

#### TPU made from rubber & further sustainable loops @ BASF

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Antwerp

### **Rubber and TPU**

#### **Vulcanized rubber**

- Thermosetting
- Chemical crosslinking
- Homoatomic



#### TPU

- Thermoplastic
  - Physical crosslinking
- Heteroatomic

G. Scholz, M. Gehringer, Thermoplastic Elastomers At a Glance, De Gruyter (2021), DOI: 10.1515/9783110739848



**Our contribution to a climate-neutral future** 



**2030:** -25% emission compared with 2018.\*

2050: Net zero emissions.

**2030:** double<sup>\*\*</sup> circular sales to reach **€17 billion**.

- Recycled and renewable feedstocks
- Close and extend material loops

#### We have three areas of focus





#### Post-Consumer Waste (PCW) loop – 1





#### Only 10% of plastic wastes are recycled\* **Mechanical recycling (PCW)** Semifinished Plastic **Total PCW** Incineration Recovery goods goods Yeld Loss Downcycling Disposal **Plastics** Manufactured Plastic production goods waste Landfill

Chemical aging

Post-Consumer Waste (PCW) loop – 2

Sorting accuracy

- Contamination
- Banned substances

\* Based on KPMG report - "From waste to Commodity delivering on the EU's vision of a circular plastics economy"



**On-par Cycling** 

#### Post-Consumer Waste (PCW) loop – 3



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#### **Mass Balance Certification**



**D** - BASF We create chemistry

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#### **Expanding recycling loops – 1**







#### **Solvolysis of crosslinked PEOL-PUs**



Lower layer: glycol, hard phase



# Putting the mattress waste problem to bed with Neveon

- In Europe, **40 million mattresses per year**
- BASF is recovering high quality polyols
- Neveon is manufacturing new high-quality mattresses from regained polyols
- Together aim to close the loop



Lower layer: glycol, hard phase





#### Expanding recycling loops – 2





#### ChemCycling<sup>™</sup> (Chemical Recycling *via* pyrolysis)





\* under application of a mass balance approach

\*\* from a sorting plant



### Pyrolysis is not the optimum solution for all waste plastics

#### Without heteroatoms







Pyrolysis works well for polyolefines (e.g., NR, SBR, BR rubber, etc)

- Stream Broader waste-mix
- Polyethylene (PE)  $\begin{bmatrix} H & H \\ & -C \\ -$

Heteroatomic polymers require elaborate cleaning of pyrolysis oil as

catalyst poisoning (N, O, S)

corrosion (CI)

#### With heteroatoms

**Polyethylene terephthalate (PET)** 





**Polyvinyl chloride** 

**Polyurethane (PUR)** 

 $\frac{1}{4}R^{1}O-C-N-R^{2}-N-C-O$ 

## **Ccycled® products examples in core industries**

Since 2020, our customers successfully launched commercial products

#### **Food Packaging**



Südpack: Mozzarella and sausage packaging Vartdal / Ekornes: Fish box STEPAC: Fresh produce packaging

Imballagi Alimentari: Icecream boxes

#### Packaging



**BSH:** Protection packaging **Hirsch / Eutecma**: Pharma box

#### **Textiles**



Vaude: Outdoor gear Fulgar: Yarns Pompea: Underwear

#### **Transportation**



Mercedes-Benz: Door handle

#### **Engineering Plastics**



**Zell-Metall:** Engineering Plastic Stock Shapes

#### **Technical Film**





#### **Gasification enables further potentials**

#### Heterogeneous waste streams

- Complementary and scalable solution
- Potential enabler for recycled and biogenic feedstocks
- Products for different value chains:
  - syngas,
  - ▶ methanol,
  - methane,
  - Fischer-Tropsch crude/liquid hydrocarbons



#### The circular economy at BASF



#### **ChemoMechanical Upcycling of TPU – 1**



#### Polymer repair during mechanical recycling Maintain material properties and quality



\*500 g CO<sub>2</sub>e = equivalent for Infinergy midd sole, \*\*reduction by 50% due to recycling, slight increase due energy consumption for recycling, \*\*\*reachable due to green electricity, transformation at BASF

#### **ChemoMechanical Upcycling of TPU – 2**



#### ChemoMechanical Upcycling of TPU – 3



#### **Single-material products**

(e.g., sneaker) that can easily be recycled

One material (TPU) for all components and processes to create all functions.

Process to recycle the shoes ... maintain high level of material quality





We are expert in the **chemistry**, **technologies**, **laws and regulation** around the world

## **Partnerships** are part of BASF's efforts to develop chemical recycling as a business

**Sustainable loops** along the entire production chain and product lifetime

**Chemical recycling** allow transformation of contaminated plastic waste to raw material



## Let's Embrace the Path to Sustainability Together



## **Questions time**



# **We create chemistry**