

INTERNATIONAL BIODETERIORATION RESEARCH GROUP

Plastics Project Group: Annual Report 2011

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The Plastics Project Group met twice in the 2011 period. Twenty six participants attended a meeting in April 2011 in Prague, Czech Republic and twenty participants attended a meeting in November in Cologne, Germany hosted by LANXESS GmbH. Work continues to focus on the development of future ring tests intended to provide a framework to the support of claims for treated articles. A number of parameters and exposure scenarios were defined during previous meetings and being used to guide the design of future ring tests.

As in previous years, given the current activities in OECD to both harmonise testing methods for basic activity and promote claim-specific tests for product registration, IBRG will continue to concentrate on looking at the in-use simulation of antimicrobial effects. Therefore the activities of IBRG for the next few years will continue to be focussed on the development of test protocols to allow the function of treated articles under simulated real-life scenarios to be explored. Ring tests on a simulation of the effects of treated plastics on the survival of bacteria delivered to a surface by contaminated, small splashes of liquids are in progress.

Peter D Askew, Chairman of the IBRG Plastics Group