

Press release

***Destination reached:* The SYNTROL®-technology of the first German plastic-oil-recycling facility of the Öko-Energie Umweltfonds was evaluated corresponding to the “Cradle to Cradle” criteria.**

Plastic waste mainly is burned in Germany, which not only is inefficient but also not very wise regarding the environment balance. *The way out:* SYNTROL®-facilities, which momentarily develop for the first time in Mannheim in Germany, with which high quality (heating-) oil is feedstock recycled out of plastic waste with an efficiency factor of about 90 %.

Professor Dr. Michael Braungart and the Hamburg “EPEA Internationale Umweltforschung (environment research)” led by him have evaluated the SYNTROL®-procedure deployed in the facilities of the Öko-Energie-Umweltfonds of the Bremen emission house Ventafonds corresponding to the “Cradle to Cradle” criteria. The ecological balance that is won this way shows the ecological significance and the efficiency of the new plastic-oil-recycling-procedure. In a press conference the project and its progress were introduced from 2009 until the building start and the actual status as well.

The “Cradle to Cradle®”-certificate documents the usage of environmentally safe, healthy and reusable materials (technical recycling or composting), the implementation of sun energy respectively other renewable energy forms, the responsible handling of water as well as the strategies regarding social responsibilities of a company.

Professor Dr. Baumgart affirmed that the strength of the SYNTROL®-technic, beneath others, is its modular structure. His conviction is that “Cradle to Cradle®”-products more and more will be assimilated into the market because of ecological reasons. Even with optimized packages out of polyolefin for example, a reasonable recycling hasn’t been possible so far. By the SYNTROL®-thermolysis-procedure introduced by the Öko-Energie Umweltfonds this now is possible for the first time. Professor Dr. Baumgart verbatim: “it has to be seen as great triumph, that this now is implementable for the first time with the procedure used in Mannheim. Otherwise synthetic material could not be regained. But, and this was emphasized by him, the conversion should fulfill economical criteria, otherwise the concept could not be implemented.

Oskar Edler von Schickh, engine and initiator of the Öko-Energie-Umweltfonds as well as manager of emission house Ventafonds, sees himself and his long lasting work with the “Cradle to Cradle”-evaluation as confirmed and sums up: “waste no longer may be seen as garbage, but as raw material! This reflects the momentary enquiries adequately. Such an innovative technology which faces the actual ecological challenges is used by us in Mannheim. We are proud, that this now is confirmed by hand and seal. This surely will contribute to even more investors that venture the Öko-Energie Umweltfonds!” At least the facility is financed by a public fund, completely without governmental aid. Participation momentarily still is possible.

On the press conference in Hamburg also an international most famous scientist in the field of technical pyrolysis facilities development was present, Professor Dr. Walter Kaminsky.

He is convinced of the developed and proved function of the technic.

At the time being Professor Kaminsky issues a “function description” of the SYNTROL®-procedure which describes why the technic – contrary to many test facilities – can work in continuous

operation. This shows how mature the facility was constructed. “For some presently interested lead-investors, which also want to participate in the funds, this expert evidence is condition for a larger engagement” von Schickh explains.

“The ecological and economical results can be retraced by means of the now available confirmation by EPEA and the working pilot facility. As the actualized and adapted to the presently possible technical possibilities planning of the facility with its own sorting and shredding units departs from the original concept of the funds, it’s wise, to provide a further, third “expert opinion” regarding the concept, as per von Schickh. “We always have optimized the project continuously from the planning start up to today’s status. Therefore we are convinced that after availability of the function description, which at least is a kind of expert evidence, the interested lead investors will give their final agreement.

Conclusion: the project shows that ecology and economy do not exclude each other, but that sustainability and yield to fit together very well. Oceans, continents are dumped with synthetic material. Our facility makes (heating) oil out of plastic waste and more, especially surplus values!

Download link for all documents: www.oekoenergie-umweltfonds.de – beneath press

Contact: Öko-Energie Umweltfonds Oskar Edler von Schickh / Dieter Stolle Contrescarpe 46, 28195 Bremen Telephone: +49 (421) - 13 16 6 presse@oekoenergie-umweltfonds.de www.oekoenergie-umweltfonds.de	Press contact: PR-KONZEPT.COM Fessen Gunther Fessen Telephone: +49 (2331)-343 709 E-Mail: fessen@pr-konzept.com
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