



Plastics from Metallic Wastes: End of Life Vehicle (ELV), Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipments (WEEE)

Kick-Off Meeting Life PlasPlus

Meeting Venue: Comet Traitements – Obourg - Belgium

Date: 20th January 2020











Metallic Wastes



Bulk Steel Scraps





But also:

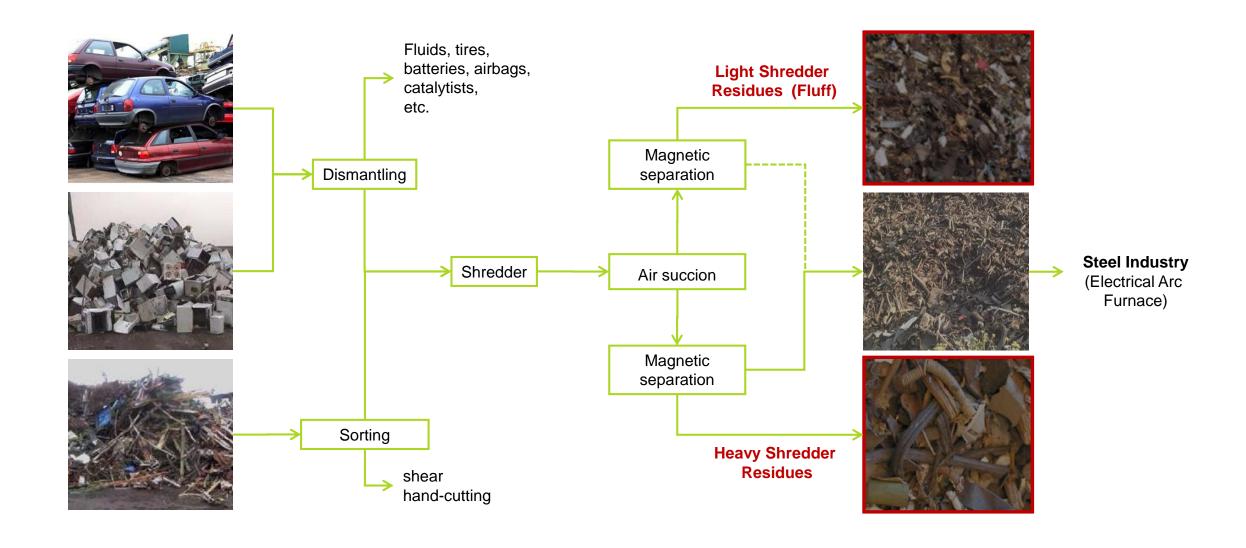




		ELV	WEEE (cat. 2)
Ferrous	%	68,5	38
Non ferrous	%	8,5	28
Plastics	%	16,5	19
Glass	%	2,5	4
Wood	%	-	1
Fluids	%	2,0	-
Other	%	2,0	10
EU objectives	%	95 (2015)	50 to 90

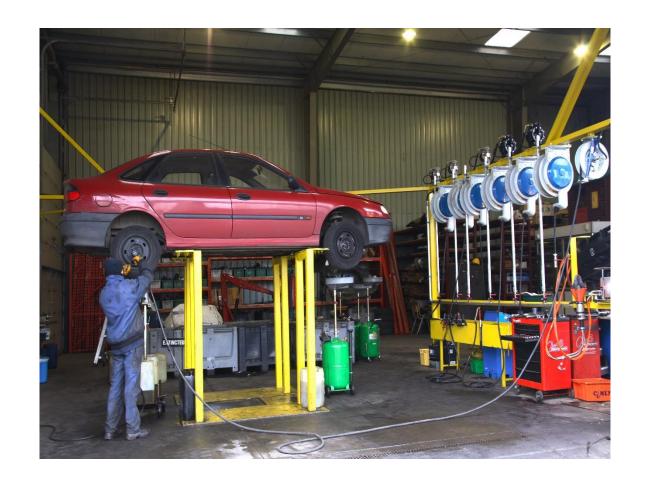
Metallic Wastes Recycling





Metallic Wastes Recycling: Collection / Depollution / Dismantling







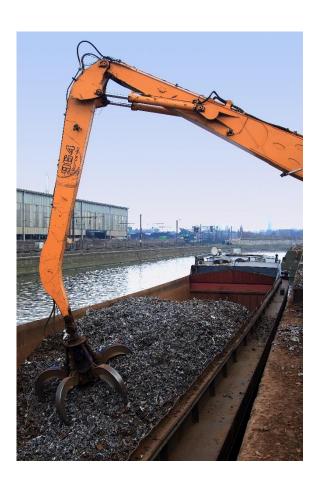
→ Social economy

Metallic Wastes Recycling: Shredding / Magnetic separation









 \rightarrow A mine of iron

Comet Group Highlights



- Family group mainly active in Belgium and France
- **Comet Sambre**: 2 shredding sites located in Charleroi (3.000 CV) and Mons (7.000 CV)

