ALPLA Group

Press release

**The world’s first carbon-neutral rPET**

Production using green electricity and offsetting of unavoidable emissions with carbon certificates

*Hard, 12 October 2020 – Global manufacturer of plastic packaging and recycling specialist the ALPLA Group is unveiling the world’s first carbon-neutral recycled PET.*

ALPLA switched its PET Recycling Team plants in Wöllersdorf, Austria, and Radomsko, Poland, to a mix of electricity from renewable sources in order to produce carbon-neutral rPET (= recycled polyethylene terephthalate). ‘This step has already had a big impact on the carbon footprint of our food-grade regranulate – according to the calculations, emissions are cut by up to 90 per cent compared with virgin material. The feedback from the market regarding this further development has been very good,’ explains Georg Lässer, Head of Recycling at ALPLA.

The company is now offering its customers carbon-neutral rPET based on the purchase of certificates. The remaining, unavoidable emissions relating, for example, to delivery of the input material to the plants, are then offset with carbon certificates. ‘The world’s first carbon-neutral regranulate can make a significant contribution to climate protection and highlight the value of used plastics,’ says Lässer.

**Carefully selected projects with a social background**

ALPLA has selected specific projects in cooperation with the climate neutrality alliance Klimaneutralitätsbündnis 2025 and the NGO Helioz. A reforestation project in Nicaragua is being supported. In China, traditional coal-fired stoves are being replaced with ovens run on biomass. These not only vastly reduce emissions, but also prevent the health implications caused by harmful exhaust air. In Ethiopia, 5,000 household packages (modern stoves, vegetable seeds, seedlings, training) are being financed. In regions in Asia and Africa, ALPLA is supporting the organisation Helioz, which provides solar devices that monitor water disinfection using PET bottles.

**Recycling for climate protection**

Based on life cycle assessments, packaging types containing a high proportion of recycled material have the least impact on the climate. With the world’s first carbon-neutral rPET, ALPLA is helping its customers to achieve their sustainability goals. ‘We are once again demonstrating that close collaboration between packaging developers, packaging manufacturers and recycling experts can lead to solutions which set an example for the industry as a whole,’ Lässer concludes affirmatively.

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

Links to the organisations mentioned: [www.klimaneutralitaetsbuendnis2025.com](http://www.klimaneutralitaetsbuendnis2025.com) and [helioz.org](http://helioz.org/home/)

**Product portfolio, carbon-neutral rPET**

rPET CL 80PC carbon-neutral, clear rPET (IV 0.85)

rPET CL 80M carbon-neutral, clear rPET (IV 0.82)

rPET BL 80 carbon-neutral, blue rPET (IV 0.80)

rPET GR 80 carbon-neutral, green rPET (IV 0.80)

**About the ALPLA Group**

ALPLA is one of the leading companies involved in plastic packaging. Around 20,800 employees worldwide produce custom-made packaging systems, bottles, caps and moulded parts at 181 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 for PET and HDPE in Austria, Poland and Spain, and in the form of joint ventures in Mexico and Germany. By signing the New Plastics Economy’s Global Commitment in October 2018, ALPLA pledged to achieve certain goals by 2025: all packaging solutions are to be fully recyclable and the volume of recycled materials is to increase to 25 per cent of the total materials used. A sum of 50 million euros has been earmarked for ALPLA’s expansion of its recycling activities.

**Captions**

**ALPLA-Recycling-Plant-Radomsko-Poland.jpg:** Exterior view of the PET Recycling Team plant in Radomsko, Poland.

**ALPLA-rPET-Flakes-Hand.jpg:** rPET flakes, the raw material used to make carbon-neutral rPET.

**ALPLA-CO2-carbon-neutral.jpg:** ‘carbon-neutral’ icon

**ALPLA-Georg-Laesser-Head-of-Recycling.jpg:** Georg Lässer, Head of Recycling at ALPLA.

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