Pledging campaign for the uptake of recycled plastics

Dear Sirs or Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the pledging campaign. Unfortunately, we are not able to pledge the use of a certain amount of recycled plastics in our products.

However, we would like to confirm that the use of recycled plastic is an important part of our sustainability policy. We would like to inform you about our activities and our experience in this field:

- One of our worldwide Kärcher sustainability target is to increase the use of recycling plastics by 400% until 2020
- We are using production waste from our plastics processing for our products (Post Industrial)
- We used recycled plastics generated from old car battery housings for our products (Post Consumer)
- We accept the use of recycled plastics by our suppliers, e.g. recycled cable material for the production of wheels
- We are currently testing recycled plastic material generated from airbag material (ECO-PA) for our products (several 100 tons per year)

In addition, we would like to point out some important challenges concerning the use of recycled plastics:

- Recycled plastics have to fulfill multiple legal requirements for hazardous substances, e.g. ROHS, REACH, Food contact etc.
- Recycled plastics have to meet the same technical (quality and safety), economic, and aesthetic requirements as new plastic material
- The market of recycled plastics is likely to be more vulnerable to availability shortage due to shortage of material for recycling
Nevertheless, we would like to stress that we support the aim of the pledging campaign and will push forward the use of recycled plastics in Kärcher products.

Please feel free to contact us for any further information.

Kind regards
Alfred Kärcher SE & Co. KG

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