

*Participate in*



**COMPANIES IN THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY ARE URGED TO SIGN A PLEDGE TO MAKE A COMMITMENT TO PREVENTING PLASTIC PELLET LOSS INTO THE ENVIRONMENT.**

All we ask is that you commit to taking **Five Basic Steps**, most of which we are sure you are doing already, sign the attached Pledge and send it to us.

On World Environment Day 5<sup>th</sup> June 2009 the world's first Plastics Trade Association the British Plastics Federation launched 'Operation Clean Sweep-Plastic Pellet Loss Prevention'.

The BPF was the first plastics association in Europe to, as a response, introduce Operation Clean Sweep (OCS) whose Guidance Manual lays down suggested procedures on Prevention, Containment and Clean up to prevent pellets being accidentally washed down factory drains or lost in transportation.

The Guidance Manual can be found at [www.operationcleansweep.co.uk](http://www.operationcleansweep.co.uk) for reference. This manual is **not mandatory** and not all the suggestions may be applicable to your company.

Plus our brief on 'Used Plastics Litter in Marine and Riverine Environment' can be found on our website [www.bpf.co.uk](http://www.bpf.co.uk) under Recycling and Sustainability.

## Plastic Pellet Loss — Its Impact and Its Management

- **Pellets on factory floors can cause accidents through slips, traps and falls.**
- Plastics in the marine and riverine environment now generate a lot of negative media attention.
- It's unsightly, and can harm marine life
- Our industry does not put waste plastics into the sea or on beaches. This is caused by littering, illegal dumping at sea, bad waste management and the fishing industry
- **BUT plastic pellets are being found on beaches throughout the world – we can all do something to help prevent that**

## How You Can Help

Each segment of the industry, including resin producers, transporters, bulk terminal operators and plastics processors, has a role to play in eliminating resin pellet loss. Commitment by everyone in every company, from top management to the shop floor employees, is essential.

Pellet containment is both good for the environment and good for each company's financial bottom line. With your help and cooperation, we can make great strides to help **our industry protect the environment and help improve our image.** The British Plastics Federation looks forward to working with you on Operation Clean Sweep to accomplish this important goal.

## FIVE BASIC STEPS FOR MANAGEMENT: IMPLEMENTING OPERATION CLEAN SWEEP

- 1. Commit to making zero pellet loss a priority.**
- 2. Assess your company's situation and needs.**
  - Comply with all environmental laws and regulations that address pellet containment.
  - Conduct a site audit.
  - Determine if you have appropriate facilities and equipment.
  - Determine if employees have and are following appropriate procedures.
  - Identify problem areas and develop new procedures to address them.
  - Communicate your experiences to peers in the industry.
- 3. Plan to make needed upgrades in facilities and equipment as appropriate.**
- 4. Raise employee awareness and create accountability. (Suggestions)**
  - Establish written procedures (Examples are in the manual)
  - Check procedures are readily available to employees.

- Conduct regular employee training and awareness campaigns on Operation Clean Sweep.
- Assign employees the responsibility to monitor and manage pellet containment.
- Solicit employee feedback on your program.
- Use workplace reminders such as stickers, posters, etc.

**5. Follow up and enforce procedures — when management cares, employees will, too.**

- Conduct routine inspections of the facility grounds — production areas and parking lots, drainage areas, driveways, etc.
- Continuously look for ways to improve the program. Share best practices through the Operation Clean Sweep web site:  
[www.operationcleansweep.co.uk](http://www.operationcleansweep.co.uk)

## **Sign the Pledge for Your Company**

To demonstrate your commitment to a clean environment, please complete the “Pledge to Prevent Resin Pellet Loss” on next page and fax a copy to the British Plastics Federation on 020 7457 5045.

The pledge must be signed by an officer of the company.

In return, your company will receive a certificate suitable for display affirming your commitment to being an Operation Clean Sweep Partner.

Signing this pledge will qualify your company’s name to be added (unless otherwise specified) to the list of OCS Programme Partners on the Operation Clean Sweep page on the BPF website [www.operationcleansweep.co.uk](http://www.operationcleansweep.co.uk)

Listed partner company names may be used in publicity for the programme.

## Company Pledge to Prevent Resin Pellet Loss

*Our company recognizes the importance of preventing the loss of resin pellets into the environment and we are committed to the Operation Clean Sweep programme.*

We will be an OCS Programme Partner, strive towards zero pellet loss and: Make changes wherever possible and practical to:

- Improve our worksite set-up to prevent and address spills;
- Maintain internal procedures to achieve zero pellet loss goals;
- Provide employee training
- Check our performance regularly; and
- Comply with all applicable national and local regulations governing pellet containment.

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address : \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Officer - Name and Title:

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Fax to: Kim Hawsworth Marketing Executive at the BPF on  
+ 44 (0)20 7457 5045**



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