



**Media Release** 

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# Borealis acquires a minority stake in Renasci N.V. to jointly develop novel recycling solutions

- Borealis deepens partnership with innovative recycling solutions provider Renasci N.V., acquiring a 10% minority stake in the Belgium-based creator of the Smart Chain Processing (SCP) concept
- Deal supports Borealis integrated approach to achieve a true circular economy of plastics in the most eco-efficient way, as defined by its circular cascade model
- EverMinds<sup>™</sup> in action: Game-changing collaboration to accelerate plastics circularity

Borealis announces that it has entered into a multi-dimensional partnership with Renasci N.V., a provider of innovative recycling solutions and creator of the novel Smart Chain Processing (SCP) concept. The partnership is another key enabler for Borealis to realise its ambitions to bring circular base chemicals and polyolefins to market, and to deliver on its promise to bring 350 kilotons of recycled polyolefins into circulation by 2025.

# Unique SCP concept leaves no waste behind

The SCP concept developed by Renasci is a proprietary method of maximising material recovery in order to achieve zero waste. It is unique because it enables the processing of multiple waste streams using different recycling technologies – all under one roof. At the newly-built Renasci SCP facility in Oostende, Belgium, mixed waste – plastics, metals, and biomass – is automatically selected and sorted multiple times.

After sorting, plastic waste is first mechanically recycled, and then in a second step any remaining material is chemically recycled into circular pyrolysis oil and lighter product fractions, which are used to fuel the process.

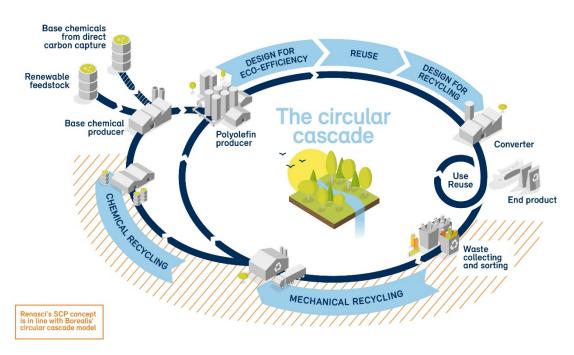
Other types of sorted waste such as metals and organic refuse are further processed using other technologies. In the end, only 5% of the original waste remains, and even this residual material is not

landfilled, but used as filler in construction materials. Because of this extremely efficient way of processing, the overall  $CO_2$  footprint of these waste streams is greatly reduced – yet another advantage of the circular SCP concept.

# The cascade model is Borealis' integrated circular approach

Borealis circular cascade model sits at the heart of its ambition to achieve a truly circular economy, by combining carefully chosen technologies in a complementary and cascading way to achieve full circularity. In this way, Borealis aims to give plastic products multiple lifetimes in the most sustainable way possible. Starting with optimising product design, first for **eco-efficiency**, then for **re-use** and finally for **recycling**. Once a product has reached its end of life, we must close the plastics loop: first with **mechanical recycling** to make products with the highest possible value, quality and lowest carbon footprint; then utilising **chemical recycling**, as a complement to mechanical recycling, to further valorise residual streams which would otherwise go to incineration, or even worse to landfills. The valorised material from mechanical and chemical recycling is then processed with Borealis **Borcycle<sup>TM</sup> recycling technology** consisting of Borcycle M for mechanical recycling and Borcycle C for chemical recycling, providing high quality solutions for more sophisticated applications, such as food packaging and healthcare.

The SCP concept is aligned to Borealis' ambition to close the loop on plastic waste as encapsulated in its circular cascade model.



Infographic – Borealis' circular cascade model © Borealis

"We, as Borealis, have committed to spearheading the transformation of our industry. Thanks to our partnership with Renasci, exciting times lie ahead with the many future growth opportunities we shall be exploring together - fast forwarding our sustainability and circular economy ambitions", says Borealis Chief Executive Thomas Gangl.

Having acquired a 10% minority stake in the company, Borealis will collaborate closely with Renasci to evolve and scale up the unique SCP technology. This includes the development of future facilities which



would source their feedstock entirely from household waste. The two companies also plan to identify and act on other promising investment opportunities in the circular economy sphere. In addition to the **recently announced** agreement to source the projected 20 kt circular pyrolysis oil annually, Borealis is also planning to purchase mechanically recycled material from Renasci's Oostende facility.

"In the true spirit of **EverMinds**, we are accelerating action to plastics circularity through collaboration," says Lucrèce Foufopoulos, Borealis Executive Vice President Polyolefins, Innovation & Technology and Circular Economy Solutions. "I'm delighted that in Renasci, we have found a creative partner who shares our ambition and approach of advancing the circular economy with the cascade model at its core. Life demands progress, and with this partnership, we continue re-inventing for more sustainable living."

"This partnership is a huge leap in the transition to a circular economy: the combination of Borealis' industry experience and know-how and our innovative SCP concept paves the way for uniquely efficient path to maximum material recovery and zero waste. Joining forces means we can further develop and implement the SCP concept and identify future areas of action to transition to true circularity", comments Kristof Beuren, Renasci CEO.

### **END**

Watch this video to learn more about Renasci and Smart Chain Processing.

High-res photos and a Flyer are available for download here.

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## About Borealis:

Borealis is one of the world's leading providers of advanced and circular polyolefin solutions and a European market leader in base chemicals, fertilizers and the mechanical recycling of plastics. We leverage our polymers expertise and decades of experience to offer value adding, innovative and circular material solutions for key industries. In re-inventing for more sustainable living, we build on our commitment to safety, our people and excellence as we accelerate the transformation to a circular economy and expand our geographical footprint.

With head offices in Vienna, Austria, Borealis employs 6,900 employees and operates in over 120 countries. In 2020, Borealis generated EUR 6.8 billion in sales revenue and a net profit of EUR 589 million. OMV, the Austria-based international oil and gas company, owns 75% of Borealis, while the remaining 25% is owned by a holding company of the Abu-Dhabi based Mubadala. We supply services and products to customers around the globe through Borealis and two important joint ventures: Borouge (with the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company, or ADNOC, based in UAE); and Baystar<sup>TM</sup> (with Total, based in the US).

### **About Borealis EverMinds**

Launched in 2018, EverMinds™ is an umbrella brand uniting the wide range of Borealis activities and initiatives aimed at making plastics more circular. As a dedicated platform, EverMinds promotes a circular mind-set among all Borealis stakeholders. The platform encompasses proprietary Borealis technologies as well as established brands such as Purpolen™ and Dipolen™. It facilitates deeper collaboration between Borealis and its partners in order to develop innovative and sustainable polyolefins solutions based on the circular model of recycling, re-use and design for circularity. EverMinds also extends to pioneering corporate programmes such as Project STOP, and engagement in industry initiatives like the Polyolefins Circular Economy Platform (PCEP), and Project CEFLEX.

### About Renasci:

Renasci introduces an innovative process that combines multiple compatible waste treatment technologies, allowing for maximum material and energy recovery. Renasci is a Flemish company active in the circular economy. The project offers a totally new approach to waste processing by converting the raw materials contained in household waste into usable end products, instead of sending them to landfill. In this way, Renasci contributes to a sustainable solution for the global waste problem.



# For further Information:

www.borealisgroup.com www.borealiseverminds.com www.renasci.be

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