



PRESS RELEASE

Bergamo, 22 July 2014

RadiciGroup measures the environmental impact of its engineering plastics: PEF Statement of Compliance issued to Radici Novacips SpA for the Radilon® A RV 300 product range

■ *RadiciGroup continues to implement its sustainability work plan. Following the achievements of Radici Chimica SpA, a RadiciGroup Italian chemical production company,*



Radici Novacips SpA, head company of RadiciGroup Plastics Business Area, has tested the PEF (Product Environmental Footprint) methodology to calculate the environmental footprint of its Radilon® A RV 300 range of polyamide 6.6 engineering plastics.

■ ***The first and only European trial testing project:*** *RadiciGroup is the only European industrial enterprise to experiment with calculating a PEF based on production chain Product Category Rules (PCR), which were defined by the Group and verified and registered with the Swedish International EPD System. Today these rules serve as the international standard and model to be used by any company in the industry to measure the environmental impact performance of its products.*

November 2013: Radici Chimica SpA – a RadiciGroup company engaged in the production of PA6.6 polymer and related intermediates – [was the first chemical company in Europe to obtain PEF \(for PA6.6 / HMDA / Adipic acid / Nitric acid / MAB / Diamine heads and tails / CO2\) and OEF \(Organisation Environmental Footprint\) statements of compliance.](#)

June 2014: After achieving *EPD Process Certification*, **Radici Novacips SpA** – head company of the RadiciGroup Plastics Business Area – obtained a [PEF Statement of Compliance for its Radilon® A RV 300 product range](#) for the measurement of the environmental footprint of its engineering plastics in accordance with the Product Environmental Footprint methodology introduced by the European Commission and currently in the trial stage. RadiciGroup has thus

taken another important step towards its goal of rigorously measuring the environmental impact of its products.

“For an industrial Group such as ours, which occupies a prominent position in the European chemical industry and is determined to stay in Europe,” said **Luigi Gerolla**, *managing director of the RadiciGroup Chemicals and Plastics Business Areas*, “investing in sustainable innovation also means collaborating concretely on current European experimental initiatives dealing with environmental issues. Today we are the only European industrial enterprise to experiment with calculating a PEF based on production chain Product Category Rules, which were defined by our Group and validated at the international level.



These rules now serve as the international standard and model to be used by any company in the industry to measure the environmental impact performance of its products.”

The approach to sustainability envisioned by RadiciGroup provides for the coordinated use of advanced tools such as EPD and PEF, together with certifications such as ISO 9001, ISO 14001, ISO/TS 16949 and OSHAS 18001. What is more, sustainability for the Group also means measuring environmental, economic and social performance indicators in keeping with the GRI Guidelines. All these aspects together show that the Group is committed to being a leader in chemicals sustainability with a 360-degree perspective.

“After obtaining the PEF Statement of Compliance for our polymers and chemicals this past year,” said **Stefano Alini**, *safety, quality and environment manager of Radici Chimica SpA*, “testing the



EPD-based PEF methodology for measuring the environmental impact of our engineering plastics was another important step forward for us. Now, our objective is to delve deeper into the issue of the applicability of this new European methodology, by bringing up and stressing the importance of establishing a correlation between the impact category for a given product and its application performance. Product impact categories do not suffice by themselves when assessing the environmental footprint. Product performance

indicators must also be measured and taken into account. Raw material mapping alone can be misleading.”

Vertically integrated nylon production (beginning with polymer 6.6), a key feature of RadiciGroup, allows the Plastics Business Area to design and develop products in collaboration with customers



starting right from the chemicals. This competitive advantage is essential to achieve products with the best application performance and the smallest environmental footprint.

“Our customers and partners’ attention to environmental issues has changed a lot during the last few years; it has evolved,” said **Cesare Clausi**, *Europe business manager of the RadiciGroup Plastics Business Area*. “Today, our target markets demand materials with maximum performance and minimal environmental impact, and the trend is likely to grow. This is now the area we are focusing on, following a

scientific, objective and verifiable approach.”

SUSTAINABILITY FOR RADICIGROUP... The Group believes that, in matters of environmental sustainability, innovation can only come from a rigorous transparent approach. Starting from this conviction, the Group has made the systemic and rigorous measurement of environmental, economic and social performance indicators, as per *Global Reporting Initiative* guidelines, the centre of its action plan along its entire industrial production chain (from chemicals to plastics, synthetic fibres and nonwovens).

MEASURING THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF ITS PRODUCTS. RadiciGroup is committed to provide its target markets and stakeholders with information based on scientific, verified and comparable 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). RadiciGroup was the first multinational to present and propose the concept of a production chain PCR to the International EPD System, from which it received positive feedback. Today, the PCR prepared by the Group and validated by the Swedish International EPD System (one of the most highly regarded bodies in Europe) is an international standard and model for any company in the industry that wants to measure the environmental impact performance of its products. **BUT THAT IS NOT ALL...**

IN EUROPE RADICIGROUP IS...

- The first chemical group with a company – Radici Chimica SpA – to be awarded Organisation Environmental Footprint (OEF) and Product Environmental Footprint (PEF) Statements of Compliance.
- Among the few enterprises with a company – Radici Novacips SpA – to obtain EPD process certification, which recognizes its capability to handle the process for the preparation and internal verification of Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs).
- The only European industrial group that has experimented with calculating a PEF based on production chain Product Category Rules (PCR), which were defined by the Group and verified and registered with the Swedish International EPD System. Today these rules serve as the international standard and model to be used by any company in the industry to measure the environmental impact performance of its products.

RADICIGROUP: FROM CHEMICALS TO PLASTICS, SYNTHETIC FIBRES AND NONWOVENS.

Production and sales sites in Europe, North America, South America and Asia. Diversified businesses focusing on chemicals, plastics, synthetic fibres and nonwovens. 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 – Furnishings – Automotive – Consumer goods – Construction – Electrical and electronics – Household appliances – Sport.

RadiciGroup, with its Chemicals, Plastics, Synthetic Fibres and Nonwovens Business Areas, is part of a larger industrial group that also includes textile machinery and energy businesses.

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