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**Project Re:Claim nominated for Plastics Industry Awards**

**Europe’s first polyester textile recycling system
realised with PURE LOOP’s ISEC evo**

**Project Re:Claim, a joint venture between the Salvation Army Trading Company and Project Plan B, has been nominated for the Plastics Industry Awards 2024 in the** "**Recycler of the Year**" **category. Using an ISEC evo system from PURE LOOP to process used garments and other textiles, the project is Europe’s first polyester textile recycling system.**

Ansfelden, 7 November 2024 - The UK produces more than half a million tonnes of polyester textile waste every year. Project Re:Claim aims to recycle post-industrial and post-consumer clothing and textiles. The focus is on the recycling of post-industrial polyester from contract textiles for hospitals or hotels (e.g. bed and table linen), workwear and school uniforms, as well as promotional banners (e.g. printed sports banners). The fabrics and textiles come from controlled material streams (closed-loop systems), ensuring minimal impurities. The recycling technology used is an ISEC evo 302 E from PURE LOOP. This innovative technology, developed by the EREMA Group’s member, enables efficient production of high-quality rPET from textile waste.

**Europe’s first polyester textile recycling system**

The plant, installed at a Salvation Army Trading Company (SATCoL) processing centre in Kettering in early 2024, represents Europe’s first commercial scale polyester textile recycling system specialising in post-consumer polyester. SATCoL is the trading arm of The Salvation Army and UK’s largest charity owned textile collector.

Together with Project Plan B, a specialist in garment design with a focus on design for recycling, PURE LOOP optimised its integrated shredder-extruder combination ISEC evo for the specific requirements. "Plan B has a vision, and we are convinced something great can come out of it," emphasises Manfred Dobersberger, Managing Director at PURE LOOP. Thanks to the configuration of shredder and extruder on one drive shaft and the patented double feed ram system, the ISEC evo 302 E gently processes discarded polyester into rPET, which can be reused for new yarns and other products. "Up until now, polyester that had no useful life left would have been disposed of," explains Tim Cross, CEO of Project Plan B. "With the ISEC evo, we can now return textile waste as a valuable material back to the supply chains. It’s a carbon saving solution, and it plays a significant role in helping our collective journey to Net Zero."

**Textile recycling: an industry with growth potential**

The plant aims to recycle 2,500 tonnes of polyester in its first year, doubling this amount in the second year. In addition to the environmental benefits such as diverting unwearable textiles away from landfill, initial estimates indicate that the production of pellets from Project Re:Claim

uses only one-tenth of the energy compared with pellets produced from virgin polyester. One prerequisite for this is an energy-efficient recycling machine such as the ISEC evo.

The recycling of post-consumer and post-industrial textiles presents immense potential for the circular economy, according to Dobersberger: "It is evident to me that textile recycling will become a fundamental aspect of the industry’s future. Design for recyclability is the key to success, and pioneers like Plan B and SATCoL are essential. Our recycling system stands as a versatile material processor, particularly proficient in effectively handling fibres and textiles made from PE, PP, PA, and PET in forms such as fibre bales, ropes, filaments, textiles, and non-wovens. We are proud to be part in such pioneering projects within the textile industry as Project Re:Claim."

**Recognition for shared ambitions**

Project Re:Claim has been nominated for the Plastics Industry Awards 2024 in the "Recycler of the Year" category. The award ceremony will take place on 22 November in London. "We are delighted with this nomination," says Mark Richardson, Sales Manager at Eurograv Limited, who has been driving the project forward from the outset. "It underlines the innovative strength of the technology and recognises the collective efforts of all companies and individuals involved." Eurograv is the authorised representative of PURE LOOP in the UK.

**Images:**

**<<Image 1>>**

*Manfred Dobersberger, Managing Director of PURE LOOP, in front of the recycling plant at SATCoL's processing centre in Kettering, UK.*

**<<Image 2>>**

*The ISEC evo produces high-quality rPET from used polyester textiles, which can be spun into yarn for use in textiles along with other industrial applications.*

**Images: SATCoL / Project Re:Claim**

**<<Image 3>>**

*Project Re:Claim has been nominated for the Plastics Industry Awards 2024 in the UK.*

**Image: Plastics Industry Awards**

**PURE LOOP**PURE LOOP GesmbH, a subsidiary of EREMA Group GmbH, specialises in recycling clean production waste. The headquarters are in Ansfelden near Linz in Austria. The company’s innovative shredder-extruder technology offers maximum flexibility in processing high volume and highly tear-resistant industrial and post-industrial materials into recycled pellets. As a member of the EREMA Group, PURE LOOP has the advantage of the extensive experience, technological expertise and innovative strength of all the companies in the group.

**Eurograv**Eurograv Limited is the authorised representative and distributor for PURE LOOP machines and components in the UK and Ireland. The company is based in Woking, Surrey. Eurograv offers a full range of services, supporting customers from installation through to commissioning to ensure the smooth operation of the technologies.

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