



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Carbon footprint reduction through Composites Recycling
EuCIA releases Composites Recycling Made Easy

February 2013

EuCIA has worked with key industry players to develop a clear solution for composites recycling. The recycling of glass reinforced composite regrind through co-processing in cement kilns can reduce the carbon footprint of cement manufacturing by up to 16 %. Composite recycling is being practiced today at industrial scale and expected to grow fast opening the road for increased use of composites.

The European composites industry is determined to play an important role towards increasing resource efficiency and enhanced competitiveness for the sector. Composites provide solutions that last, are recyclable and environmentally beneficial, according to the publication released by EuCIA today.

“Composites Recycling Made Easy”- provide a clear insight into the established recycling routes for composites and their positive impact on the environment. It also provides a complete understanding of glass fibre composites recycling through co-processing in cement kiln.

Composites recycling makes business sense and is environmentally beneficial

EuCIA President Volker Fritz commented on the publication’s release: “This document explains how composites are recycled and the positive impact on carbon footprint when composite regrind is used in cement kiln. This publication is the result of insight and significant expertise from the composites industry value chain, recyclers & logistics providers and the cement industry. I am very happy we are able to share the message with the composites industry, our business partners and the EU decision –makers.”

The recycling document released today builds on the existing joint composites industry position paper on recyclability (Ref. Joint industry position paper on Glass fibre reinforced thermosets: recyclable and compliant with the EU legislation, 2011). The topic of composites recycling led to extensive work from the industry during the last years and increased interest from stakeholders. The publication brings an update on that work and answers questions, highlighting facts and providing background information.

EU review of waste legislation: EuCIA remains open to provide industry knowledge on recycling

The document also serves as starting point at a time when the European Commission is undertaking a review of current waste legislation as part of its 2013 work programme. Among other objectives, the European Commission aims to ensure Europe uses its resources more efficiently; hence evaluations of waste streams directives and ways to enhance coherence between EU laws are planned for 2013-2014.

Volker Fritz concluded: “We welcome the European Commission decision to update current EU legislation on waste. Since 2008, the composites industry delivered on sustainability & recyclability and continues to do so, analysing best options. We are looking forward entering into the dialogue with the EU to discuss the potential of composites industry towards resource efficiency.”

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