



Company	Industry	Contact
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Sterile Technologies Ireland

Company Activities

Sterile Technologies Ireland (STI), established in 1996 provides an integrated waste management service for healthcare risk waste generated on the island of Ireland. They are contracted by the Joint Waste Management Board to provide this service for a 10 year period. The service incorporates the collection, safe transportation, non burn treatment, disposal and recycling of medical risk waste. On the recycling front, STI propose to develop a range of products manufactured from the treated waste. When processed a significant portion of the waste gives rise to a high quality granulated plastic as a secondary, non hazardous, by-product (some 4,000 tonnes per year of waste plastic arises). STI has identified a wide range of suitable products for manufacture from this plastic waste which could be marketed on the basis of being made from recycled plastic. Suitable products include 'wheelie bins', park benches, patio decking etc. STI intended to use the the tradename 'The Plastic Timber Company' for their recycling activities.



Environmentally Superior Products Project

Under ESP, the company conducted a feasibility assessment for the proposed waste plastic recycled products. A major barrier for many manufacturers to market products under the 'recycled plastic' logo is the difficulty in securing a raw material (waste plastic) source of consistent quality, at the right price and on a continuous supply basis.

The competitive advantage for STI in using its own waste plastic is that in addition to being able to guarantee quality and supply the raw material is not only free but represents a disposal cost saving. The company is currently further quantifying the marketing advantages of combining the recycle logo with the optimum product

type(s) before proceeding to production.

Environmental and commercial benefits

Recycled products reduce the need to utilise and diminish natural resources, thus protecting the environment and providing a





practical solution to the current dilemma of plastics and their secondary usage. The other main environmental benefit of the proposed products is that they are manufactured from a waste which otherwise would be disposed of to landfill. Recycling of the waste to manufacture products provides a closed loop solution to an existing waste problem. The proposed products are durable with a longer lifetime than similar products made from traditional materials e.g. wood or metal. The products may also be recycled at their end of life. Commercially, the proposed products are cost effective and provide a durable, attractive alternative to traditional versions made from wood or metal.

