



# Live updates from interpack 2026

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**interpack 2026 returns to Messe Düsseldorf from 7th–13th May. Packaging Europe will report live from the show floor, giving you a real-time rundown of highlights from the industry's biggest event.**

## **A chat with Uflex's Apoorvshree Chaturvedi**



Packaging Europe visited **Uflex Ltd's** booth at Hall 10, D08..D20 where the company was showcasing its next-generation packaging films, including high-barrier metallized and transparent films, biodegradables, advanced coated materials and thin-gauge innovations aiming to 'enable recyclability, efficiency, and substrate optimization at scale.

We spoke briefly with Apoorvshree Chaturvedi, Director – Global Operations, about the company's product offering and just some of the issues facing Europe's supply chain.

**PE:** Could you tell us what you're showcasing at interpack this year?

**AC:** Obviously the main burden for the film industry in Europe is the incoming PPWR regulation. To meet this we have our PP portfolio with the full suite of products. And of course, since we're a large PET film producer we're also showcasing our PET products.

But alongside that, we have a range of recycled products made from multilayer packaging (MLP) waste. In Poland, we've set up an MLP recycling line next to our PET film factory, using waste from converters in Europe. From this, we produce injection mouldable products that can be run on injection moulding machines.

**PE:** What are the challenges to overcome when it comes to using these recycled materials?

**AC:** While waste materials are injection mouldable, quality is going to vary from application to application, so it's not the case that you can simply use MLP waste to make a product. You have to blend – so you can maybe use 70% of our resin, 30% of your virgin PE or PP and blend it to get the characteristics that you want for your product. We're showcasing this at the front of our booth because we want to show people that, with the way the PPWR is structured today, there are still technical obstacles to moving to 100% mono-materials.

**PE:** What about the possibilities for chemical recycling of circular flexibles?

**AC:** I think Europe is warming towards chemical recycling as opposed to traditional mechanical because the narrative is you can take the waste, break down into its constituent monomer and then make it back into a polymer which sounds very attractive.

The problem is that today, with the way the PPWR is structured, someone may read the definitions and they'll say, 'this is not recycling, this is downcycling', because you're taking packaging waste and making a different product from it. What Europe wants is one to one: they want flexible packaging waste to be picked up, collected, sorted and recycled back into packaging. No-one is yet doing that for flexibles in the same way.

Any polyethylenes that have been converted into even a reasonably sophisticated packaging product are not being collected and recycled back into virgin PE, which is then being extruded back into a PE film.

We as a company have been demonstrating what is possible with mechanical recycling. We are not telling the European community that this is the only way to go – chemical recycling can also be the route, but

for this I think, in an ideal world, one of the large chemical majors would set up an independent cracker somewhere in Europe.

Today, when you buy a polyolefin resin that is supposedly PCR, you're getting a certificate from the producer that this is your virgin polypropylene material, and this is a certificate. But we don't know whether that waste was actually used to produce pyrolysis oil and was then converted into a polymer – it could have been used for a different application in the refinery that supports the overall production but is not necessarily a direct replacement.

And it's our contention that that if that's the standard that is being asked of PET and nylon-based crackers today, then it should be one-to-one.

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