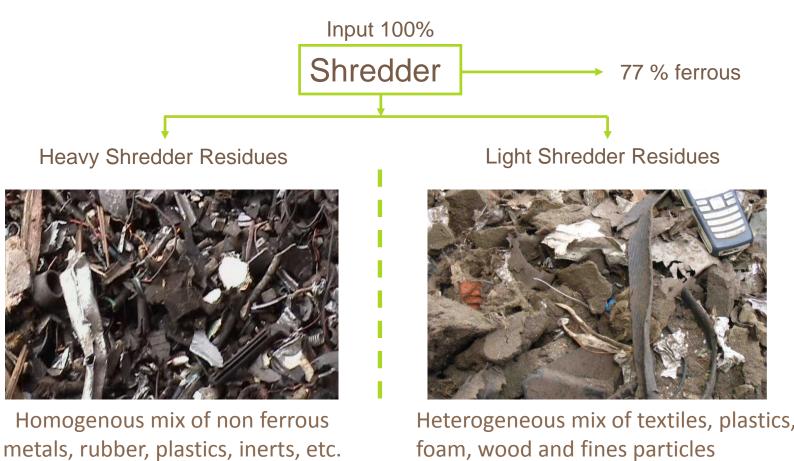
1.200.000 to/y of Metallic Wastes

- » Comet Traitements: Shredder Residue processing and recovery
 - SME created in 2002
 - 7 production units : Post Shredder Technology
 - Treatment capacity: 350 000 T/y
 - Châtelet (near Charleroi): 80.000 T/y of Light SR
 - Obourg (near Mons): 270.000 t/y of Heavy SR of which 85.000 T/y of plastics
 - Workers: 130
 - R&D team: 15 + 11 external researchers work on Comet projects

Metallic Wastes Recycling: the Shredder Residues



<u>Shredder residues</u>: a mine of secondary ores



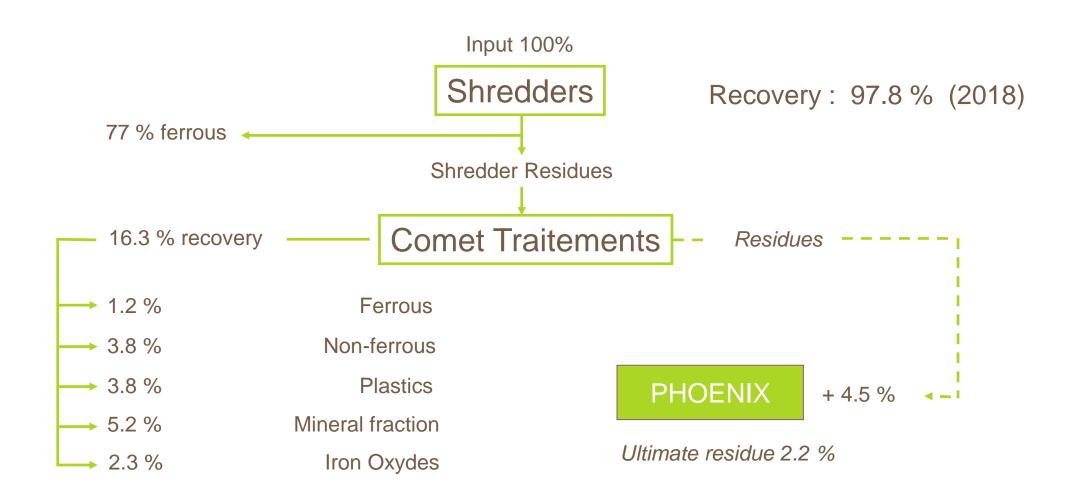
Heterogeneous mix of textiles, plastics, foam, wood and fines particles



Europe: 10 Mt per year of renewable ores

Metallic Wastes Recycling: Recovery rate





Only for EOL Vehicles: 94.8% (recycling) + 3.5% (energy) = 98.3% (Febelauto)

Post Shredder Technologies - Metals



Recovery of non-ferrous metals

» HSR 150,000 t/y (since 2009)



» LSR 80,000 t/y (since 2002)



from 200 mm...



