



Brussels, 22 February 2011

## The European PET Bottle Platform (EPBP) – 2 years of progress

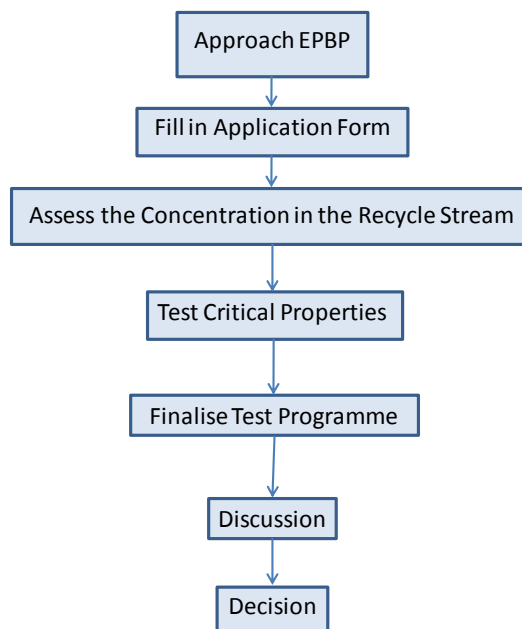
The European PET Bottle Platform was formed by the European Association of Plastics Recycling and Recovery Organisations (EPRO), the European Plastics Recyclers (EuPR), PET Containers Recycling Europe (Petcore), the Union of European Beverages Association (UNESDA) and the European Federation of Bottled Water (EFBW), with the main objective of evaluating packaging technologies and products and to facilitate PET bottle innovation, whilst minimising the economic and environmental consequences for recycling PET in Europe.

Members of the platform's evaluation group are experienced Technical experts from the whole PET value chain. They are tasked to evaluate novel technologies, materials and PET structures to verify their effect not only on the PET bottle recycling process but also on the PET chain.

Companies developing new resins, additives, technologies and novel processes for PET bottles are urged to approach EPBP at the earliest opportunity so that their applications can be assessed in the most efficient and economic manner.

The full EPBP protocol has been developed from the Petcore protocol and the US Association of Postconsumer Plastics Recyclers (APR) Critical Guidance Document and also takes into account learning from the industry. The protocol is split into quick tests and then more in-depth tests to ensure a speedy, accurate and economic outcome for both the applicant and for EPBP.

The EPBP process is briefly described below:



There will be a number of discussions before the Committee makes a decision but EPBP believes that this way of working will minimise the cost of testing for the applicants and ease the decision path. To date EPBP has considered 17 applications. Many are ongoing but there are 6 so far on the positive list.

More details and documents can be found on the EPBP website [www.petbottleplatform.eu](http://www.petbottleplatform.eu), but please discuss your application with EPBP in the first instance.

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#### The members of the European PET Bottle Platform are :



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European Association of Plastic Recycling and Recovery Organisations - is the association of the national organisations charged with organising and promoting recycling and recovery of plastics throughout Europe. EPRO provides a unique forum for the leading specialists in plastics waste management from across Europe to exchange learning, develop integrated plastics packaging waste strategies and support technological development. EPRO is representing 19 national organisations from 15 European countries and South-Africa



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European Plastics Recyclers - is the professional representative body of plastics recyclers in Europe. EuPR promotes plastics mechanical recycling and conditions that enable profitable and sustainable business, while offering a service platform to its members. EuPR members bring together 80% of the European recycling capacity processing more than 2.5 million tonnes of collected plastics per year.



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PET containers recycling Europe - is a non-profit European trade association based in Brussels. Its mission focuses on sustainable growth for post consumer PET collection whilst supporting all PET recycling processes as a key integrated part of European Plastics Waste Management initiatives and by validating and supporting innovative PET solutions from a recycle perspective.

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UNESDA is the European non-alcoholic beverages association. Our primary role is to support the increased acceptance, growth and development of non-alcoholic beverages. UNESDA was founded in 1958. The creation of the European Economic Community, and its plans to harmonise the laws affecting non-alcoholic beverages, led to the need for a special body to provide technical expertise on such legislation. The members of UNESDA are the national non-alcoholic beverages associations of the European Union and company members who conduct business in at least five EU Member States.

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The European Federation of Bottled Waters (EFBW) was founded in 2003 as a non-profit trade association to represent the interests of the European bottled water industry. Our members are national associations which bring together over 500 bottlers across Europe. EFBW works closely with European and international institutions which regulate bottled water, including the European Commission and the Codex Alimentarius, where EFBW has observer status as an NGO.