#UpSolv

Economically viable plastics recycling by dissolution

Globally, only 8% of plastic waste is recycled. UpSolv is a Montreal-based cleantech company that revolutionizes plastic recycling by implementing a circular economy. Thanks to its unique low temperature and low-pressure recycling process by dissolution (physical recycling), UpSolv's technology recycles and purifies plastic waste that is usually considered non-recyclable due to its high contamination. The result is a recycled raw material of high purity that can replace virgin plastics while reducing GHGs by up to 90%, according to our life-cycle analysis.

UpSolv offers a short recycling loop for PS, ABS, PP and PE -styrenic plastics as well as most thermoplastics - serving industries such as packaging, construction, electronics, automotive, pharmaceutical and toys. Now at the commercialization stage with an upcoming polystyrene recycling commercial plant in 2026, UpSolv's technology is protected by over 60 patents in 17 countries.

Growing concerns regarding contaminants in recycled plastics have recently been highlighted in a U.N. report, as plastic compounds contain many additives that are challenging to remove at the end of life. This is why there is an increased demand for purification processes in the plastic recycling value chain, which UpSolv addresses with its unique technology to remove contaminants such as flame retardants, colour pigments, carbon black, as well as oil or paint residues and mixed plastics.

UpSolv's patented dissolution and purification processes can also treat ABS, with tests undergoing with many clients at the pilot unit. The technology platform also applies to recycle PP and PE.

Environmental concerns and regulations related to plastics recycling are encouraging companies to invest in more sustainable alternatives. With many jurisdictions adopting zero plastic waste strategies, carbon emission reduction plans, Extended Producer Responsibility schemes, recycled content targets, and increased reputational pressure on brand owners, innovative solutions are needed more than ever. UpSolv offers both an environmentally and an economically viable solution for plastic waste.

We will also present our new brand image and company name – UpSolv – to reflect the extension of our technology platform to thermoplastics.

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Speaker's biography



Nicolas Cottenye, Ph.D is VP Research and Development. Nicolas holds a Ph.D in chemistry from a cosupervision agreement at the University of Basel in Switzerland and at the University of Haute Alsace in France. After being a Post-doctoral Fellow at the University of Montreal for 4 years, Nicolas joined the Bioastra Technologies Inc. team as a scientist and then as Director of R&D and partnerships. Nicolas is joining the UpSolv team in October 2022 as VP Research and Development. With his experience in innovation research and commercialization, he work on the continuous improvement of our PS recycling technology and develop new processes for recycling other styrenic plastics and thermoplastics.

