

Five times more flakes from recycled PET bottles

Herbold Meckesheim GmbH obtained a new major order in December: it will supply a large-scale plant for plastic recycling to Fantastic Plastic. Fantastic Plastic is considered to be the producer of the highest quality PET flakes in Russia. The first production line of the recyclate manufacturer was also supplied by the Meckesheim-based special machinery manufacturer Herbold.

In 2019, Fantastic Plastic's plant in Nizhny Novgorod, Russia, went into operation. Since then, together with Herbold Meckesheim and the downstream manufacturers, elaborate trials have been conducted to refine the process. The goal that has now been achieved is that the quality of the granules meets the strict regulations for food packaging and can be used bottle-to-bottle.

The fact that Herbold maintains a technical center at its headquarters in Meckesheim, which can be used for trials of all kinds, was of great benefit here.

Thanks to closely coordinated planning – the project is now starting in January – periods of downtime in main production are largely avoided during the installation of the machines. Fantastic Plastic aims to use the new recycling line to boost its granulate output to 35,000 metric tons per year, a fivefold increase. The Russian company has invested a good 10 million dollars in this project. It is expected to create around 180 new jobs at the site.

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Herbold Meckesheim is the leading recycling specialist for the plastics industry. Worldwide, the plants ensure that plastic waste is reduced through recycling. Both the pure waste from the plastics processing industry and used, mixed and contaminated plastics are processed. Machines from Herbold Meckesheim are also used in the fine grinding of plastic granulates and waste or in the waste processing, raw material recovery and material preparation of various industrial processes. Another special feature is the development of the machines in the company's own pilot plant. Herbold Meckesheim is today managed in the fourth generation by Karlheinz and Werner Herbold. More than 200 employees at the headquarters and the staff of the international agencies accompany machines that are custom-made to fit the requirements from the conception stage through commissioning to the end of their commercial use.