

ZERO
MICROPLASTICS
CHALLENGE 2020

Rules



Challenge description

The Zero Microplastics Challenge 2020 (the “Challenge”) is designed to encourage a limited number of teams (each an “Entrant”) to increase the possibilities for developing environmentally smart solutions to reduce microplastics from textile laundry. RISE Research Institutes of Sweden AB (RISE) is together with IVL Swedish Environmental Research Institute (IVL) (together the “Organisers”), arranging the Challenge.

Agreement

In order to enter the Challenge, the Entrant(s) must agree to the Challenge Rules, as published and amended from time to time on web page <https://www.ri.se/en/what-we-do/projects/zero-microplastics-challenge-2020>. The Entrant(s) agree that submission of an entry in the Challenge constitutes agreement to the Challenge Rules. The Challenge Rules form a binding legal agreement between the Entrant(s) and the Organisers with respect to the Challenge.

The Challenge

The challenge takes its point of departure in the need for efficient and sustainable solutions required to reduce the emissions of microplastics from textile laundry. Entrants will design, develop and demonstrate novel solutions (the “Solution/-s”) setting out to minimize the microplastics deriving from textile laundry. The Solutions should be possible to test in accordance to the PESTEL-methodology, including a simplified Life Cycle Assessment LCA-analysis. The baseline for comparison is the function of textile laundry agreed from a standard definition.

Stages

The Challenge is divided into the following stages:

1. **Submittal of Entries (initial Solutions and Teams)**

All Entries to be submitted using the form available at <https://www.ri.se/en/what-we-do/projects/zero-microplastics-challenge-2020>.

2. **Screening of Entries**

A first screening of Entries by the Organisers to select the most promising Solutions accepted to enter the Challenge. Participation selection is based on evaluating the submissions in accordance to their relevance to the scope of the challenge, innovation height, and perceived capability. Teams that not become a “Participating Entries” will get feedback and advice.

3. **Virtual Kick-off**

Information to the Entrants, including more information about the problem area and general information about the Challenge.

4. **Virtual Workshops**

Two workshops to support the Entrants in the continued efforts to implement the Solutions on the market. The virtual Workshops will be focused on business viability and communication, respectively.

5. **Final evaluation of the Solution**

The physical part of the Solution is to be submitted for evaluation. The Evaluation of the physical part of the Solution is made by RISE and IVL.

6. Final Event

Presentation of Solutions by the Entrants to the Jury. Evaluation by Jury. Presentation of the podium 1, 2 and 3. After will follow 4th and so on.

Dates, locations and other details about the Challenge will be published on webpage <https://www.ri.se/en/what-we-do/projects/zero-microplastics-challenge-2020>.

Evaluation

Central are textile cleaning performance and reduction the amount of Microplastics, as little microplastics as possible coming from the drainage of the washing machine, range from 5 µm will be measured. Other aspects e.g. operation, maintenance, installation, cleaning of filter will also be evaluated.

All submitted Entries will go through a Screening phase. Approved submitted Entries from that phase become Participating Entries and are accepted to enter the Challenge.

Participating Entries will be evaluated by a jury, (the “Jury”), which will be composed of representatives by the Organisers. The Jury will evaluate the Solutions based in accordance to the PESTEL-methodology, including political, economic, social, technological, environmental and legal aspects. For the environmental criteria will a life cycle analysis be made. The Entries are responsible for submitting the information required, during the entire period of the Challenge to evaluate the Solution in accordance to the methodology. The Jury’s decisions in the Challenge are final and binding in all matters regarding the Challenge and cannot be appealed.

Reward

The principal reward in the Challenge is an objective and systematic evaluation of the submitted contest contribution. The reward is constituted by a **Diploma of Performance** showing the participation in the Challenge and the rank of the Solution, as well as an **Account of the Assessment** of the Solution in accordance to the evaluation criteria (See “Evaluation”). The diploma of performance can be used in further communication with potential stakeholders, funding agencies and potential customers. All participating Entries will receive this reward.

Additional benefits from participating in the Challenge include 1) **value-adding support** provided in the virtual events during the contest phase, 2) opportunities for networking and match making in regard to funding opportunities, and 3) additional implementation support provided during the “beyond the challenge” phase.

