

Press release

Armacell® passes 2,000,000,000 mark in reuse of plastic bottles

- Armacell passes 2 billion milestone in record time
- Patented rPET processing technology is contributing to a circular economy in plastics
- ArmaPET® business growing fast through substitution of competing materials

Luxembourg / Thimister, 27 April 2022 – Armacell, a global leader in flexible foam for the equipment insulation market and a leading provider of engineered foams, has passed a significant recycling milestone: two billion plastic bottles have now been given a new life.

Worldwide, a million plastic drinking bottles are bought every minute. Most are probably thrown away or end up in landfill. Although awareness of the plastic waste issue has been growing in recent years, the circular economy in plastics is still a work in progress. One example of successful recycling is ArmaPET.

From 1 billion to 2 billion in only two years

Waste plastic bottles are recycled and given a new life using Armacell's unique recycled PET foam technology known as rPET. *"From the start of rPET series production to the one billion recycled bottles' milestone took nine years; for the second billion only two years,"* says Thomas Kessel, Managing Director, PET Foams, Armacell. *"In recent years, we have greatly expanded our production capacities and extended the geographical reach by opening additional ArmaPET production lines in Brampton, Canada in 2017 and in Suzhou, China in 2020. In 2021, two more production lines were commissioned at the Armacell PET headquarters in Thimister Belgium,"* Kessel adds.

Growing demand for ArmaPET product solutions

"The growing demand for recycled PET foam core products has been driven, on the one hand, by the replacement of competing materials such as PVC, PUR, balsa, honeycomb materials, etc., and on the other hand by the increasing use of recycled PET foam core products in the wind energy, transport, construction and other industries. Another factor fuelling this demand surge has been the desire for more sustainable sourcing in the material selection process. As a result, industrial designers, specifiers and composite manufacturers are increasingly replacing those traditional core materials with ArmaPET products, which are made from recycled plastic bottles and fully recyclable themselves," Henri Chapelle, Global Sales & Marketing Manager, PET Foams, Armacell, points out.

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About Armacell

As the inventors of flexible foam for equipment insulation and a leading provider of engineered foams, Armacell develops innovative and safe thermal, acoustic and mechanical solutions that create sustainable value for its customers. Armacell's products significantly contribute to global energy efficiency making a difference around the world every day. With more than 3,200 employees and 25 production plants in 17 countries, the company operates two main businesses, Advanced Insulation and Engineered Foams, and generated net sales of EUR 677 million and adjusted EBITDA of EUR 117 million in 2021. Armacell focuses on insulation materials for technical equipment, high-performance foams for high-tech and lightweight applications and next generation aerogel blanket technology.

For more information, please visit: www.armacell.com

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