

Two identical blue plastic bottles are shown side-by-side against a grey background. A horizontal green band is superimposed across the middle of the bottles. The text "Safety and circular economy can go hand in hand" is written in white on this band.

Safety and circular economy
can go hand in hand



If we talk of safety, plastics and packaging pop up. In such an emergency contingency, plastics have proven once more to be the most reliable and affordable solution for personal protection. Specialty additives and colours allow the incorporation of increasing quantities of recycled material, representing a step forward to circularity.

If we look at the world consumption rates of 2020, single use packaging is at a record high and this will last for a while, together with the demand of protection devices.

What about circularity in such a context? Reaching a circular economy means structuring economies on the virtuous closed loop of make-use-recycle in which every product is designed to be re-used to generate other products and so on.

Looking at plastics in packaging, they help reduce CO2 emissions of the packaging, especially when it incorporates recycled materials. A PET bottle made of 50% rPET has a lower environmental impact than a tin can or a glass bottle, the least environmental

friendly. Having said that, there are ways to make a plastic packaging even more sustainable.

One way is **choosing additives and colours** that add performance and aesthetics while having negligible impact on its recyclability. This is at the basis of REPI's REFIT range made of liquid additives such as toners for r-PET and IV enhancers and a line of low-impact colours that starting from the shade of r-PET, give premium look to recycled packaging.

Company Profile

REPI Group is leading supplier of liquid colours and specialty additives for thermoplastics used in the packaging industry. The Group has the HQs in Switzerland and own facilities in the US, the UK, Germany, Italy, Russia and Thailand. With an eye on the circular economy, the latest developments include dedicated solutions for recycled polymers and advanced prototyping laboratories able to produce preforms and bottles with different percentages of r-PET. Advanced R&D and experienced Technical Service Team offer customers support globally.

REPI S.r.l.

Via B. Franklin 2 | Lonate Ceppino, VA - Italy
Phone: +39-0331819511
Repi.italia@repi.com | www.repi.com

Author's comment

The entire value chain of plastic packaging has been working hard and constantly for many years on making plastic recyclable and recycled. Now more than ever, cooperation and constructive approaches are crucial. Let us prepare for the "roaring 20s" (cit. The Economist) with renewed energy and focus on what "delivering the circular economy" mean, without forgetting the carbon footprint impact of our choices.

Lucia Buffoni

Marketing Manager REPI GROUP - FERLINE SA
Phone: +41919103710
Lbuffoni@repi.com