

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **RECYCLING FLEXIBLE PACKAGING PLASTIC WASTE: LAUNCH OF THE REPLEN PROJECT**

**POLYMERIS is the leader of the REPLEN (REcycling of Plastics in Naphtha) project, financed by the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region as part of the "Solution Région Innovation" call for projects: Boosting the competitiveness of regional strategic sectors within the "Domains of Excellence" (DOMEX).**

#### **A Project for the circular economy**

This project consists of studying the feasibility of setting up an industrial scale chemical recycling tool via a pyrolysis system to recover post-industrial flexible plastic waste, generated by plastics processors and post-consumer flexible plastic waste from selective collection in the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region.

Such industrial tool aims to use the "**Plastic To Plastic**" process and will enable the production of pyrolysis oil, which after purification, will be re-injected into a steam cracker for the production of olefinic monomers and ultimately the production of polyolefins. The objective is to address the challenges of the circular economy for flexible polyolefin plastics, which are known as hard-to-recycle.

*"The obtained Naphtha will be reused for the production of plastics in a closed loop. The objective is to meet the challenges of the circular economy, one of the two main axes of the Polymeris roadmap," explains Patrick Vuillermoz, CEO of Polymeris.*

#### **A consortium is forming**

A pre-feasibility study conducted by [Axens Horizon](#) will enable the consortium to better define the key technical and environmental elements related to the chemical recycling of these plastics, and also to provide its financial aspects and assess the viability of this Project. The project started in September 2021 and the consortium of industrial groups is currently being set up. Companies interested in finding out more about this project and taking part in it are invited to contact us.

**Technical Contact: Sylvie CHARREL – [sylvie.charrel@polymeris.fr](mailto:sylvie.charrel@polymeris.fr) – +33 (0)6 30 50 20 15**

**Press Contact: Sophie DUEZ – [gestion@polymeris.fr](mailto:gestion@polymeris.fr) – +33 (0)4 74 12 19 23**

#### About POLYMERIS

POLYMERIS is the only competitiveness cluster dedicated to rubber, plastics and composites. POLYMERIS works at the service of all industrialists to bring out new R&D projects, to stimulate and promote innovation and focuses its roadmap on two major strategic axes: the circular economy and the industry of the future. A benchmark in terms of innovation for the plastics, rubbers and composites sectors, we work in France and internationally in favor of a dynamic and innovative industry, supporting the emergence and sustainability of better and more integrated ecosystems between public and private actors.

With a network of 380 members and an ecosystem of 65 partner organizations in research, training, laboratories and industrial technical centers (CTI), POLYMERIS ensures its freedom of action thanks to 55% private funding and a project-based funding approach. [www.polymeris.fr](http://www.polymeris.fr)