLA can produce HDPE packaging with a high content of recycled post-consumer material, as their customers and consumers demand.’

**Circular economy**

In 2018, ALPLA signed the Global Commitment of the New Plastics Economy, an initiative of the Ellen MacArthur Foundation in conjunction with the United Nations Environment Programme. ALPLA’s defined goal is to expand its recycling activities, and it has earmarked an investment sum of 50 million euros for this purpose. Additionally, all of its packaging solutions are to be fully recyclable by 2025. The volume of processed post-consumer recycled materials is to rise to 25 per cent of total material usage.

More information about the company: [www.alpla.com](http://www.alpla.com)

**About ALPLA Group:**

ALPLA is one of the leading companies involved in plastic packaging. Around 20,800 employees worldwide produce custom-made packaging systems, bottles, closures and moulded parts at 178 sites across 46 countries. The high-quality packaging is used in a wide range of areas, including for food and drinks, cosmetics and care products, household detergents, washing and cleaning agents, pharmaceutical products, engine oils and lubricants.   
ALPLA operates its own recycling plants: PET Recycling Team with a site in both Austria and Poland, and in the form of joint ventures in Mexico and Germany. ALPLA has been cooperating with Texplast (Germany) on PET recycling since July 2018.

**About Suminco S.A. and Replacal S.L.:**

The two companies belong to a Spanish family-owned enterprise with decades of experience in recycling polyolefins. To date, their high-quality HDPE recyclates (HDPE = high-density polyethylene) have primarily been used for the manufacture of corrugated pipes for sewage and rainwater and for other special pipes.

The annual capacity of both plants, which have a workforce totalling 50, will be expanded to 35,000 tonnes. Suminco is based in Montcada near Barcelona, just 15 kilometres from the port, while Replacal is located in Palencia near Valladolid in northern Spain.

**Captions:**

**ALPLA-HDPE-Recycling-Suminco.jpg:** ALPLA signed the purchase agreements for the acquisition of Suminco S.A. in Montcada (in the picture) and Replacal S.L. in Palencia in mid-October 2019.

**ALPLA-rHDPE-Milkbottle.jpg:** In the UK, ALPLA uses 13,000 tonnes of rHDPE every year for the production of milk and juice bottles.

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