ISCC PLUS certification

One of the latest developments in the field of sustainable production is the use of sustainable materials. There are many sectors in which the word sustainable is frequently used without this being demonstrable. Naber Plastics BV has taken this step by obtaining the ISCC PLUS certification. ISCC, which stands for International **S**ustainability and **C**arbon **C**ertification, is an advanced program and the first globally recognized certification plan for biomass and bioenergy.

The system rests on 4 pillars:

- reduction of greenhouse gas emissions
- protection of land with high biodiversity
- deforestation-free supply chains
- environmentally friendly production to protect soil, water and air.

In the case of plastic, this only concerns material whose raw material comes from sustainable sources. This includes raw material obtained from mechanical and chemical recycling of plastic waste, but also from oil from other sources such as wood waste or used frying oil.

Throughout the market, these volumes are still too small to run a full production plant. Granulate producers are therefore forced to mix these volumes with the fossil flows. This method makes it impossible to produce granules that are completely sustainable. By keeping track of the share of "sustainable" in the chain, you can determine, according to the Mass Balance principle, how much material is sustainable. Plastics processing companies such as Naber Plastics, which are ISCC plus certified, are allowed to purchase this material, make products with it and then also claim that the end product is made of sustainable material. The condition is that you can never make more sustainable (or partially sustainable) products than you have purchased sustainable materials. The import and export of sustainable materials must therefore be balanced throughout the chain.

This is shown schematically below (figure 1):





Figure 1: The mass balance approach through the supply chain. Source: ISCC

ISCC ensures that this process from monomer to end product runs correctly. Each system user is audited separately and very strict conditions are attached to the certification. Green must really be green and incorrect claims or inexplicable differences between imports and exports must be avoided. Naber Plastics BV has demonstrated that it meets these conditions and will make every effort to make this great circular development a success.

In addition to the large-scale use of recycled materials, weight-saving packaging concepts and energy-efficient production, this is a new step that fits in with the aim to produce plastic packaging that is the most functional and environmentally friendly alternative for many applications.

