

Chemical Week



What's ahead

Assessing industry's post-pandemic prospects

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Transforming the future

Braskem is committed to a carbon neutral circular economy for our planet's sustainability



The plastic developed by Braskem from sugar cane captures carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

Braskem, the largest polyolefins producer in the Americas and the world's leading biopolymer producer, has set ambitious sustainability goals for the next three decades focused on a carbon neutral circular economy. These goals include the following key commitments:

- By 2030, produce 1 million tons of recycled products per year
- By 2030, divert 1.5 million metric tons of plastic waste away from incineration, landfill or the environment
- By 2050, achieve carbon neutrality for Braskem's global operations

These publicly signed commitments were structured based on the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement, which urgently seeks solutions for taking action in the face of climate change and to meet the demands of a society that is increasingly focused on improving sustainability.

Since its inception in Brazil in 2002, Braskem has demonstrated its dedication to sustainability through research and investment in the use of renewable resources.

Braskem's efforts to operate with the least possible environmental impact and help clients to offer more environmentally-friendly

products to the market led to the creation of I'm green™ bio-based polyethylene in 2010. I'm green™ is the planet's first sugarcane based bioplastic to be produced on an industrial scale. Braskem's I'm green™ bio-based polyethylene is present in more than 200 brands around the world.

“We have a long history of working towards creating a more sustainable world, and we are at the forefront of positive changes for supporting people, society, and the environment”
—Braskem CEO Roberto Simões

In 2009, Braskem launched long-term sustainability goals for 2020 and, by the end of 2019, 70% of the objectives had already been achieved. These include:

- A 20% reduction in greenhouse gas emission intensity
- Feasibility of the largest industrial reuse water project in the southern hemisphere
- The expansion of Braskem's I'm green™ portfolio that now includes EVA made from sugar cane and polymers made from recycled plastic

The achievements, according to CEO Roberto Simões, are the result of the path that Braskem has followed since its foundation. This includes fostering a culture of innovation, investment in new technology and the unrelenting search for more sustainable routes in the plastic value chain.

Plastics play a vital role in society and are used in many items that are:

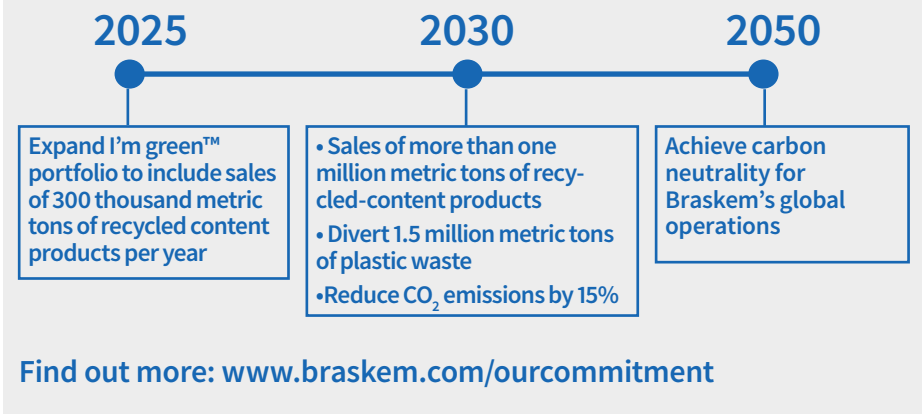
- Helping protect lives amid the COVID-19 pandemic via plastic personal protective equipment (PPE) and N-95 facemasks for health professionals.
- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the transportation sector, by enabling cars and aircrafts to weigh less, consume less fuel and, consequently, less CO₂ emissions.
- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions by sustainably manufacturing polyethylene from sugarcane. 3.09 metric tons of carbon dioxide are captured for each metric ton of bio-plastic produced. The solution is the result of a US\$ 290 million investment, which not only sequesters carbon with every product made from I'm green™ bio-based plastic, but also maintains the same characteristics of conventional plastic, can be used in the most demanding applications and is fully recyclable at end-of-life.

Braskem's I'm green™ performance has already earned important recognition from the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the Global Compact's Brazil Network as one of the most transformative sustainable development cases in Brazil. More recently, Braskem received



Each metric ton of I'm green™ polyethylene produced can capture 3.09 metric tons of CO₂ from escaping into the atmosphere, thus positively contributing to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Braskem's top priorities for the coming decades:



Chemical Week's Sustainability Initiative award recognizing I'm green™ as the most sustainable initiative on the market.

Braskem has added to the advancement of its circular economy product portfolio with solutions made from post-consumer plastic waste. This reflects the company's commitment to a carbon neutral circular economy and underscores the company's long-term commitment to protecting the environment.

Further complementing Braskem's approach toward the more sustainable production of polymers are several initiatives now underway to improve energy efficiency in its existing operations through the use of renewable and low-carbon energy.

At the same time, Braskem also continues to invest in innovative mechanical and advanced chemical recycling projects, which further support the vision for a circular economy.

The company's environmental protection efforts are further strengthened by two other important achievements. In 2020, Braskem became a member of Operation Clean Sweep® blue and a founding member and funding partner of the Polypropylene Recycling Coalition, an initiative of The Recycling Partnership focused on increasing access to recycling polypropylene in the United States and ensuring that polypropylene is widely recovered and reused.