



PRESS RELEASE

Düsseldorf, 16-23 October 2013

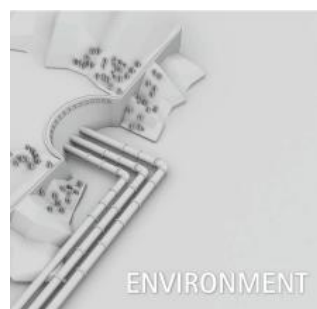
For immediate release

Sustainability: a broader reach.



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RadiciGroup's commitment to sustainability is ongoing. The Group regularly reports on its actions and progress in its **Sustainability Report**, which is drawn up according to the **GRI (Global Reporting Initiative)** guidelines and includes a series of performance indicators – Economic (**EC**), Human Rights (**HR**), Labour Practices and Decent Work (**LA**), Society (**SO**), Environment (**EN**) and Product Responsibility (**PR**).



All of these elements are of central importance, and RadiciGroup has undertaken the challenge to make sustainability a business tool, a key to innovation, a tenet of corporate culture and, in short, the approach to

running its companies. To RadiciGroup, sustainability means concrete action and results – from the beginning to the end of its production chain.

A few examples...

Development of products made from renewable source materials and recycled materials – products that can contribute to reducing CO₂ levels.

Commitment to using renewable source energy and recycled materials from its own production chain or post-consumer recycling.

Commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and energy usage.

Development, implementation and continual improvement, at all its companies, of policies on environmental and occupational health and safety management.

Development and definition of production chain *Product Category Rules (PCRs)* governing the procedures for:

- Measuring the environmental impact performance of its products using *Life Cycle Assessments (LCAs)*, so as to obtain specific *Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs)*.

Respect for and dialogue with all its stakeholders.

Support for projects and events aimed at safeguarding the environment in the communities where its companies operate.

Operating in a way that respects communities, people and cultures.

Joining the working group for the new European methods for calculating Product Environmental Footprints (PEFs) and the Organisation Environmental Footprint (OEF).

Raising its employees' awareness so as to develop a sustainability culture that is shared by everyone in the Group.



MEASURING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SYSTEMATICALLY AND RIGOROUSLY...

RadiciGroup is committed to measuring its environmental impact **systematically and rigorously from the beginning to the end of its production chain**, that is, **from monomer to engineering plastics, synthetic fibres and nonwovens**, so as to provide **information based on verified and comparable scientific data**.

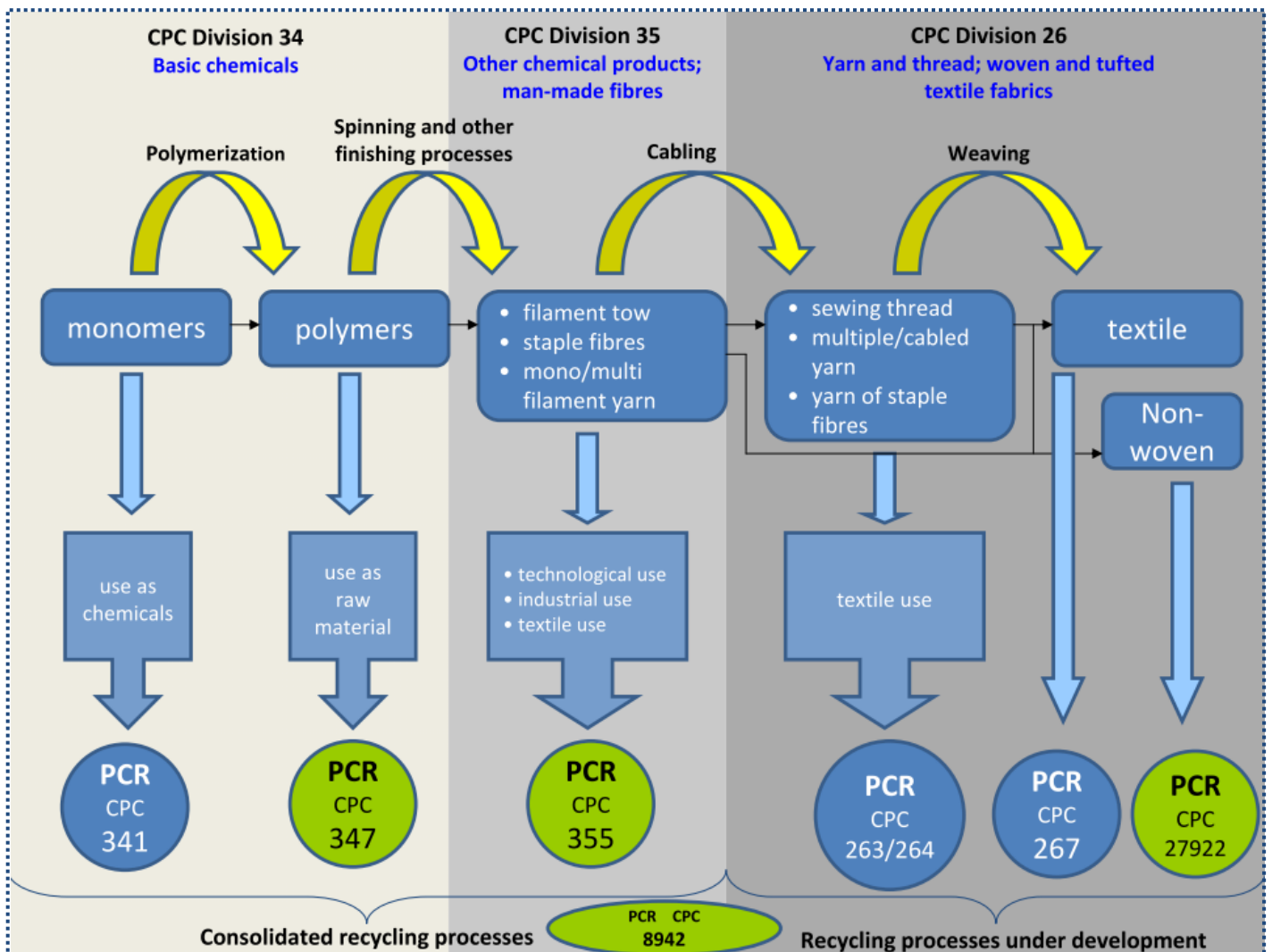
How?

