

POLICIES



SINGLE-USE PLASTIC

INTRODUCTION

Commercial, headquartered in Cheltenham UK, is a leader in the procurement and distribution of office products, interiors, pre-printed material and computer consumables and the design, development, installation and maintenance of office technology and software solutions. Commercial recognises that many of the products supplied, and the packaging used, comprise oil-based plastics. Whilst these materials can normally be recycled, less than 10% of all plastics in the world are recycled.

Single-use plastics have become one of the largest causes of environmental pollution to date. The accumulation of plastics is having a devastating effect on our oceans' biodiversity and overall sustainability.

Furthermore, micro-scale plastics are accumulating within marine life directly impacting our food chain.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Commercial does recognise that plastics present a range of technical benefits. Nevertheless, a commitment has been made to minimise the use and distribution of single-use plastics by 2020.

Commercial has adopted the following definition of single-use plastics:

“a plastic material with a usage period of less than seven days before being discarded as waste”.

Plastic materials include those that can be perceived as a plastic (i.e. biodegradable over time), as well as recyclable plastics. Biodegradable and recyclable products will not be considered a solution, only a temporary resolution.

Commercial will adhere to this policy by identifying priority areas where single-use plastics are prevalent within its supply chains and implementing a reduction plan. Commercial will also encourage stakeholders and consumers to identify and reduce single-use plastic through active engagement about environmentally responsible products.

In the course of its operations, the company will:

- identify and quantify single-use plastics in supply chains
- work with partners inside and outside its sectors to reduce use of single-use plastics
- continue to work towards establishing a circular economy through product design, resource use and the establishment of collection and reuse programmes
- provide information to customers so that they can purchase environmentally responsible products

and influence key customers to improve their environmental performance through plastic reduction

- measure and minimise relevant and significant environmental pollution
- provide quarterly reports on single-use plastic
- communicate this policy to all employees, customers, and other stakeholders

This policy will be reviewed annually.

Signed 

Date 14 May 2018