

Fibre Recycling in the paper mill

Since the early 1990s, beverage cartons have been collected and recycled in paper factories in Germany - more than three million tonnes to date! Many other countries in the European Union also achieve high recycling rates. There are now around 20 paper mills throughout Europe that use beverage cartons and recycle them using standard processes. Beverage car-

tons are listed as an own waste fraction in the German and European lists of used paper types. The pulp fibres are significantly longer and more durable than most other used papers. They are therefore particularly suitable for the production of stable corrugated board packaging.

E-Alu mixture becomes new raw materials

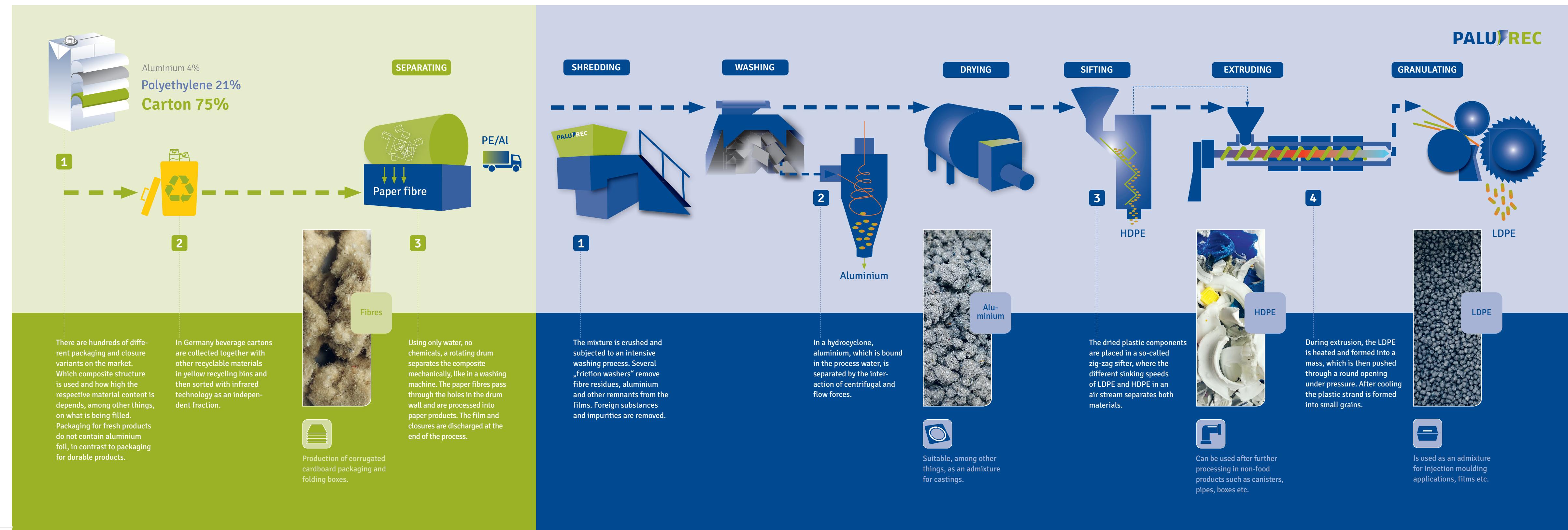
er the paper fibres have been detached, six of various plastics and aluminium dues are left over in the paper mills. ese materials have so far been used mainly ement factories as a low-emission fuel. onsists mainly of thin films made of yethylene (PE) or PE-Aluminium, with which cardboard is coated, and polyethylene

which comes from the caps. In addition, e foreign substances and impurities that fully removed by the automatic sorting yellow sacks and bins. Palurec produces ery raw materials from this mixture that used in several products.

The Palurec procedure

ow primary plastic prices are a particular challenge for the manufacturers of plastic cyclates. Apart from technical problems, this was one of the reasons why various plants for the processing of this material mixture were not previously able to prevail themselves in the long term. The Palurec plant combines already established aggregates from plastics

essing into a new type of plant concept. A mechanical/physical process. The separation medium is water only, no solvents are used. Rec is the first plant of its kind in Germany to produce marketable recyclates.





Palurec GmbH

Palurec GmbH was founded in December 2017. Fachverband Kartonverpackungen für flüssige Nahrungsmittel e.V. (FKN – Association for Beverage Cartons) is the sole shareholder, with its headquarters in Berlin.

There are three companies in the association, Tetra Pak GmbH (Hochheim am Main), SIG Combibloc GmbH (Linnich) and Elopak GmbH (Mannheim) which have invested around 8 million euros in the construction of the Palurec recycling plant on the site of the chemical park in Hürth near Cologne. The first stage of production will provide capacity of around 18,000 tonnes input. The plant began to operate in Spring 2021.

The member companies of FKN produce around 95% of all beverage cartons sold in Germany and have been instrumental in setting up and expanding the recycling infrastructure for used beverage cartons since the start of the Dual System. ReCarton GmbH was set up for this purpose as early as 1991; as a service provider to dual system companies. This company organises the marketing and distribution of used beverage cartons from household collections.

PALU REC

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PE-Alu-Recycling
of used beverage cartons

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