

The Abstract of the presentation

Title:

The Bio-based Plastics Business in Japan and the JBPA Bio-based Plastics Products Labelling System

The business situation of bioplastics in Japan is moving rapidly now. Many Japanese company, similar to other area of the world, started their business development work of Bioplastics from PLA in early 2000th. In various business sectors many companies have made efforts to utilize PLA in their products line and succeeded in launching their products in the market. But the cost and the performance of the products couldn't exceed the products from conventional petrochemicals products yet. The demand of the bioplastics is still remained less than 1% of the total plastics consumption in Japan.

From 2010th another movement started caused by the the production of the conventional petrochemical plastics like polyethylene and PET from bioethanol, so called "the drop in solution type". People accept the forecast that Bio-PET rapidly increase the production capacity in near future.

At present it is not clear which will be the main movement yet but both way will contribute to develop the business of bioplastics in total.

JBPA started the certification system of bio-based plastic product, "BiomassPla Certification and Labeling System" with the new logo from July 2006 and now about 300 products were already registered from wide range of products segment.

Recently the variety of registered bio-based plastics is increasing including both thermoplastic and thermosetting resins.

In my presentation I will explain the recent business situation of bio-based plastics in Japan and the forecast in future.