



Media Release

Schaffhausen

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#TakingForward: circular economy roundtable initiated by GF Piping Systems concludes successful build-up phase

Together with more than ten partners, the Swiss flow solutions provider has set up a cross-industry cooperation focusing on circular economy a year ago. The aim of the initiative is to build a Switzerland-wide logistics network enabling repurposing, recycling or reuse of pipes that have reached the end of their service life.

To meet ambitious sustainability goals and to comply with emerging regulations, many industries are bringing their attention towards concepts such as a circular economy. When products have completed their service life, this approach attempts to prolong the product life cycle as much as possible by repurposing, recycling or reuse of old materials.

With sustainability deeply anchored in its strategy 2025, GF Piping Systems specializes in plastic flow solutions which already have a longer service life than materials such as metal. This longevity is attributed to their higher corrosion resistance and lower maintenance requirements. In pursuit of extending the benefits beyond product end-of-life scenarios, GF Piping Systems has launched various innovation projects in recent years.

Recognizing that circular economy requires concerted action by multiple stakeholders, GF Piping Systems initiated *#TakingForward* in November 2022. The roundtable brings together over ten organizations spanning the plastic value chain in Switzerland, including pipe producers, wholesalers, construction, renovation, and demolition companies, logistics providers, as well as recycling businesses. The primary goal of the initiative is to establish a robust logistics network that facilitates the retrieval and reuse of valuable plastic piping waste.

After a dedicated year of focused efforts, the project is poised to achieve a significant milestone. As of December 2023, GF Piping Systems will hand over leadership to the Association of Swiss Plastic Recyclers (VSPR, Verein Schweizer Plastic Recycler), which mandated Michael Gasser, a leading expert on circular economy, to become managing director. Gasser's mandate is to steer the overall initiative and oversee thematic pilot projects aimed at addressing key technical and organizational challenges associated with the development of a future-proof logistics network.

Joost Geginat, President of GF Piping Systems, comments on the project: „We are extremely proud to have been the driving force behind *#TakingForward* for the past year. I am confident that VSPR and Michael Gasser will do an excellent job in taking over and leading the efforts to turn the ambitious vision of the founding members into reality. By building an efficient plastic piping waste collection system in Switzerland, we will lead by example and together make an important contribution towards a circular economy.”

[Find out more about GF Piping Systems' sustainability initiatives here.](#)

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GF Piping Systems

As the leading flow solutions provider for the safe and sustainable transport of fluids, GF Piping Systems creates connections for life. The division focuses on industry-leading leak-free piping solutions for numerous demanding end-market segments. Its strong focus on customer-centricity and innovation is reflected by its global sales, service, and manufacturing footprint and its award-winning portfolio, including fittings, valves, pipes, automation, fabrication, and jointing technologies.

GF Piping Systems has its own sales companies in 31 countries, which means it is always by its customers' side. Production sites in 36 locations in America, Europe, and Asia ensure sufficient availability and quick, reliable delivery. In 2022, GF Piping Systems generated sales of CHF 2'160 million and employed 8'085 people. GF Piping Systems is a division of Georg Fischer AG, founded in 1802 and headquartered in Schaffhausen, Switzerland.

www.gfps.com

Picture

F.l.t.r.

Heinz Gfeller, Verein Schweizer Plastic Recycler; Remy Stoll, KATZ; Andreas Brunner, former employee GF Piping Systems; Markus Tonner, InnoRecycling AG; Rolf Ochsenbein, Meier Tobler AG; Elisabeth Dorigatti, Burkhalter Group; Christina Gander, Burkhalter Group; Sayuri Berini, Meier Tobler AG; Marcel Beer, MCAM Symalit AG; Kurt Röschli, Verein Schweizer Plastic Recycler; Werner Nef, HakaGerodur AG

Source:

GF Piping Systems