All participating Entries in the Challenge will be eligible to participation in the virtual events during the contest phase. All participating Entries are also eligible to participate in the “beyond the challenge” phase, in which activities are pursued by the Organisers to create opportunities for enhancing the possibility solution funding and other implementation support.

All participating Entries are eligible to benefit from the exposure gained through participation in the Challenge and can to any degree accentuate their participation in the Challenge in media communications.

Right of ownership

The Entrant(s) shall retain ownership of all intellectual and industrial property rights (including moral rights) in and to its intellectual property used and/or incorporated in the developed Solution, including documentation, submitted to the Challenge.

By entering the Challenge, Entrant(s) acknowledge and agree that any of the Organisers may have and/or may be developing or commissioning materials and/or ideas similar or identical to a Solution. Entrant(s) waive any claims Entrant(s) may have resulting from any similarities to Entrant(s)'s entry.

IPR infringement

By submitting a Solution into the Challenge, Entrant(s) confirm that all material and other information (including but not limited to source code, both open source and third party sourced, user interface, music, video and images) provided with entries are free of intellectual property right infringement and, if a third party is involved, that Entrant(s) has secured permission to use such materials.

The Organisers reserves the right to amend, cancel and withdraw any and all rewards of Entrant(s) where the intellectual property rights of third parties are infringed.

Confidentiality

The Entrant(s) may provide the Organisers with information of a confidential nature relating to the ideas submitted in the Challenge. Further, the Organisers may for the purpose of facilitating the Challenge provide the Entrant(s) with information of a confidential nature relating to its business or products. To be regarded as "Confidential Information" the (a) disclosing party must mark or otherwise inform in writing of its confidential nature at the time of the disclosure or within five (5) days thereafter at the latest; or (b) information must be obviously understood to be confidential.

Confidential Information provided by one party to another shall be kept confidential during the Term of the Challenge and for a period of five (5) years thereafter, and each party agrees to take such measures as may be reasonably required to maintain confidentiality.

Consequently, the receiving party is not, without special approval by discloser, allowed to disclose Confidential Information to third parties or to third parties transmit such information unless:

- The receiving party/parties can demonstrate that the information was already in the possession of the receiving party/parties (in this context the Entrant(s) understand that the Organisers are seeking ideas within their fields of business and that the Organisers are already in possession of many ideas related to functions within the area of distribution and transportation)
- The information was lawfully and demonstrably obtained from someone else than the other party
- The information has become publicly known other than through a breach of this Agreement
- The information is disclosed pursuant to legal obligations beyond the control of the disclosing and receiving parties or due to a court order

Right to cancel

The Organisers reserves the right to cancel, terminate, modify and suspend the Challenge at its absolute discretion and without any liability whatsoever to any Entrant(s) or third party connected with the Entrant(s) or Solutions.

If the Entrant(s) want to cancel their participation in the Challenge, they are obligated to inform the Organisers without delay, also providing an explanation for their cancellation. Once the evaluation is performed, withdrawal by the Entrant(s) are not possible.

Privacy

For Entrant to be able to participate in the Challenge, RISE needs to process personal data of the Entrant, e.g. name, e-mail, phone number and photos. The personal data will be processed for the purpose of conduct and administer the Challenge and will be deleted no later than 6 months after the Challenge final.

More information regarding how RISE processes personal data related to participants in research projects is found here: <https://www.ri.se/en/about-rise/policy-documents/personal-data-processing/processing-personal-data-research-project>

Publicity

Entrant(s) further agree to permit the Organisers to use Entrant(s)'s name and likenesses and all of its entries, to feature the entry and all its content in connection with the marketing, sale, or promotion of the Challenge. While the Organisers reserves these rights, the Organisers are not obligated to use any entry for any purpose.

Governing law and arbitration

The Challenge and the Challenge Rules are governed by Swedish law without regard to conflict of laws provision.

Any dispute, controversy or claim arising out of or in connection with this contract, or the breach, termination or invalidity thereof, shall be finally settled by arbitration in accordance with the Rules for Expedited Arbitrations of the Arbitration Institute of the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce. The seat of arbitration shall be Gothenburg, Sweden. The language to be used in the arbitral proceedings shall be Swedish.