**igus initiates first recycling program worldwide for energy chains**

What happens when a plastic energy chain reaches its maximum service life? Usually, it is disposed of and incinerated with other plastic waste. With its ‘igus green *chain*ge recycling program’, igus is now doing something completely new: users can send their plastic chains to igus for recycling – irrespective of the manufacturer. They can eliminate disposal costs and also receive a voucher for making purchases from igus. Customers and the environment both profit from this.

In the UK, for example, over 5 million tonnes of plastic is consumed each year — and yet only 1 quarter of it is recycled\*. Even though a long-lasting plastic energy chain is not comparable with single-use plastics, such as plastic packaging, the question of how to dispose of it at the end of its service life still arises. Normally, the energy chain is disposed of together with other plastic waste. Recycling rarely occurs as the cost of separating the different materials in a product and recycling them to make usable granulate (grinding) is too high. In most factories, the usual procedure is therefore to remove energy chains from their machines and throw them into industrial waste skips for incineration. igus is now offering an environmentally friendly alternative in the form of the ‘igus green *chain*ge recycling program’.

The aim of the program is to recycle the plastic from energy chains and reuse it for new products. To this end, after cleaning them, users can send their old out-of-use plastic energy chains to igus – irrespective of the chain's original manufacturer. The plastics are then sorted, cleaned, shredded and packed. After this, they can be reused by igus or other companies for the production of high-quality technical products. In return, the customer receives a voucher amounting to £0.25 per kilogram.

“igus takes on this responsibility and, with its igus *chain*ge recycling program, is aiming to make a contribution towards a reduction of plastic waste and an improvement of the recycling process,” says Frank Blase, CEO of igus. “This is not something new for us. As the world's biggest manufacturer of plastic energy chains, we already recycle 99 percent of the plastic waste occurring in production. The *chain*ge program is now the next important step in the direction of sustainable business operations.”

The igus green *chain*ge recycling program will be rolled out worldwide in the coming weeks. First, igus is starting the program in the UK and Germany, and it will soon be implemented across Europe and in many other markets such as China, the USA, Japan, Taiwan and Korea.

You can find further information on the igus *chain*ge recycling program at [www.igus.co.uk/recycling](https://recycling.igus.com/en-gb/energy-chain-recycling?utm_source=direct&utm_medium=quicklink&utm_campaign=ig057&utm_medium=press_release&utm_source=landing_page) and in the video at: [www.igus.co.uk/igusrecycling](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k3q1PYCY4Yk&feature=youtu.be&utm_source=direct&utm_medium=quicklink) or call igus directly on: 01604 677240

\* Plastic waste – everything you need to know, City of Westminster

<https://cleanstreets.westminster.gov.uk/plastic-waste-complete-guide/>

**igus resources:**

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|  | LiveChat with our technical team at [igus.co.uk](http://www.igus.co.uk?utm_campaign=ig057&utm_medium=press_release&utm_source=homepage) |
| social icons | Follow us at [twitter.com/igusUK](https://twitter.com/igusUK?utm_campaign=ig057&utm_medium=press_release&utm_source=twitter) |
| Icon for web | Watch our videos at [www.youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WcHhcP3adzI&feature=youtu.be&utm_source=direct&utm_medium=quicklink&utm_campaign=ig057&utm_medium=press_release&utm_source=youtube) |
| social icons | Connect to us at [igus.co.uk/Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/igus.co.uk/?utm_campaign=ig057&utm_medium=press_release&utm_source=facebook) |
| blogger logo | Read our blog at [blog.igus.co.uk](http://blog.igus.co.uk/?&utm_campaign=ig057&utm_medium=press_release&utm_source=blog) |

**About igus:**

Based in Northampton in the UK and with global headquarters in Cologne, Germany, igus is a leading international manufacturer of energy chain systems and polymer plain bearings. The family-run company is represented in 35 countries and employs 4,150 people around the world. In 2018, igus generated a turnover of 748 million euros with motion plastics, plastic components for moving applications.

With plastic bearing experience since 1964, cable carrier experience since 1971 and continuous-flex cable experience since 1989, igus provides the right solution based on 100,000 products available from stock, with between 1,500 and 2,500 new product introductions each year. igus operates the largest test laboratories and factories in its sector to offer customers quick turnaround times on innovative products and solutions tailored to their needs.

The terms igus, Apiro, chainflex, CFRIP, conprotect, CTD, drylin, dry-tech, dryspin, easy chain, e-chain, e-chain systems, e-ketten, e-kettensysteme, e-skin, flizz, ibow, igear, iglidur, igubal, kineKIT, manus, motion plastics, pikchain, plastics for longer life, readychain, readycable, ReBeL, speedigus, triflex, robolink, and xiros are protected by trademark laws in the Federal Republic of Germany and internationally, where applicable.

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**For further information, please contact:**

Megan Campbell, igus

Tel: 01604 677240

Email: [mcampbell@igus.co.uk](mailto:mcampbell@igus.co.uk)

Dulcie Elliot, Publitek

Tel: 01582 390980

Email: [dulcie.elliot@publitek.com](mailto:dulcie.elliot@publitek.com)