

The Circular Nonwovens Forum 2022 will be held in a hybrid format

The Circular Nonwovens Forum will take place on the 22nd of September both in Brussels and online. The full-day forum will feature an outstanding programme of 10 presentations and a panel discussion. Each presentation will be followed by a LIVE Q&A and discussion animated with LIVE poll questions.

08.45 - 09.20

WELCOME COFFEE

09.20 - 09.30

OPENING AND WELCOME

Murat Dogru, General Manager, EDANA (Belgium)



MODERATOR

Gil Stevens, External Relations & Sustainability Director, EDANA (Belgium)



09:30 - 10:00

FOSTERING INNOVATION AND CIRCULARITY IN AN EVOLVING EU POLICY LANDSCAPE

+ Q&A and discussion



Hans Christian Eberl, Policy Officer, Circular Economy and Biobased Systems, **European Commission** (Belgium)

10:00 - 10:30

MARKET POINT OF VIEW ON SUSTAINABLE RAW MATERIALS FOR THE NONWOVENS INDUSTRY: REALITY CHECK OF EXISTING ALTERNATIVES, CURRENT APPLICATIONS AND HANDS-ON OPINIONS OF THE MARKET

- Brief market overview of existing sustainable raw materials for the nonwovens industry
- Current applications
- Pros, cons and current market acceptance of the existing alternatives from the point of view of market participants
- Future challenges, developments and assessment of future market acceptance

+ Q&A and discussion

Maria Teresa Ambrosi, Senior consultant nonwovens and roll goods, **Schlegel und Partner** (Germany)



10:30 - 11:00



(Online)

HOW DOES YOUR BIODEGRADABLE PLASTIC BEHAVE IN THE ENVIRONMENT?

- In cases where plastics are intentionally introduced into the environment, where loss is intrinsic to use, or where there is a high risk of loss, biodegradability can be part of the solution to reduce the accumulation of plastics in nature.
- For product safety, new materials need to be known in terms of their performance, including their fate and impact on the environment, and policy and legislation are increasingly demanding clear definitions and evidence of this.
- Specific data on the behaviour of a biodegradable polymer in the open environment are still scarce, and laboratory test results, often of little environmental relevance, are extrapolated to soil, freshwater and the sea.

+ Q&A and discussion

Miriam Weber, Director, HYDRA Marine Sciences (Germany)

11:00 - 11:30



(Online)

THE GLOBAL PLASTIC CRISIS: WHO WILL BE THE WINNERS/LOSERS IN THE MARKETPLACE?

+ Q&A and discussion

Bryan Haynes, Technical Director Global Nonwovens, Kimberly-Clark (United States)

11:30 – 12:00

COFFEE BREAK

12:00 - 12:30



CREDIBLE SUSTAINABILITY CERTIFICATION OF NONWOVENS

- Risk assessment and monitoring of deforestation-free global supply chains
- Supporting the circular economy with certified waste and residue feedstocks
- Step by step traceability requirements and product carbon footprint calculations

+ Q&A and discussion

Inna Knelsen, Senior System Manager, ISCC International Sustainability and Carbon Certification (Germany)

12:30 - 13:00



ENABLING ADVANCED RECYCLING SOLUTIONS FOR PLASTICS

- Overview of ExxonMobil's advanced recycling activities
- Creating a regulatory framework that allows the rapid scale-up of plastics recycling

+ Q&A and discussion

José-Antonio Ruiz, Socio-ecological Regulatory Affairs & Operations Manager, ExxonMobil Petroleum & Chemical BV (Belgium)

13.00 - 14.30

LUNCH

14:30 - 15:00



DEVELOPING SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS FOR THE NONWOVENS MARKET: APPROACH TO IMPROVE THE END-OF-LIFE OF NONWOVEN PRODUCTS BY USING BIO-ASSIMILATION TECHNOLOGY

- Unique additive to accelerate degradation of polypropylene post-use
- Polypropylene undergoes transformation creating smaller particles that can be consumed by micro-organisms
- End products post degradation is expected to be Biomass, water and small amounts of CO₂

+ Q&A and discussion

Karthik Ramaratnam, Director of Product Development - North America, PFNonwovens (United States)

15:00 - 15:30



A NEW CIRCULAR PRODUCT PORTFOLIO USING POST-CONSUMER TEXTILES AS FEEDSTOCK IN A CRADLE-TO-CRADLE CONCEPT

- Carbon footprint impact from virgin fiber-based solutions to full cradle-to-cradle solutions
- rePEaT®Circular using max percentages of mechanically recycled Polyester fiber (up to 100%)
- Case study of full cradle-to-cradle project from post-consumer polyester-based mattress covers
- rePEaT®Social using minimum 10% of ocean-bound plastics

+ Q&A and discussion

Hugo Christiaen, Director CSR, TWE (Belgium)

15:30 - 16:00

COFFEE BREAK

16:00 - 16:30



GOING BEYOND CIRCULAR LIMITATIONS – CONNECTING THE PUZZLE PIECES TO PAVE A WAY TOWARDS A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

- Shedding light on Sandler’s approach towards sustainability and the idea behind the “Sandler Puzzle”
- The solved puzzle piece of circular economy by sharing our best practice example of “Going beyond circular limitations” in cooperation with our customer National Sweden AB

+ Q&A and discussion

Katharina Obergruber, Senior Sustainability Manager, **Sandler** (Germany)

16:30 - 17:00



THE RISE OF NEW CATEGORY FUSING WOVENS WITH NONWOVENS

- In this thought-provoking session, industry innovator Frantisek Riha-Scott predicts the rise of an exciting new category that fuses nonwoven and woven technologies into a hybrid reusable that's more sustainable than disposables, yet better-performing and more economically viable for large-scale production than existing reusables.
- He believes these new products will irrevocably change the industry, and companies that adopt a portfolio approach in order to meet distinct and complementary consumer needs will prosper.
- He takes a deep dive beneath the marketing hype to uncover the truth about how reusable pads and underwear really perform in comparison to nonwoven products.
- Don't miss this insider's view of the absorbent hygiene market, what's driving it, the challenges blocking its growth and the key to unlocking its future potential.

+ Q&A and discussion

Frantisek Riha-Scott, Founder and Design Director, **Confitex Technology** (New Zealand)

17.00 - 17.40

CLOSING & GOODBYE DRINK