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, clothing, 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 resin production in Europe. They operate around 40 different plants spread over 23 sites and employ approximately 7,000 people.

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

ECVM members strongly believe that forward thinking, creativity and innovation are crucial to the industry’s global promotion of sustainable PVC. 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 Charter (Implementing voluntary sustainability initiatives) to reduce environmental impact of manufacturing activities for the production of PVC (Polyvinyl Chloride). ECVM (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 advice on the use phase of PVC applications (e.g. Fire safety, Eco-labels, Food contact, etc.).

ECVM’S OBJECTIVES INCLUDE:
1. Act as the PVC resin industry’s focal point for European authorities, institutions and external stakeholders, develop and promote health, safety and environment in PVC manufacturing, monitor, evaluate and provide input to draft regulations relevant for PVC business at the EU and the national levels.
2. Promote industry’s reliability and trust with external stakeholders through advocacy and communications activities.
3. Promote PVC benefits in key application markets.

RESPONSIBILITY AND SOCIAL DIALOGUE

ECVM actively supports PVC resin producers in ensuring health and safety of workers and consumers. Since 1993, a special working committee advises the management of ECVM’s member companies on medical and technological aspects related to the production of PVC.

THE COMMITTEE ALSO PROVIDES GUIDANCE ON:
- regulations for occupational exposure levels
- health surveillance of workers
- medical, laboratory and scientific studies and research.

The first Social Dialogue Charter of the PVC industry was signed in 2003 with the European Union (EU) and the European Social Security Committee (ESC) with the intention 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, during the committee’s last meeting in 2003 to ensure the implementation of 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 activity. It allows the implementation of the European-wide advocacy and communications policies at the national levels, and it ensures effective sharing of expertise and best practices.

Furthermore, ECVM manages and supports PVC industry initiatives in key application markets.

PVCMed Alliance
- promoting the use of sustainable-use guidelines in plastic systems in the non-packaging market.
- promoting the use of PVC in healthcare.

PVC4Cables, engaging in promotion and communications on PVC cables’ technical and functional benefits.

ADDRESSING GLOBAL CHALLENGES

Over the years, ECVM advanced its commitment to sustainability in the framework of VinylPlus, taking into account the changes in the EU Environmental and Sustainable Development Goals.

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

www.vinylplus.eu