

# Design for Circularity of Industrial Packaging Film

Francis Huysman CEO Valipac Co-Chairman EPRO Wiesbaden, nov. 2019



#### What is EPRO?

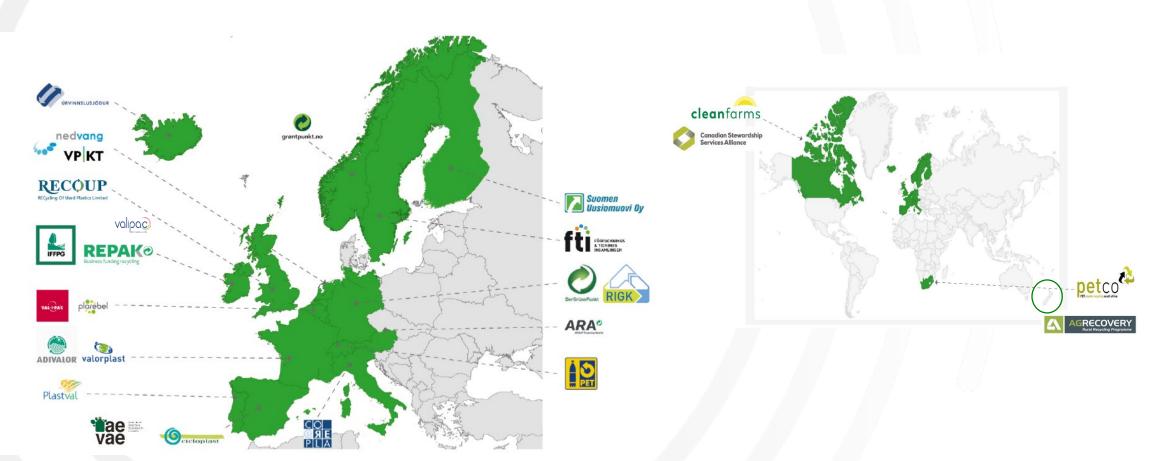
- European Association of Plastics Recycling and Recovery Organisations
- Members, all based on Extended Producer Responsibility, have to give in their country guarantee on recycling of plastic packaging waste, and agri-plastics
- 25 members: Europe, Canada, New Zealand and South Africa

Aim: To exchange experiences and thus optimise national effectiveness through international co-operation

www.epro-plasticsrecycling.org



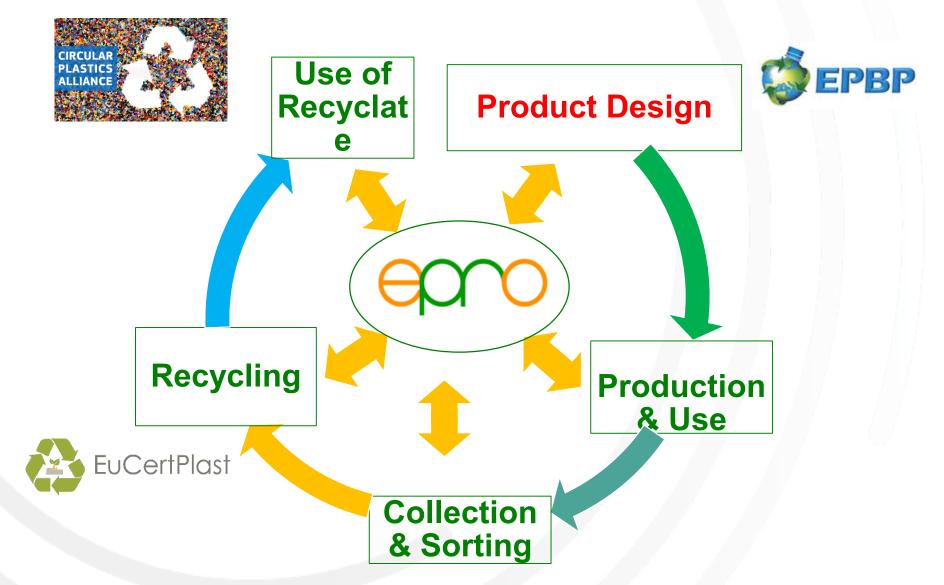








#### **Activities of EPRO**







#### Valipac

#### **Europe**

Extended Producer Responsibility schemes to increase recycling and evolve towards circularity.

