

“World Oceans Day”: from the GRT Group the Plastic-to-fuel solution to reduce pollution and give value to non-recyclable plastic

Milan, June 7, 2018 – According to the **European Commission**, every year in Europe 25 million tons of plastic waste is generated, but less than 30% is collected for recycling. In Italy, in particular, according to the latest findings of Legambiente, plastics represent 84% of waste on beaches, with obvious damages in terms of pollution, given that in 2017 was calculated 670 wastes per 100 meters of waterline. There is no doubt that significant efforts have been made in the past few years to reduce the environmental impact of plastics, and the “**World Oceans Day**” that is celebrated tomorrow certainly has the merit of raising awareness of these issues among the world population. However, much remains to be done in a context in which, according to the UN, as many as 8 million tons of plastic waste are released into the oceans every year. In addition, if only a part of the plastic can be reused, how can the non-recyclable plastic be exploited, reducing its environmental impact and its presence in the seas, oceans and more generally in the environment?

A solution comes from **GRT Group** - a company operating in the circular economy sector – which aims to produce **fuels from non-recyclable plastic and renewable energies** through a process of thermal conversion in the absence of oxygen (**no combustion, no incineration**). As a result, the environment is less subject to pollution and the territory is better preserved. In addition, the **fuel produced is clean** and compatible with existing engines and industries; moreover, it brings considerable advantages, such as the **drastic reduction in the dispersion of plastics** into the environment and landfill, the **promotion of reuse** thanks to the value that is given to a material otherwise unusable, the significant reduction (**-70%**) of **CO₂ emissions** compared to fossil fuels and to the incineration of **non-recyclable plastics**, the **local production**, therefore without the need for extraction, refining and transport.

*“We must continue to invest in research and development to face environmental challenges in a concrete and effective manner – says **Luca Dal Fabbro, CEO of the GRT Group and vice-president of the Circular Economy Network** – the reuse of non-recyclable plastic and its transformation in ecofuel definitely helps the environment, but the road for a sustainable future is still long and the real challenge remains the one of orientating the industry towards the circularity paradigm, a model not only sustainable, but also profitable for business”.*

Contacts Press Office - MY PR

- Davide Bruzzese, 02.54123452 – davide.bruzzese@mypr.it
- Paola Gianderico, 02.54123452 – paola.gianderico@mypr.it

Contacts GRT Group

- Martina Pascucci, +41 (0)21 318 75 15– martina.pascucci@grtgroup.swiss

About GRT Group

GRT Group (<http://grtgroup.swiss>) was founded in 1971 as an R&D group focusing on industrial development of innovative processes developed in research laboratories in the EPFL. Over time it reinforced its engineering capabilities and financial position in order to provide innovative industrial solutions in the circular economy environment. The company is now expanding its projects and activities over Europe, being already present in Italy and in the UK, as well as in Switzerland.

Today the company is committed to addressing three critical environmental issues by providing technological solutions for present and future:

1. reducing CO2 emissions;
2. reducing plastic pollution;
3. enabling energy transition;

The company is active in recycling waste plastics into valuable fuels and support the energy transition with energy storage development solutions.