

# RECOVINYL

news

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WELCOME to issue 14 of the Recovynyl newsletter. In this edition find out about Recovynyl being promoted at Glassex 2007 and Irish Polymer Processing Ltd, a company with strong community links.

## Recovynyl presents at Glassex 2007

At this year's forthcoming Glassex seminar, Roger Morton, Axion Director, will be explaining how window companies and fabricators can use Recovynyl to demonstrate the sustainability advantages of PVC to their environmentally-conscious customers. He will be aiming to explode some of the misconceptions regarding the environmental footprint of PVC as a material for windows, doors and other construction applications using positive messages, backed by the impressive recycling results achieved by Recovynyl in the UK and guidance on how manufacturers, installers and others in the supply chain can benefit from the scheme.

"Over the last ten years there has been a lot of inaccurate information in the media about PVC. This has influenced current Local Authority, ALMO and Housing Association specifiers to question the 'green' credentials about PVC-U windows," comments Roger.



"The UK PVC-U windows industry has been recycling its manufacturing off-cuts for many years. It is only now that many post-consumer PVC-U windows are coming to the end of their lives and that is why the PVC industry is investing in recycling," he continues.

As environmental issues rise up the agenda of both politicians and individual consumers and as the arms length management organisations (ALMOs) start to gear up to renew the nation's public sector housing stock, sustainability is becoming an increasingly important issue for window companies. Window companies who recycle their PVC-U waste are set to gain in terms of lower disposal costs of removed frames, higher sales to discerning purchasers and reduced impact on the environment.

Recovynyl UK's Europe-leading performance for PVC recycling has seen recycled rigid and flexible material being re-used in high grade applications, such as new components, pipes and electrical conduit. The high price of virgin PVC material is creating rising demand for post-consumer material that can readily be turned into new products.

Roger adds: "Continuing commitment to PVC-U recycling by all sectors of the window industry is essential to the on-going success in demonstrating the material's sustainability. Maintaining this momentum remains a challenge."

Glassex 2007 is a seminar held for the glass and glazing industries and this year runs from 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> March 2007 at Birmingham's NEC ([www.glassex.com](http://www.glassex.com)).

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## Recycler Focus: Irish Polymer Processing Ltd

Irish Polymer Processing (IPP) Ltd, based in Mallow, County Cork is the Recovynyl recycler for the Republic of Ireland. Two independent companies - IPP Ltd and Irohaul Ltd, a haulage business - operate from the same premises to mutual benefit. By employing the services of the haulage company, IPP Ltd is able to offer a collection service in all 26 counties of the Republic of Ireland.

Currently processing uPVC from window profiles including the removal of contaminants, the company would like to increase its output by sourcing PVC used in other applications, and would like to begin recycling other types of plastics too. IPP currently sells its regrind on to a UK company who extrudes it back into window profiles and other applications, so 'closing the loop'.

IPP began trading 5 years ago and currently employs 12 members of staff. John Healy, Director, is proud of the company's track record in employing people with leaning disabilities and physical disabilities. IPP works with COPE

(Community Opportunites for Participation in Enterprise), an organisation aiming to secure employment for adults with disabilities.

As John comments: "Often these people have been unemployed long-term and together with Cope, we have created valuable employment opportunities for them. Some people placed with us work full-time, others do as little as a few hours according to what is appropriate."



Irohaul Ltd , the haulage company, works with Rehab Recycle (a Gandon Enterprise), an organisation dedicated to working with people with learning difficulties and physical disabilities to enable them to break into the workforce. Irohaul Ltd works under contract to Rehab Recycle, employing people to service community 'bring' sites. This involves collecting glass and cans for recycling, sorting the glass and removing contaminants, recycling paper, cardboard and plastics as well as cleaning the sites.

John feels that both companies have a strong sense of a social responsibility. As he comments: "Through our work with the Cope Foundation and Rehab Recycle we are employing people who often otherwise would have no chance of a job. We feel we are putting something back into the community"

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