**Belgium**: different EPR schemes for packaging

• Valipac : Packaging from trade & industry

• Fost Plus: Household packaging

AgriRecover : Phytophar packaging farms

#### Valipac

- Multimaterial industrial packaging scheme
- 7200 members
- Plastics : film, rigid, EPS
- 101 kton plastics put on market
- 54 kton plastics recycled







#### Clean Site Circular





Bad collection on Construction Sites

→2005





Return of plastic waste to the wholesale





Recycling China →2017



## What next?





#### Linear model for plastic film recycling









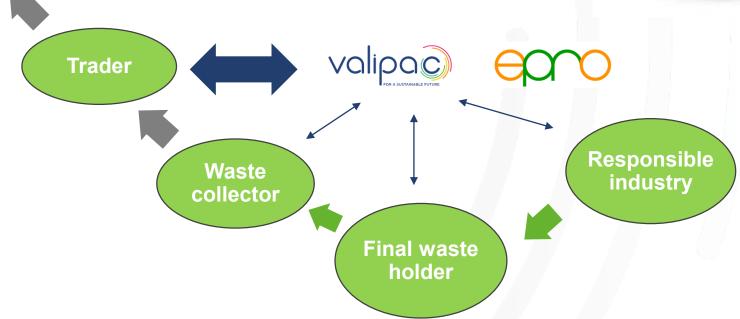
#### Quick fix solution to control export