...down to 50 μm

Post Shredder Technologies - Minerals



Recovery of the Mineral Fraction (ceramic, glass, concrete, stones,...)

Fines Post Shredder Technologies: input: 15,000 t/y (since 2010)

Production of a clean technical sand...







... recycled as **improved** building material in civil works

Post Shredder Technologies - Phoenix



Catalytic conversion of <u>ultimate organic shredder residues</u> into liquid fuels & carbon









Chemical Recycling

Pilot plant capacity: 250-500 kg/h of **Fluff** (since 2013)



Post Shredder Technologies - Plastics



Plastic PST plant: capacity 85,000 t/y of Mixes SR Plastic Stream - since 2012



From heterogeneous mixes...

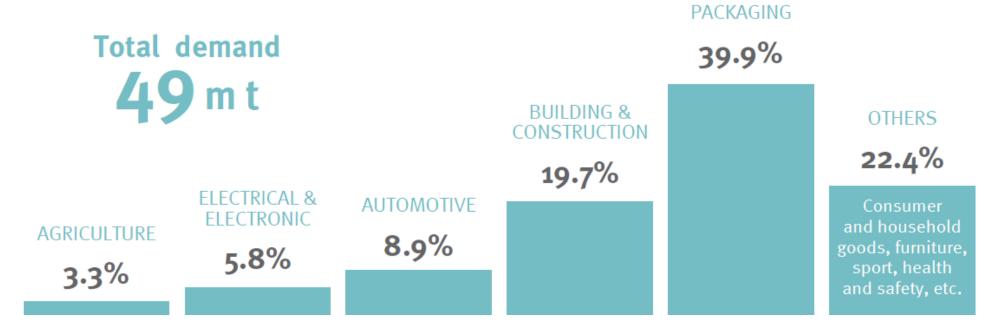
...to purified PP/PE/ABS/PS fractions

R&D goal: closing the loop with Circular Plastics

= => Ongoing R&D projects to use these plastics in its their own manufacturing process



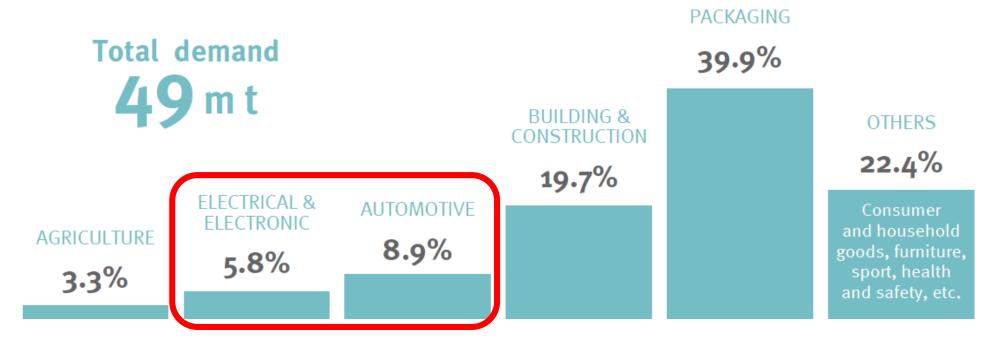
Context



Distribution of European (EU-28+NO/CH) plastics demand by segment in 2015 Source: Plastics Europe (2016). Plastics - the Facts 2016