First of all, through the development and definition of **Product Category Rules (PCRs)** for its production chain, which set down how to measure and quantify the environmental impact performance of its products using **Life Cycle Assessments (LCAs)**, in order to obtain specific **Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs)**. And that is not all. RadiciGroup, in particular Radici Chimica SpA, has recently signed an agreement with the Italian Ministry of the Environment to apply a new method to its production chain, on an

experimental basis, to determine the **Product Environmental Footprint (PEF)** and the **Organisation Environmental Footprint (OEF)**. This method was recently introduced by the European Commission to improve the availability of reliable and comparable information on the environmental performance of products and organizations, with the goal of harmonizing the different measurement methods available today.

Production chain PCR project

RadiciGroup, through the Sweden-based International EPD System, has defined internationally accepted PCRs, specific to the products of the its plastics and fibres production chain: polyamides 6 and 6.6, from monomers to engineering plastics, synthetic fibres and nonwovens, and the recycling of all plastic scrap from its production chain.



This was a significant achievement for RadiciGroup – the result of about one year’s work on a conceptual and methodological approach that was truly an innovation in the industry. Indeed, the Group was the first multinational to present and propose the concept of a production chain PCR to International EPD System, from which it received positive feedback. Today the rules prepared by the Group and validated by

International EPD System (one of the most highly regarded bodies in Europe) are an international reference point and model for any company in the industry that wants to measure the environmental impact performance of its production chain products. The “production chain” approach (polymers, engineering plastics, synthetic fibres and nonwovens) standardises the normative application of the LCA rules, which in turn facilitates the preparation of the EPDs for all the products of the Group. This puts RadiciGroup in position not only to assist its downstream customers to obtain an equivalent certification for their products, but also to objectively assess the environmental awareness of their suppliers.

Now that it has defined its production chain PCRs, RadiciGroup is working on obtaining EPDs for its products, as well as applying, on an experimental basis, the new European method for calculating product (PEF) and organisation (OEF) environmental footprints.

What are the points of excellence of the above approach for RadiciGroup Plastics?



**ABILITY TO DEVELOP ECODESIGN ANALYSIS PROCEDURES.
ABILITY TO MAKE OBJECTIVE COMPARISONS AMONG PLASTICS AND AMONG PLASTICS
AND METALS WITH THE SAME TECHNICAL PERFORMANCE.**

The objectives of RadiciGroup Plastics include...