# Control of export and prove of recycling by contract with traders

- Accreditation of trader
- Reporting of final recycler









#### Clean Site Circular: the Eternal Life of Shrink hoods

## Introduction Clean Site System 2005→



Bad collection on Construction Sites

→2005





Return of plastic waste to the wholesale





Recycling China

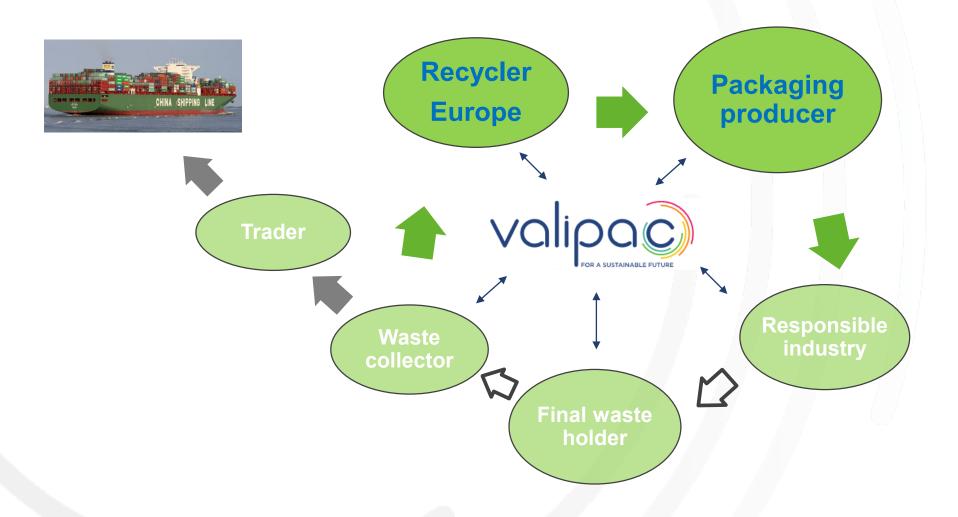
→2017







#### From a linear to a circular model for plastic recycling







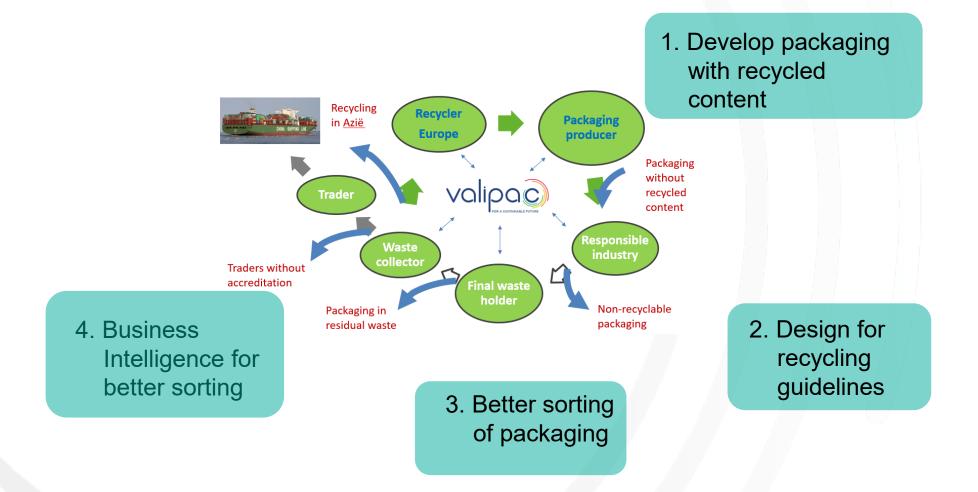
#### Challenges in the circular model







#### Actions to make plastics circular





# A demonstration project in collaboration with















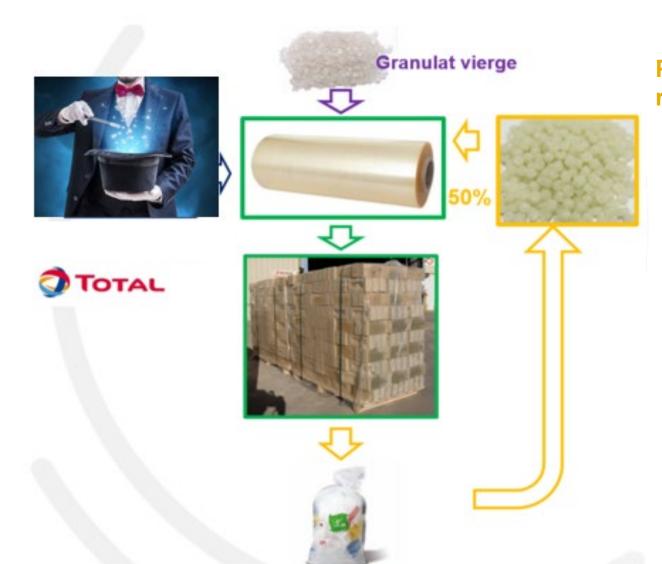
Financially supported by





#### Innovation project: Shrink film with 50 % PCR

Development of circular shrink film with 50 % post consumer recyclate



Post consumer recycled plastics



#### Technical characteristics of circular shrink film





#### New recycling chemistry

Recycled plastics



## Circular shrink film on the packaging line







## the proof of the pudding is in the eating



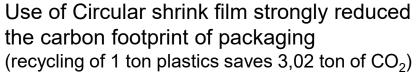




## No reason not to use circular shrink film



#### **Environment**





#### Cost

Cost is equivalent with shrink film made with 100 % virgin plastics.



## **Load security**

Tests on load security have been performed with succes.



#### **Availability**

Commercially available









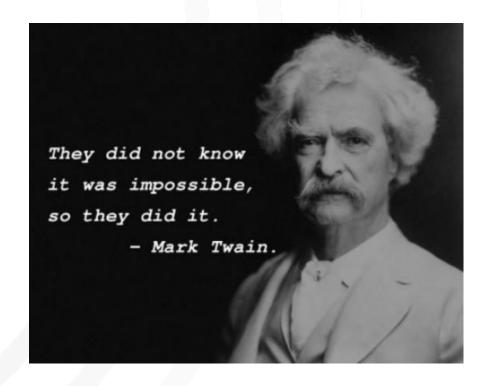
#### **Eternal life of shrink hoods!**

#### **Circular shrink hood potential:**

Belgium: 40.000 ton/year Europe: > 0,5 M ton/year!

#### **More opportunities:**

- Polyethylene bags
- Protection film
- Group packaging of building Material
- Packaging insulation panels
- Agricultural film
- •

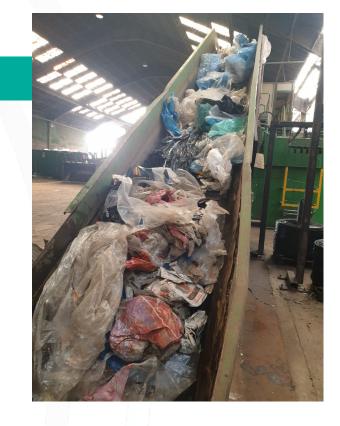




#### The dark side of the colors

Used shrink hoods can be recycled to new shrink film ... if they are not coloured ....

- Problem: colorful films (printed or colorized)
- Post-sorting construction film at waste operator:
   Only 33% usable for circular purposes
- Transparent waste films are worth 3 times more than colored or printed copies
- Value of the material has to remain high in the material chain to get profitable recycling business in Europe and avoid exportation
- Solution: Problem: colorful films
  - Alternatives to marketing of the product
  - Inkt which can be neutralized during the recycling process







#### Inspiration for Circular design: unprinted shrink sleeves



Paper poster under the shrink sleeve



Plastic banderole around the pallet



Stretch film tape around the pallet

Let's think together for other alternatives.....

If nevertheless print: Surface area as small as possible!!!!





#### Next challenge; industrial stretch film

- First production batch in September (25 micron, 7 layers, 25 % PCR)
- Some technical issues still to be solved
- Product should be available autumn 2020





#### **Partners**















#### What next?

 Replace your virgin polyethylene-films of industrial packaging by circular unprinted / uncolored ones (also bags, protection sheets, agricultural film, ....)

 Your demand will create a sustainable recycling industry in Europe

We want to help you!



Filip Vangeel
Circular Economy Manager
Filip.vangeel@Valipac.be



Tom Vanwezer
Advisor Business Development
Tom.vanwezer@Valipac.be

## WE NEED YOU!







Francis Huysman
CEO Valipac
Chairmen EPRO



