

Rubber Recycling

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Due to the crosslinking of the polymer chains elastomer products are difficult to recycle as they are not remeltable. Furthermore, many of them are composite materials containing fibres, metal cords or inserts.

In this contribution an overview of the rubber waste problem in Germany will be given together with the available recycling paths today discussing their advantages and drawbacks.

Current research projects concerned with rubber recycling will be presented along with some results out of them. Tire wear that is a big contributor to the microplastics in the environment will also be mentioned presenting some new approaches.