



VinylPlus Monitoring Committee

30th November 2012 – 10h30 : 12h30

European Parliament – Meeting room – A4F384

Minutes

Participants:

Prof Alfons Buekens	Chairman
Mr Alexandre Dangis	Managing Director, EuPC
Dr Brigitte Dero	ECVM, General Manager and VinylPlus Deputy General Manager
Mr Joachim Eckstein	Vice-President, VinylPlus
Mr Sakib Ershad	European Parliament
Mr Rainer Grasmück	Global Head of PVC Additives, Baerlocher
Mr Helmut Maurer	European Commission, DG Environment
Mr Maik Schmahl	Team Leader, Legislation Specific Chemicals and GLP, DG Enterprise & Industry
Mr Carlos Sanchez Reyes	Organizacion de Consumidores y Usuarios

Invited guest :

Mr. Eric Criel	General Manager, Recovinyl
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Apologies:

Ms Soledad Blanco	Director, DG Environment
Mr Klaus Berend	Head of Unit, Chemicals Industry – DG Enterprise & Industry
Mr Filipe Constant	CEO, Solvin
Mr Gwenole Cozigou	Director, DG Enterprise
Mr Sajjad Karim	MEP, European Parliament
Ms Godelieve Quisthoudt-Rowohl	MEP, European Parliament
Mr Jorma Rusanen	Senior Policy Adviser, IndustriAll European Trade Union



1. Welcome and Agreement of the Agenda

Professor Buekens welcomed the participants and thanked them for their participation at the nineteenth VinylPlus (formally Vinyl 2010) Monitoring Committee.

The Agenda was approved.

2. Formal approval of the minutes of the last VinylPlus Meeting on 10th April 2012

The minutes of the meeting held on the 10th April 2012 were formally approved, with few corrections.

3. Date of next meetings 2013

The next meetings are scheduled on the 19th April and on the 29th November 2013, from 10h30 : 12h30 at the European Parliament.

4. VinylPlus implementation/current priorities

Recovinyl Update

Eric Criel showed the YTD results: 182kt in 2012 against 198kt in 2011. The main reason of the decrease has been the extreme conditions of the construction market in Spain as well as in Italy. Poland decreased its PVC waste registration as a result of lower import of waste from Germany. In Germany, France and UK, rigid recyclers are forced to search for material, due to the decrease of the overall economy. Post-industrial waste has been registered for the first time - with the volume of 75kt (YTD), coming only from the existing recyclers' network.

Recovinyl expects post-consumer volume to reach between 200 - 225kt by the end of this year; post-industrial waste between 107 - 115kt, giving us a total between 307 - 340kt.

For 2013, Recovinyl expects to reach the level of 250kt post-consumer and 180kt of post-industrial.

Recovinyl, in the past had focused on the collector and recycler of post-consumer PVC. Right now it is focussing its efforts on the converter/ recycler, in order to create a higher demand for re-use of recycled material. A new concept has been introduced,



known as a “Pull Market”. Recovinyl started a mission to make sure that the volume of 700.000t of recycled material will be re-used by 2020.

Recovinyl wants to professionalise the existing PVC network of recyclers, in order to guarantee the higher demand and maintaining a constant and stable quality of material. Converters, at the same time, will be able to prove to the outside business world, that they have been using more recycled material. It will be done by means of a new certification formula, based on a Eucertplast audit protocol.

A new website is being especially developed for the certification needs and will be available at the beginning of next year and will be translated into 13 languages, where recyclers and converters will be able to enter their data.

Stakeholder Engagements

Brigitte Dero reported on the first VinylPlus stakeholders’ engagement workshop which took place in Vienna on 14th November. It was focused on organo-chlorine, especially dioxin, emissions. TNS managed the facilitation and the workshop proved successful despite a somewhat frosty start. The stakeholders asked for a follow-up meeting within one year, in order to discuss other issues raised during the meeting, i.e. sustainable additives, uncontrolled burning and accidental fires. Another workshop will also be organised, in a different country.

5. Recovered PVC containing DEHP – Applications for Authorisation

Alexandre Dangis explained the industry concerns about the application of authorisation to recycled substances. DEHP is a test case in this respect. Industry is advocating for no application for Authorisation to be required when recycles contain less than 20% of legacy additives.

PVC is being recycled by more than a hundred companies, many of them SMEs. If every single recycler would have to ask for authorisation, this would not only be excessively costly but also administratively unmanageable. The PVC industry is calling for a clear and pragmatic solution to be found by ECHA and the Commission as soon as possible.

Helmut Maurer added that the above issue will be addressed by both DGs (Enterprise and Environment) within the next week.

Maik Schmalh and Helmut Maurer encouraged VinylPlus to highlight this issue at the political level in the Commission, and illustrate arguments with information on the economic and environmental impacts.



6. VinylPlus Progress Report 2013

At the request of the Monitoring Committee, the draft Progress report 2013 will be distributed for comments at least 15 days in advance of the next meeting in April, 2013.

7. VinylPlus PVC Value Chain Event – April 2013

All members of the Monitoring Committee are cordially invited to join the event on the 25/26th April 2013 in Istanbul, Turkey. The theme will cover topics related to energy and resource efficiency.

8. Recycling of PVC waste containing Lead: current status

R. Grasmück reported briefly on the replacement of lead which is on track. He mentioned that detailed criteria to assess the sustainable use of additives (stabilisers and plasticisers) are being developed in the context of the “Natural Step” framework, under which substances will be assessed step by step. Selected Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) from several converter industries will be updated with the help of the additive producers.

The meeting ended at 12h30