ABOUT PVC CABLES

PVC4Cables is the ECVM’s platform dedicated to the PVC cables value chain. It brings together the producers of PVC resins, stabilisers and plasticisers, and PVC compounders.

PVC4Cables intends to act as a driver for environmentally responsible innovations in the PVC cables sector and as a focal point for dialogue and communications with all stakeholders: compounds and cable producers, regulators, specifiers, installers, electricians, media and the general public.

Objective of the initiative is to proactively engage in the promotion of PVC cables, highlighting their contribution to sustainable development and to the circular economy, as well as their numerous technical and functional benefits for final users and consumers.

VERSATILITY OF FORMULATIONS
excellent flexibility, transparency, lightness; easy to colour

PROCESSABILITY
easy to extrude, excellent productivity

CO-EXTRUSION
PVC can be co-extruded in multi-layer cables with excellent cost/performance ratio

RESISTANCE TO TEMPERATURE
very wide range, from -40°C to 125°C

RESISTANCE TO ATMOSPHERIC AGENTS
including UV rays

RESISTANCE TO HYDROCARBONS
for example, oil and gasoline

INSULATION
PVC presents an inherently high value of the insulation coefficient

SELF-EXTINGUISHING
PVC is by nature a flame retardant and does not generate flaming droplets

FIRE RESISTANCE
PVC is difficult to ignite, has a moderate heat release and produces very little smoke

RECYCLABILITY OR REUSE
most of the PVC cables are recycled

10 REASONS TO CHOOSE PVC CABLES

1 VERSATILITY OF FORMULATIONS
2 PROCESSABILITY
3 CO-EXTRUSION
4 RESISTANCE TO TEMPERATURE
5 RESISTANCE TO ATMOSPHERIC AGENTS
6 RESISTANCE TO HYDROCARBONS
7 INSULATION
8 SELF-EXTINGUISHING
9 FIRE RESISTANCE
10 RECYCLABILITY OR REUSE
In a circular economy, the value of the products, materials and resources is key to achieving sustainable production, and innovation is at the centre of the entire value chain.

As outlined by the European Commission, the circular economy can be achieved in various ways, for example:

- Reducing the use of substances or processes which create barriers for recycling (substitution).
- Reducing the consumption of energy and materials during production and use (efficiency).
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With the VinylPlus® sustainability programme (www.vinylplus.eu), the European PVC industry is well-positioned to steadily move towards a true model of sustainable production. PVC recycling from cables is used for the production of new products, and the single sheathing of telephone cables is subject to the above directives, such as electric cables. PVC cables recycling might follow two different streams:

- cables subject to one of the European directives for the recycling of electrical cables (e.g., batteries and cables not subject to the above directives, such as electric cables for power transmission and data transmission cables, or the single sheathing of telephone cables), to be used in suitable applications for the production of new products.
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The circular economy encompasses the concept of ‘doing more with less’, in other words, create more value with less environmental impact and higher economic efficiency. PVC cables are recyclable and successfully recycled. PVC is intrinsically a ‘low carbon’ plastic derived from common salt, 5% is hydrogen (57% of its molecular weight is chlorine), and the combination of primary energy in the manufacturing phase is low. Following the VinylPlus® initiative, the European PVC industry seeks to further reduce progressively GHG (greenhouse gas) emissions along the entire production chain. This includes identifying and measuring the G44 footprint of all components and production processes, and working towards a significant increase of renewable energy and reduction of the energy intensity to enhance the efficiency of materials used.

PVC is used for the production of any type of electric and data transmission cables and as insulation and/or sheathing in various fields: classic electric cables for power transmission at low and medium voltage for homes and offices; telephone cables; coaxial cable TV/computer/hi-fi; cables for cars; battery cables and robotics; LAN and IT; data transmission cables, LAN and IT. PVC cables are compliant with the CE mark. PVC recycled from cables is used for a wide range of applications such as:

- garden and air hoses, geo-membranes, foil (covering, flooring, waterproofing membranes, pool and pond foil), mats, speed bump and other road safety products, shoe soles and boots.

DOING MORE WITH LESS

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Studies and tests show that, due to its intrinsically self-extinguishing characteristics, PVC would produce very little smoke in a real fire situation. It is difficult to ignite and does not sustain combustion, and the smoke in a real fire situation, it is difficult to ignite and does not sustain combustion.

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