

Development of a Standard Testing Protocol for PET Recyclate and Methods of Adding Value to the Post Consumer Resin

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Abstract. The Shabra Group is one of the few recycling companies reprocessing waste plastic materials into recycled products in Ireland. The main goal of this project is to develop a suitable specification data sheet for the Shabra group so that the quality of the PET recyclate can be ascertained. Once this has been achieved, mechanisms of improving the quality of the PET recyclate will be investigated.

The Shabra Group is one of the few recycling companies reprocessing waste plastic materials into recycled products in Ireland. Of all the bottles sorted and cleaned by the Shabra Group in January 2012, PET recyclate accounted for 62%.

Future of Project. EuCertPlast is a three year project (co-managed by EuPR and EPRO) aiming at creating a European Certification for post-consumer plastics recyclers who are recognised for operating in compliance with high quality standards. Such a certification will increase customers' confidence that any recycled product they get has been recycled according to the best existing practices, respectful for the environment and complying within national legislation. The certification will work according to the European Standard EN 15347:2007. When the quality of Shabra recyclate is determined this certification will help in the process of traceability and assessment of conformity and recycled content of recycled plastics.