COMMUNICATION ON PROGRESS





TITLE: Biodegradable fastenings for agriculture

GLOBAL COMPACT PRINCIPLES :

PRINCIPLE NINE

Businesses should encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.

MESSAGE FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Since more than 140 years, the A Raymond group is definitely axed on the long term sustainable development. Our aim is to be the best, and not the biggest in our field of expertise worldwide, achieving the motivation of our employees and the satisfaction of our customers, generating sense and added value through human and environmental respect and contribution.

Hence I would like to strongly reiterate my commitment to the 10 principles of the United Nations Global Compact programme.

Antoine RAYMOND CEO

ACTIONS

Our commitment is to contribute to the reduction of actual pollution in agriculture due to plastics obtained from non renewable resources by designing and developing new environmental friendly products made of renewable resources.

A new ARaymond division, called Raygreen, has been created, focused on producing new environmental friendly fastening parts, made of renewable and biodegradable resources : mainly but not only biodegradable plastic parts for intensive agricultural production inside greenhouses, which contribute to the reduction of conventional plastic use in agriculture and optimize as well the time invested in leading the plants and collecting them when they have ended their life cycle.

Raygreen Research and Development department is focused on designing biodegradable plastic fastening parts and works together with raw material producers in order to keep on developing new biodegradable raw materials, suitable for whatever the products requirements are.

Raygreen shares with all Raymond subsidiaries the results obtained developing this new biodegradable plastic products and materials in periodical meetings.

Raygreen also shows to final customers the advantages of using this kind of environmental friendly products and tries to raise their awareness of respect for the environment.



RESULTS

General outcome

- Reduction of non renewable plastic contamination, mainly in agricultural waste and wherever Raygreen biodegradable parts are used.
- No plastic traces are mixed in the final product obtained in the compost plant, so need to sort organic parts from those which are not when the plants are sent to the compost plant, and no need to grind the compost, which means energy, time and costs saving in the complete compost process cycle and revalue of the final product obtained (compost).
- About 50 % energy saving thanks to low energy required for compost plants normal function and the needlessness of separating plastic traces from organic compost
- 65% less energy is necessary to produce biodegradable raw material compared to the production of conventional plastic.
- Reduction of the CO2 rejected in the atmosphere and contribution to reduce the global warming, thanks to the lower level of energy consumed to elaborate the raw material and the savings obtained by not sorting the plastic traces in the final compost produced in the compost plant.
- More than 90% of raw materials used to produce Raygreen parts come from renewable resources and among them 90% are biodegradable.
- Reduction of fields' pollution due to the use of products made in biodegradable plastics and not made in conventional plastics that can last in the fields for above 1000 years.
- Environmental friendly and biodegradable material used to communicate with main Raygreen customers (brochures ...)

Internal outcome

- Diversification of a company mainly dedicated to the automotive market.
- Motivation of the employees in order they are working for the respect of the environment.

COUNTRY : SPAIN

KEY WORDS : Environmental Protection, biodegradable and compostable materials

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BIODEGRADABLE MATERIAL



APPLICATIONS



