

# Press release

Press Contact: Mrs. Sigrid Eder-Ince, Starlinger & Co Ges.m.b.H.  
Sonnenuhrgasse 4, 1060 Wien, Österreich  
T: +43 1 59955-1251  
F: +43 1 59955-180  
E: sales.ed@starlinger.com



**Starlinger**

Vienna, May 04, 2022

## **Starlinger recycling technology for Australia's largest PET recycling plant**

*The recently opened Circular Plastics Australia PET recycling facility in Albury-Wodonga, New South Wales, is equipped with a recoSTAR PET 215 HC iV+ PET bottle-to-bottle recycling line from Starlinger that produces 2.5 tons of rPET per hour.*

Circular Plastics Australia (PET) is a joint venture partnership between Pact Group, Cleanaway Waste Management Ltd, Asahi Beverages, and Coca-Cola Europacific Partners (CCEP) aiming to create a circular economy for PET beverage and food packaging. The newly installed recoSTAR PET 215 HC iV+ at the Albury-Wodonga facility turns post-consumer PET flakes into food-contact rPET pellets, starting with a two-stage heating and drying process of the hot-washed flakes for optimum preparation for the extrusion process. After extrusion, thorough filtering and underwater pelletising, the produced rPET pellets undergo vacuum treatment in the downstream SSP reactors for IV increase and highly effective decontamination that readies the pellets for food-contact applications.

### **Joining forces to close the loop**

Circular Plastics Australia (CPA) plans to recycle 30,000 tonnes of post-consumer PET collected via container deposit schemes and kerbside recycling each year and use the food-grade rPET pellets as raw material to produce new beverage bottles and other food and beverage packaging. Each member of the joint venture provides its knowledge and expertise in the project: Cleanaway supplies the plastic to be recycled through its collection and sorting network, Pact operates the facility and provides technical and packaging expertise, while Asahi Beverages, CCEP and Pact buy the recycled plastic from the facility to use in their packaging. The output of the Albury-Wodonga plant will help to increase the amount of locally sourced and recycled PET by two thirds from around 30,000 tonnes to over 50,000 tonnes p.a. and reduce Australia's reliance on virgin plastic and recycled plastic imports.

The CPA Albury-Wodonga facility was supported by an AUD 5 million grant through the New South Wales Government's "Waste Less, Recycle More" initiative, with the support of the Australian Government's Recycling Modernisation Fund.

"This joint venture is a major achievement and sets precedence", said Paul Niedl, Commercial Head of Starlinger recycling technology. "We feel proud that we can support Circular Plastics Australia with our know-how and technology in their commitment to sustainability and help to establish a closed-loop system for plastic packaging in Australia."

Pact's Managing Director and CEO, Sanjay Dayal, said: "The opening of this state-of-the-art facility in Albury-Wodonga is a game changer for Australia's plastic recycling industry. Working together with our partners, this facility creates a true circular economy by recycling and manufacturing PET beverage bottles and food packaging here in Australia without the need to import plastic material from overseas."



# Starlinger

CPA is building a second PET recycling facility in Altona North in Melbourne, Victoria, which will be equipped with a Starlinger recoSTAR PET 330 HC iV+ recycling line featuring the largest SSP reactor currently installed worldwide. It will have the capacity to recycle the equivalent of around one billion PET beverage bottles each year. Construction has been scheduled to begin in April 2022 and be completed in 2023.

[www.pactgroup.com](http://www.pactgroup.com)

[www.cleanaway.com.au](http://www.cleanaway.com.au)

[www.asahi.com.au](http://www.asahi.com.au)

[www.coccolaep.com/au](http://www.coccolaep.com/au)

---

Words: 512

Characters (including spaces): 3495

---

## Images and captions:

1 SSP reactors: Vacuum treatment in the viscoSTAR SSP reactors for IV increase and decontamination makes the recycled PET safe for food-contact packaging. ©CPA

2 rPET UWP: The rPET pellets will be used for producing new food and beverage packages – a perfect example of a functioning circular packaging system. ©Starlinger

---

## About Starlinger recycling technology

Starlinger recycling technology is a division of Austrian-based Starlinger & Co GmbH, world market leader in the field of machinery and complete lines for woven plastic packaging production. For more than 30 years Starlinger recycling technology has been providing machinery solutions for the recycling and refining of a wide scope of plastics such as PE, PP, PA, PS, BOPP and PET. Starlinger PET recycling systems produce food-safe rPET and are approved for use in food applications by many brand owners as well as various national and international authorities. The worldwide sales and service support network and technical consulting service help customers to achieve optimum results in the manufacturing process.



**Starlinger**

**Further information:**

Starlinger & Co Ges.m.b.H.  
Sonnenuhrgasse 4  
1060 Wien, Österreich  
T: +43 1 59955-0,  
F: +43 1 59955-180  
E-mail: [recycling@starlinger.com](mailto:recycling@starlinger.com)  
[www.recycling.starlinger.com](http://www.recycling.starlinger.com)