

A MATERIAL
OF CHOICE FOR
A SUSTAINABLE
SOCIETY

WHAT IS PVC

PVC is one of the most widely used plastics in the world with a wide range of applications. It is used in areas as diverse as construction, automotive, flooring, cabling, luxury goods and medical devices, to name just a few. Most PVC applications are long lasting – at times over 50 years – thus making good use of raw materials and preventing unnecessary resource depletion.

PVC is recyclable and is increasingly being recycled, thanks to the collection and recycling scheme set up in the framework of the European PVC industry's Voluntary Commitments.

PVC products make life safer, more comfortable, more enjoyable and more affordable. They contribute to sustainable living.

ABOUT ECVM

ECVM (The European Council of Vinyl Manufacturers) is the organisation representing six leading European PVC resin manufacturers, accounting for about 75% of PVC resins production in Europe. They operate around 40 different plants spread over 23 sites, and employ approximately 7,000 people.

ECVM
members



ECVM is a division of PlasticsEurope, the trade association representing polymer producers in Europe.

THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL OF VINYL MANUFACTURERS

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CREATING POSSIBILITIES FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVING

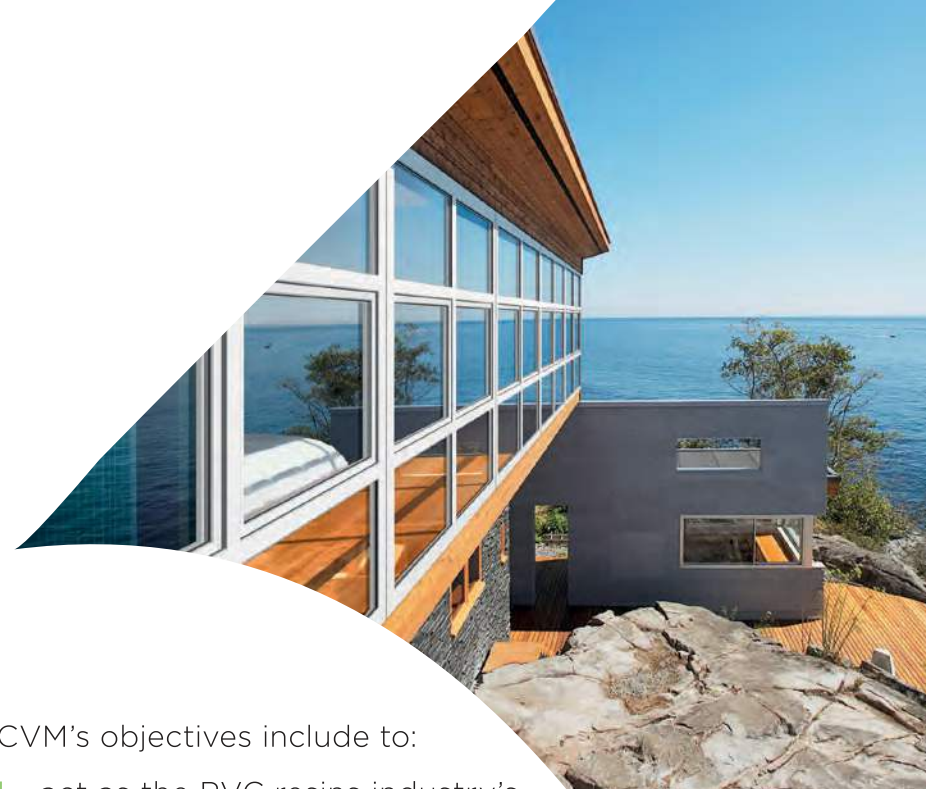




ECVM: SINCE 1988, THE VOICE OF THE EUROPEAN PVC RESIN MANUFACTURERS

Since its foundation, ECVM adopted a pioneering approach towards themes today related to sustainable development, operating with a holistic perspective in order to ensure mutual long-term benefits for the PVC resins production industry and its stakeholders.

Today, ECVM activities focus on PVC resins production and applications' use phases, whilst other important themes, such as PVC products' end of life and sustainability, are dealt with through the participation in VinylPlus, the European PVC industry's sustainable development programme.



ECVM's objectives include to:

- 1 act as the PVC resins industry's focal point for European authorities, institutions and external stakeholders
- 2 develop and promote health, safety and environmental best practices in the PVC resins manufacturing
- 3 monitor, evaluate and provide input to draft legislation relevant for PVC business at the EU and the national levels
- 4 enhance industry's reliability and trust with external stakeholders through advocacy and communications activities
- 5 promote PVC benefits in key application markets.



www.vinylplus.eu



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

ECVM members strongly believe that forward thinking, creativity and innovation are crucial to the industry's progress towards sustainability. As a founding member of VinylPlus, ECVM contributes in addressing sustainability challenges and moving the European PVC industry towards a circular economy.

The sensitivity towards environmental issues has always been an integral part of ECVM. Already in 1995, ECVM launched its Charters implementing voluntary standards to reduce environmental impact of manufacturing activities for the production of EDC (Ethylene Dichloride), VCM (Vinyl Chloride Monomer) and PVC resin.

ECVM represents the voice of the PVC resin manufacturers on any matter related to the PVC production phase. It also promotes research and provides technical advices on the use phase of PVC applications (e.g. Fire safety, Eco-labels, Food contact, etc.).

RESPONSIBILITY AND SOCIAL DIALOGUE

ECVM actively supports PVC resins producers in ensuring health and safety of workers and consumers. Since 1990, a specific medical committee advises the management of ECVM's member companies on medical and toxicological aspects related to the production of PVC.

THE COMMITTEE ALSO PROVIDES GUIDANCE ON:

- regulations for occupational exposure levels
- health surveillance of workers
- medical, technical and scientific studies and research.



The first Social Dialogue Charter of the PVC Industry was signed in 2000 with the European Mine, Chemical and Energy Workers Federation (EMCEF) with the objective of developing social dialogue, training, health, safety and environmental standards.

A new Cooperation Agreement between VinylPlus (also on behalf of ECVM) and the European Chemical Social Partners – industriAll European Trade Union and the European Chemical Employers' Group – was signed in February 2017. Widening the commitment taken in 2000, the new agreement strengthens and intensifies the cooperation with the social partners.



COOPERATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

Cooperation and partnerships are at the basis of the ECVM work. The PVC Network, composed of representatives of national PVC associations in the EU Member States, Norway and Switzerland, for example, is a cornerstone of ECVM's activity. It allows the implementation of the European-wide advocacy and communications policies at the national levels, and it ensures effective sharing of experience and best practices.

Furthermore, ECVM promotes and supports PVC industry initiatives in key application markets:

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| PVCMed Alliance,
aimed at raising awareness and promoting informed decisions about the use of PVC in healthcare | PVC4Pipes,
promoting the sustainable use of PVC in pipe systems in the global market | PVC4Cables,
engaging in promotion and communications on PVC cables' technical and functional benefits. |
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ADDRESSING GLOBAL CHALLENGES

Over the years, ECVM enhanced its commitment to sustainability in the framework of VinylPlus, taking into account global priorities such as climate change and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Through its membership in the Global Vinyl Council, ECVM is engaged in promoting and sharing innovative technologies and best practices; improving the sustainability of the vinyl industry worldwide; fostering cooperation between member companies, governments and organisations; and supporting implementation of the highest operational standards among all production facilities around the world.

