



22 August 2018

RPC bpi recycled products sharpens its focus on sustainability and environmental stewardship by acquiring the UK's leading rigid plastics recycler PLASgran

RPC bpi recycled products has given a major boost to UK recycling and sustainability by acquiring the nation's leading recycler of rigid plastics, PLASgran Ltd.

The acquisition marks a major step in RPC bpi recycled products' ongoing commitment to work towards a world where nothing goes to waste. The deal was signed on 13 August 2018. PLASgran recycles nearly 50,000 tonnes of rigid plastics, and a series of strategic investments in recent years has positioned the company based in Wimblington, Cambridgeshire as a best-in-class recycler. PLASgran was launched in 1999 and is run by a management team led by Mark Roberts.

RPC bpi recycled products is the largest polythene film recycler in Europe, with the scope and expertise to recycle over 120,000 tonnes of used plastic a year. As a leading reprocessor the company, with bases in Dumfries, Derbyshire, Gwent and Gloucestershire, recycles polythene from commercial, industrial, packaging and agricultural sources. Together, both companies will be able to spearhead the UK's efforts to meet the surge in demand for packaging made from recycled plastics.

The merging of two of the UK's leading names in recycling will serve the UK and Mainland Europe markets and will give added momentum to creating market-leading sustainable solutions to our customers. To be the leading recycling solutions provider, RPC bpi recycled products, has made customer service and environmental stewardship central elements to everything it does.

Gerry McGarry, Managing Director of RPC bpi recycled products explained: "With PLASgran joining our RPC bpi recycled products group, we are now clearly the largest plastics recycler in the UK and one of the largest in Europe. This is great news not just for both our business

and our customers, but for the wider society. We are in a unique new position to help the UK step up its efforts to meet evermore pressing sustainability goals and to help the environment.

“There is a huge demand for increased UK and European plastics recycling for both environmental and commercial reasons. Many major brands and retailers, for example, are quite rightly demanding their packaging is produced and manufactured from genuine recycled used plastics. With our technology, expertise and newly enlarged business we can offer our customers a true ‘closed loop’ solution for the supply and recycling of their packaging.”

Mark Roberts, MD of PLASgran, commented: “We are both respected and well-established recyclers in our markets: RPC bpi recycled products focuses on plastic films, whilst we have developed a major presence in the recycling of rigid plastics with expertise in creating our own recyclate blends. Our combined businesses have state-of-the-art recycling equipment, while both teams have an understanding of the issues facing users of plastic packaging who want to see their packaging re-cycled and remanufactured into new products.”

Mark, who will continue to run the PLASgran business and will join the RPC bpi recycled products Business Unit Executive Team, continued: “This acquisition provides a major growth opportunity for both our businesses through an extended service offering for our clients. As both organisations accelerate their activities on their environmental stewardship, we will be best positioned to support them on that journey and twin sustainability drives with best business practice.”

Pim Vervaat, CEO of the RPC Group, said PLASgran shares RPC’s values in achieving the highest standards in health and safety, environmental performance and quality of output. The management team, led by Mark Roberts, is highly experienced and will bring strong technical capabilities into the group. “PLASgran offers an exciting opportunity for RPC to strengthen and expand its service offering in recycling solutions,” explained Pim. “With the experience of rigid recycling, the acquisition of PLASgran supports RPC’s strategy to be able to have the complete offering of sustainable design and engineering solutions and meet the market requirements.”

Ends



Gerry McGarry, Managing Director, RPC bpi recycled products

For further information, please contact:

Karen Millican

Suzanne Howe Communications

Tel: +44 (0)2034 680923

Email: karen@suzannehowe.com

Twitter: [@suzannehowecomm](https://twitter.com/suzannehowecomm)

Web: www.suzannehowe.com

Notes to Editors:

- RPC bpi recycled products operates four UK sites.
- RPC bpi recycled products is part of British Polythene Ltd which was purchased in August 2016 by RPC Group Plc - a plastic products design and engineering company with over 180 operations across 33 countries and employing over 20,000 people.
- The polythene used to make the company's award winning Green Sack™ range of refuse sacks is made from recycled British farm waste plastics. The finished product has a carbon footprint that is estimated to be at least 35 per cent less than any other refuse sack in the UK.
- RPC bpi recycled products is accredited to ISO: 14001, ISO: 9001:2008, and OHSAS: 18001.
- www.bpirecycling.co.uk
- More information about PLASgran recycling solutions can be found at the company website: www.plasgranltd.co.uk