

## Press Release

### **Co-founder of recycling machine manufacturer EREMA has died**

## **The EREMA Group mourns the loss of Helmut Bacher**

**Helmut Bacher, co-founder of Austrian plastics recycling machine manufacturer EREMA and former managing partner, passed away on 20 September at the age of 81.**

Ansfelden, 25 September 2024 - Helmut Bacher is regarded as a pioneer of plastics recycling. Together with his two colleagues Georg Wendelin and Helmuth Schulz, Helmut Bacher founded EREMA Engineering Recycling Maschinen und Anlagen Ges.m.b.H. in Linz, Austria, in 1983. Their life's work was acknowledged in 2008 when the three founders received the Golden Award of Honour from the Province of Upper Austria.

Helmut Bacher displayed visionary foresight and open mind in playing a key role in shaping the plastics recycling industry. Following his training as a fitter and completing his schooling as a mechanical engineer, he worked in various technical positions before moving to a mechanical engineering company for plastics processing in the early 1970s. Helmut Bacher shared with his two colleagues a belief in the potential of plastics recycling. During countless trials, he searched for the right solution - until he found it. Despite initial adversity, the three founders remained convinced of the idea of a cost effective recycling machine for plastic waste and started up their own company in 1983.

At the K trade fair in Düsseldorf in 1983, EREMA presented a simple, robust, reliable and economical recycling system, signalling the start of a success story. The young company produced its first orders in modest premises in Leonding with two small workshops and a double garage. Today, the plants and components supplied by the EREMA Group achieve recycling capacities of over 25 million tonnes of plastic per year worldwide.

Up until his retirement from company management in 2004, Helmut Bacher was a driving force behind the company and remained closely associated with the EREMA Group until his death. His technical ability, coupled with solution-orientated thinking and genuine appreciation of his employees, have left a lasting impression and continue to shape the company to this day.

## Mourning the death of Helmut Bacher



*The EREMA Group mourns the loss of co-founder Helmut Bacher, who passed away at the age of 81.*

Photo credit: EREMA Group

### **EREMA Group** **Another life for plastic. Because we care.**

Based in Ansfelden near Linz in Austria, EREMA Group is the world's leading manufacturer of plastics recycling solutions. The EREMA Group stands for a plastics industry that takes responsibility for resources. The Circular Economy is the declared objective within the plastics industry, and to implement it across the board the group of companies now has eight subsidiaries: EREMA, PURE LOOP, PLASMAC, KEYCYCLE, Lindner Washtech, UMAC, plasticpreneur and 3S. They cover the entire spectrum of mechanical plastics recycling - from planning and engineering through to developing and manufacturing recycling technologies as well as producing system components and trading previously owned systems. Supported by subsidiaries in the USA, China and South Africa, and a global network of representatives, the 8500 plants and components supplied by the group of companies are currently in operation in more than 100 countries worldwide and recycle around 25 million tonnes of plastic every year. The EREMA Group employs 950 people worldwide.

#### **For further information please contact**

**Julia Krentl**

Corporate Communication

EREMA Group

Unterfeldstraße 3

4052 Ansfelden, AUSTRIA

Phone: +43 732 3190-6092; Email: [public.relations@erema-group.com](mailto:public.relations@erema-group.com)