Business Case Study

Plastic Recycling Technology Scouting and Market Foresighting



Case study: Plastic recycling technology scouting and market foresighting (1 / 2)

Client	Leading industrial gas and EPC company
Industry	Plastic
Product / technology	PP, LDPE / LLDPE, HDPE, PVC, PUR, PET, EPS, PS, etc.

Engagement scope

Regulatory framework assessment

• How plastic recycling legislative environment vary at major region / country level globally?

• How do these legislation / regulation enable / inhibit plastic recycling?

• What existing / known future incentives (tax schemes, penalties, etc.) will drive plastic recycling till 2030?

Context

• New roadmaps and regulations post COP21 will cut down on landfilling and push higher-value recycling pathways creating opportunities and threats to secondary and primary building block producers / technology companies respectively. The Client is interested in evaluating the full extent of opportunities and threats.

Key business questions

- What are current and future plastic recycling regulations? How do they vary at major region / country level?
- How do plastic recycling value chain and ecosystem look like? Which are all participants and their role?
- How plastic recycling market is expected to develop till 2030?
- Which are most promising plastic recycling technology clusters and technologies within technology clusters?
- Is chemical recycling in any case preferred over incineration and gasification (based on cost, LCA, etc.)?
- Do CO₂ regulations drive deployment of chemical plastic recycling? If yes, how?
- Value chain, ecosystem, and market analysis

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- Which are key nodes, major players and value addition at each key node, etc. in plastic recycling value chain?
- What is the role of start-ups, industrial players, NGOs, etc. in the ecosystem?
- What are strategies / initiatives of key industrial players like BASF, Dow, SABIC, etc. in terms of meeting plastic recycling targets?
- How plastic recycling market is expected to develop till 2030?

3 Technology benchmarking

• What are various plastic recycling technology clusters?

- Is there any preference of plastic recycling technology cluster for specific plastic (based on energy demand, CO₂ footprint, etc.)?
- What is typical raw product composition including mass and energy balance?
- Which plastic recycling technologies are more likely to be adopted going forward?

- Key findings and conclusions
- How regulations are driving plastic recycling in major regions / countries?
- What is addressable market for plastic recycling in 2030?
- Which are plastic recycling technologies (focus on chemical plastic recycling) that would of interest to the Client?

Case study: Plastic recycling technology scouting and market foresighting (2 / 2)

Research methodology

Secondary research

- · Paid commercial, IP, and technical databases
- · Company, analyst, trade journal, association, etc. publications

Primary research

- 25+ telephonic interviews / surveys with major plastic manufacturers, plastic recyclers, technology start-ups, thought leaders, independent consultants and analysts
- 3-5 hours of consultations with industry experts (20+ years of industry experience)

Sample analysis



Benefits to Client

- · Identified key regions / countries and plastic types driving plastic recycling
- Evaluated potential of plastic recycling in general and chemical plastic recycling in particular
- Shortlisted most attractive plastic recycling technologies from Client's perspective
- Shortlisted universities, start-ups, consortiums, and corporates for potential collaboration

Key findings and conclusions

Sample analysis: Most attractive plastic recycling technology clusters (1 / 2)



Sample analysis: Most attractive plastic recycling technology clusters (2 / 2)



Sample analysis: Regulatory framework assessment



Sample analysis: Value chain and ecosystem analysis



Sample analysis: Market analysis



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Sample analysis: Technology overview



Sample analysis: Technology benchmarking

Product category	Product type		Eco	Economic value		Use	
Solid	For mechanical recycling: Plastic pellets or flakes For chemical recycling: Coke, xxx, xxx, etc.		ХХХ	xxx		ХХХ	
Liquid	Aromatics: xxx, xxx, etc. Oil: Cx, Cy, and higher carbon chain hydrocarbons		ХХХ	XXX		ххх	
Gaseous	Syngas, xxx, xxx, xxx, etc.		ххх	XXX			
Mechanical	Incineration	Thermal Cracking	Catalytic cracking	Hydrocracking	Gasification	Microwave pyrolysis	
Glycolysis	Alcoholysis	Methanolysis	Hydrolysis	Ammonolysis	Aminolysis	Solvent extraction	
XXX XXX	XXX XXX					1	

Gasification produce high proportion of xxx whereas xxx and xxx is in high proportion in thermal cracking, catalytic cracking, and hydrogenation. Solvolysis methods such as hydrolysis, methanolysis, ammonolysis, etc. being mainly important when xxx need to be obtain from condensation polymers such as PET, PS, etc. Solvent extraction directly gives xxx.

Sample analysis: Most attractive plastic recycling technology clusters (1 / 2)



Suitable technology for polyolefins

Polyolefins are high calorific value plastics and hence xxx techniques are suitable to obtain high value products from them. Polyolefins are addition polymers unsuitable for xxx processes

xxx processes are majorly used recycling techniques for polyolefin recycling as they increase value proportion in the product.

xxx and xxx give a high yield of light olefin in the range of 70–77 per cent

xxx is a process with higher efficiency and produce quality output than thermal cracking. However, limitation are its application of catalyst and deposition of coke in the catalyst.

Sample analysis: Most attractive plastic recycling technology clusters (2 / 2)



Thank you

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