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Potential of 7,2 Mt/year



Context



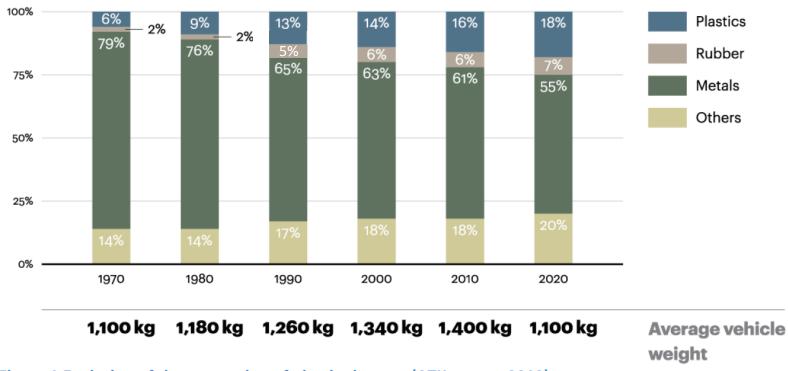
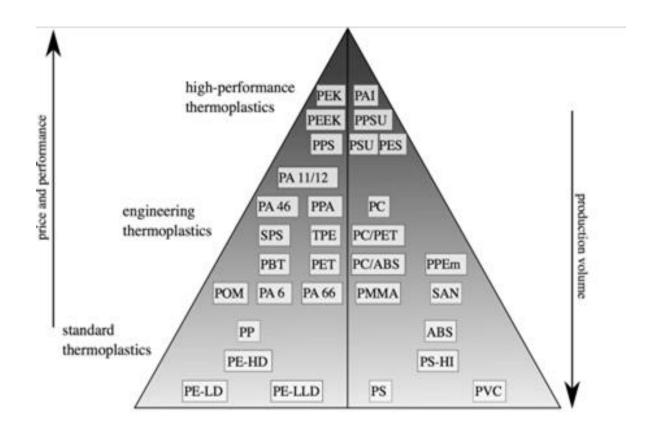


Figure 1 Evolution of the proportion of plastics in a car (ATKearney, 2012)

Increasing demand in the automotive sector



Context: typology



All types of plastics are present in the Shredder Residues

+ rubber, elastomers, silicones, wood, etc,



History of a plastic recycling development

2002 : Faisability Study (with ULiège) : identification of first target plastics

2004 : Laboratory Pilot Unit (500 kg/h)

2006: Demonstration Unit at industrial scale (3 t/h)

→ validation of the downstream market (2010 - RIT)

2012: starting of the industrial unit (20 t/h)

But, due to the <u>market instability in a circular economy context</u> and a <u>market strongly</u> <u>dictated by China</u>, R & D efforts had to be maintained continuously **to keep market parts**:

2014: Purification Unit 1

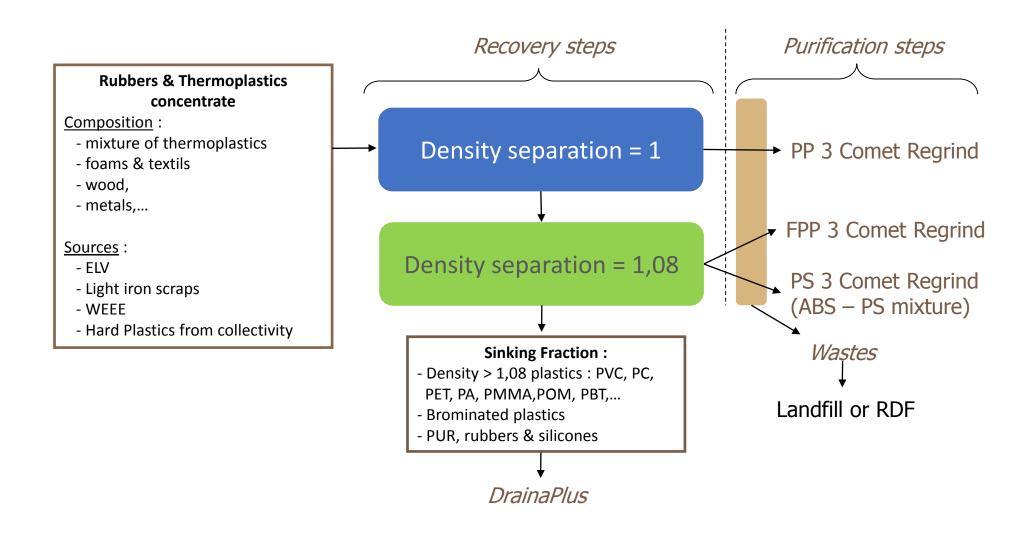
2016: Purification Unit 2

R&D investment: 2,3 M€

Industrial investment : 10,5 M€



General Flowsheet

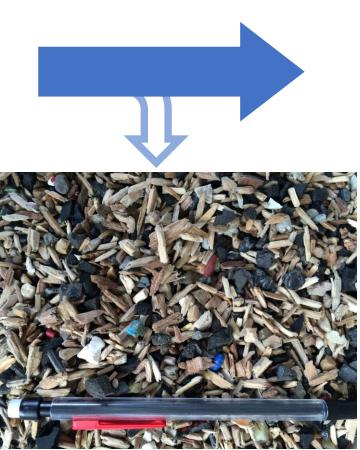


Plastics from Shredder Residues: primary process unit



<u>First challenge</u>: impurities extraction: wood & rubbers







Plastics from Shredder Residues: secondary process units



<u>Second challenge</u>: polymers separation

Current End Products

Unfilled Polyolefines: "PP 3 Comet regrind"