- Obtain EPDs for a large percentage of its traditional range of nylon engineering plastics, which will thus have a certified environmental declaration.
- Work on product formulations in order to reduce their environmental impact

(ECODESIGN):

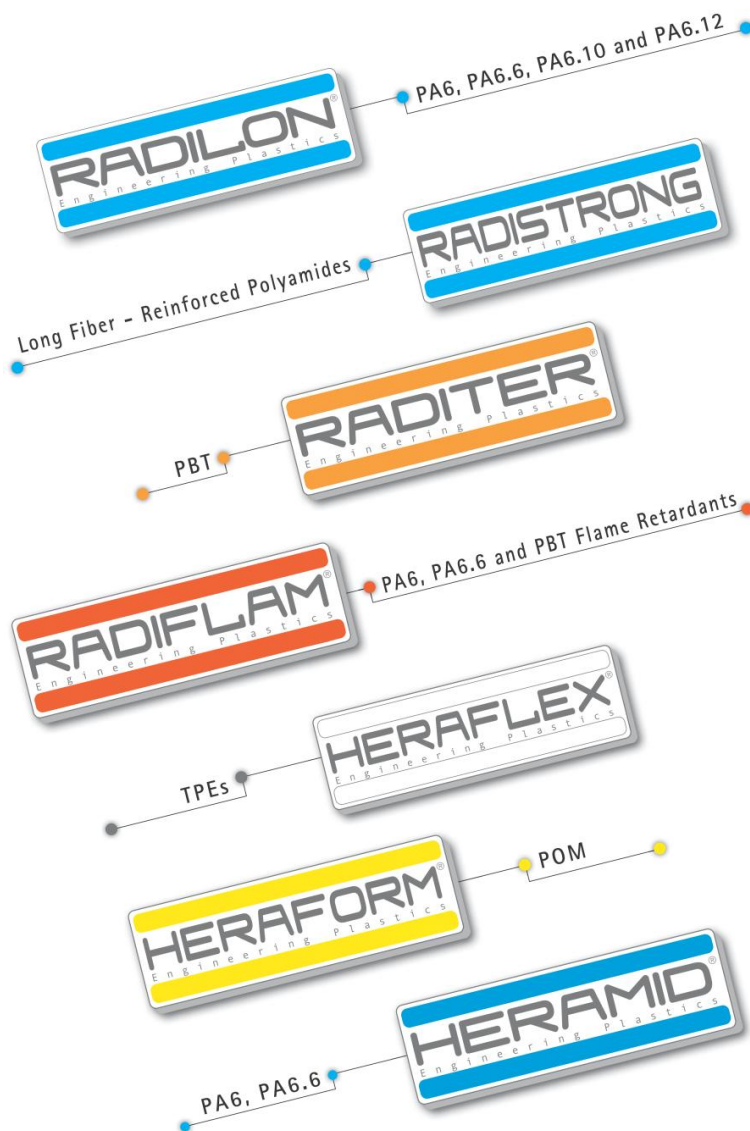


RadiciGroup Plastics can measure, with its certified in-house data reading and data entry processes, the environmental impact of different formulations of raw materials and different formulations of additives having the same product performance. Thus, RadiciGroup Plastics can analyse the upstream processes in its production chain and assess the various options available in order to make the choices that minimize the environmental footprint of its products and production processes. These choices may concern, for instance, the renewable energy to use for production, selecting a plant location as near as possible to target markets so as to reduce transport-related emissions, the use of raw materials obtained from recovered waste at RadiciGroup production plants, but technically equivalent to virgin raw materials, .

- Include some environmental impact indicators (typical of the LCA) on its product technical data sheets.

RadiciGroup: a supplier with product environmental sustainability assurance...

IN THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY ...



RadiciGroup is one of the most highly regarded manufacturers of polyamide and polyester engineering plastics.

With six plants strategically located in Italy, Brazil, the United States, Germany and China, RadiciGroup Plastics offers processing, quality control, research and development, and technological development support.

A network of sales units – with a strong presence in Italy, Germany, France, Spain, Great Britain, the USA, Brazil, China and India – makes RadiciGroup Plastics a truly global organization, capable of meeting the needs of its customers worldwide on a timely basis.

WWW.RADICIGROUP.COM/PLASTICS

RADICIGROUP_Production and sales sites in Europe, North America, South America and Asia. Diversified businesses focusing on chemicals, plastics and synthetic fibres. Know-how. Vertically integrated nylon production. Constant commitment to guaranteeing its customers quality, sustainable innovation and reliability. All this is RadiciGroup, a leader in nylon chemicals. RadiciGroup products are used in applications such as apparel, sports, furnishings, automotive, electrical/electronics, home appliances and consumer goods. **WWW.RADICIGROUP.COM** RadiciGroup, with its Chemicals, Plastics and Synthetic Fibres Business Areas, is part of a larger industrial group that also includes textile machinery and energy businesses. **WWW.RADICI.COM**

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