

**To:** SADAUSKAS Kestutis (ENV); (ENV); (ENV); (ENV); ENV  
B01 ARES

**Cc:** (ENV); (ENV); (ENV); (ENV); (ENV); (MARE); (ENV)

**Subject:** 2019-10-31 Report on meeting between B1, C2, PlasticsEurope and EuPC on pellet loss prevention

**Attachments:** PlasticsEurope & EuPC October 2019.pdf

On 31.10.2019, B1 ( ) and C2 ( ) met with representatives of PlasticsEurope and EuPC to discuss pellet loss prevention. To be noted: for the first time, plastics producers and plastic converters were both present and engaged on the way forward. They have common activities planned on a short (end of 2020) and medium-term (2023/2026) (see slides attached); however, effectiveness of activities in terms of reduction potential and capacity of the sector to speed up the process remain unclear.

Participants on industry side: ( )  
( ) from EuPC.

**Discussion:** PlasticsEurope informed us on a joint statement from PlasticsEurope, EUPC and European Chemical Transport Association (ECTA) on a joint solution of pellet loss problem i.e. *a plastics industry voluntary commitment to develop a transparent assessment/reporting scheme to prevent pellet loss during manufacturing, use and transport*. We welcomed evolution towards more vertical integration within the supply chain, and towards more transparency stressing that 1) microplastics count within the priorities of the upcoming Commission; 2) building on work already done at various levels (previous studies, national and international initiatives etc.), we will seek for concrete options/solutions to be proposed. Asked about such options, we indicated they are all on the table, a supply chain certification scheme being one of them. A decision will be taken in due time following preparatory work including a new study to be carried out in 2020.

Info shared:


- **Producers:** 99% in volume of PlasticsEurope members have signed up to Operation Clean Sweep (OCS). From 2020, it will be a mandatory condition of PlasticsEurope membership.
- **Converters:** the number of signatories has increased over the last two years [it remains significantly low compared to producers]; a baseline survey was launched among the members to know what measures are already in place. Results foreseen for early 2020. The preliminary results are somehow surprising, even for EUPC, since 94% of the companies that have replied indicate they have already some sort of measures in place to prevent pellets loss
- **Reporting and auditing under OCS:** they will be further developed over the next three years for reporting, and over the next six years for external auditing (something which was not originally foreseen in OCS).
- **Other initiatives:** PlasticsEurope actively participating in discussions with counterparts at international level including within OSPAR where they are observers and are cooperating in view of a recommendation on a voluntary supply chain accreditation

system. Upcoming Scotland supply chain certification scheme will be based on OCS and at least at the beginning will keep the form of a voluntary agreement. France, Germany and Spain are also working on solutions for pellet loss prevention.

Issue discussed:

- Data on actual emissions from pellets and reduction potential of measures: it seems a difficult area for converters, in particular, since they can't see, at least now, how to obtain meaningful data from all of their companies (50,000, mainly SMEs). They seem mostly interested in the type of measures and the coverage throughout the supply chain. We recalled data in Eunomia study (annual losses between 16,888 and 167,431 tonnes), stressed the need to base any future discussions on (meaningful) data, and mentioned the reporting requirement under the ECHA Restriction (probably for mid-2021).

Next steps: internal discussion on future ToRs.

  
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