Mixes of ABS/PS/FPP regrinds





Near Future End Products

Upgraded plastics : High purity regrinds

Available in 2020 : starting of a new Industrial Demonstration « LIFE PlasPLUS » Unit

- Filled PP > 98 %
- PS > 95%
- ABS > 98 %



Ongoing R & D:

- PE(HD) > 95 %
- PP > 95 %

Plastics from Shredder Residues: secondary process units



<u>Second challenge</u>: polymers separation

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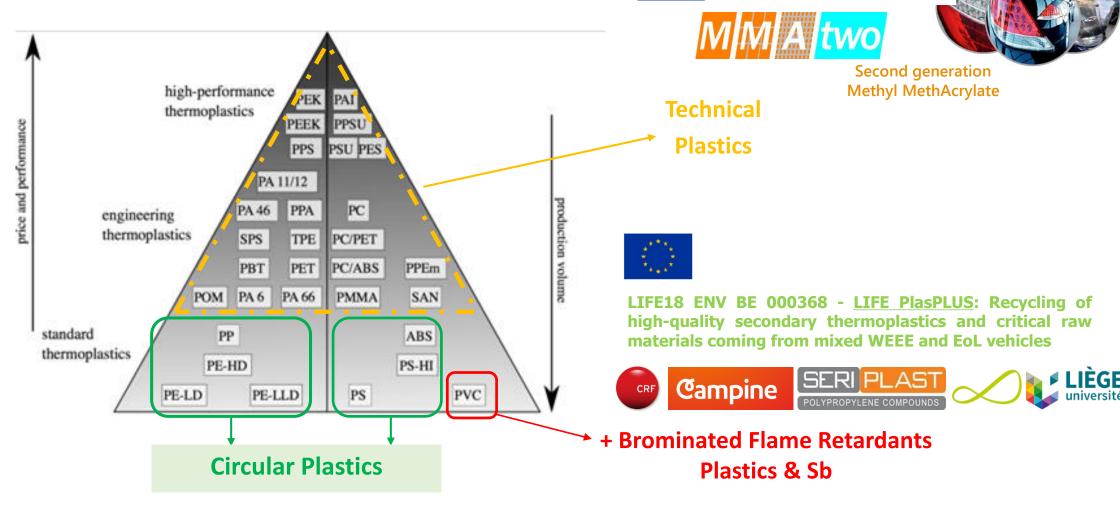
- PE(HD) > 95 %
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We guarantee:

- Qualities
- Volume
- Fixed Price



Current challenges



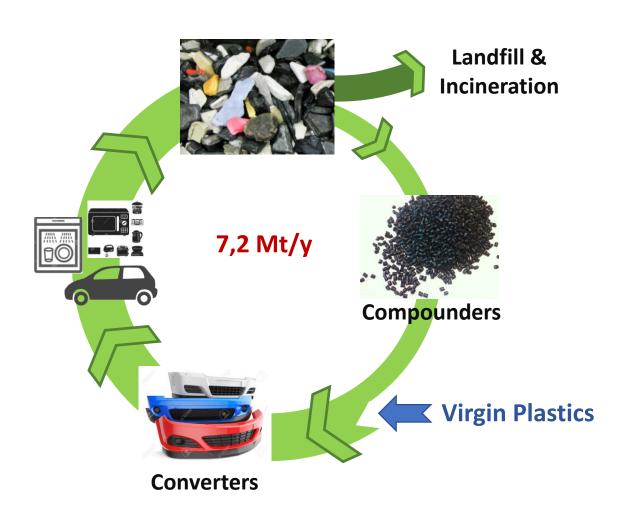
H2020

Grant Agreement N° 820687

Plastics from Shredder Residues: Dowstream applications



Plastics from Comet Traitements = Circular Plastics



Applications:

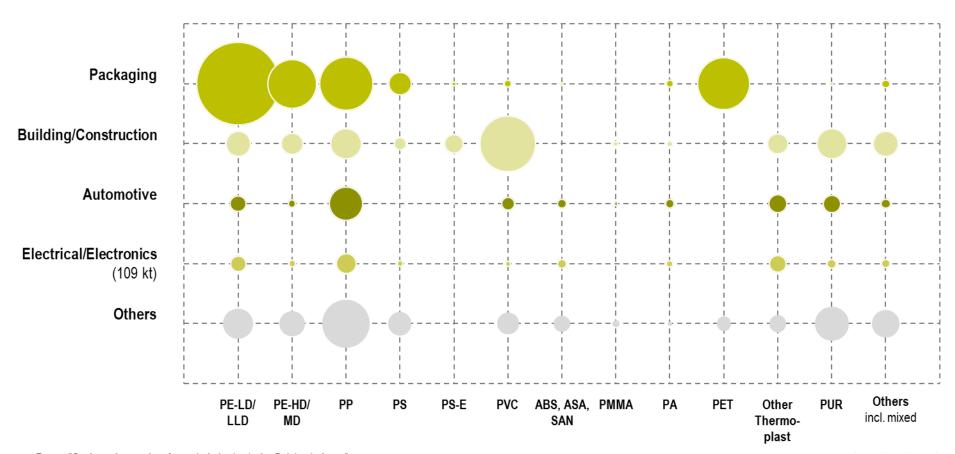
- Automotive
- Electrical Appliances
- Construction
- Logistics

"Recyclability and Multicircularity" proved

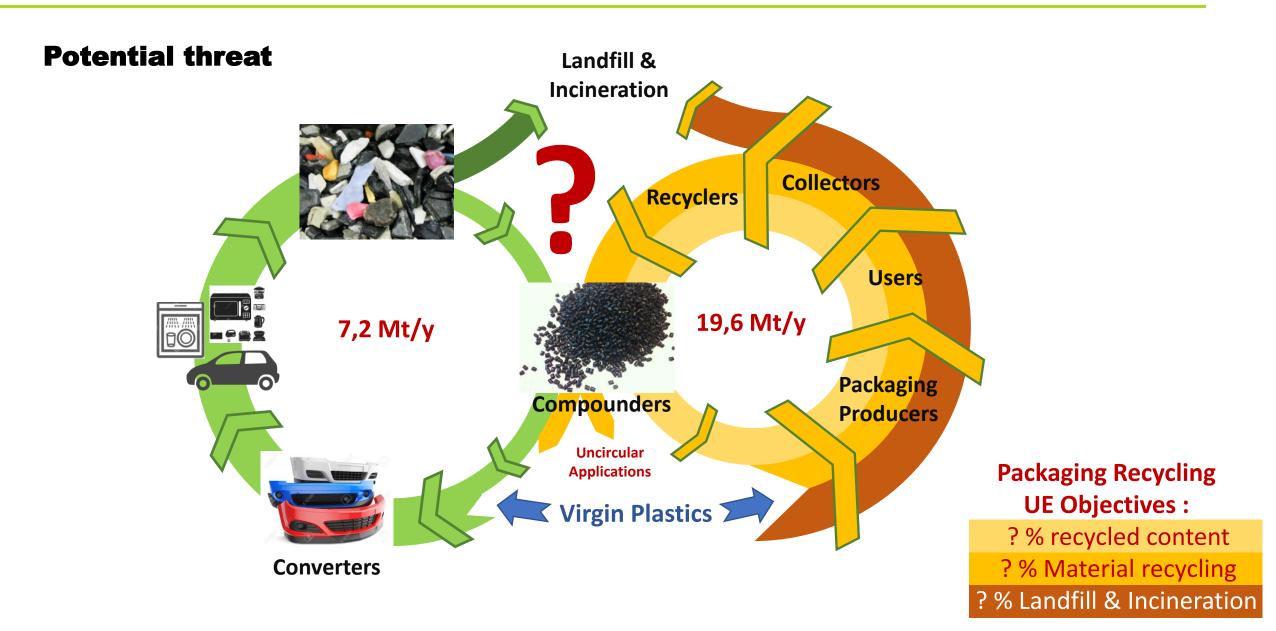


Potential threat

The Structure of converted polymer types by the relevant industries and the "Plastic Material Recycling" legislations









Thank you for your attention

