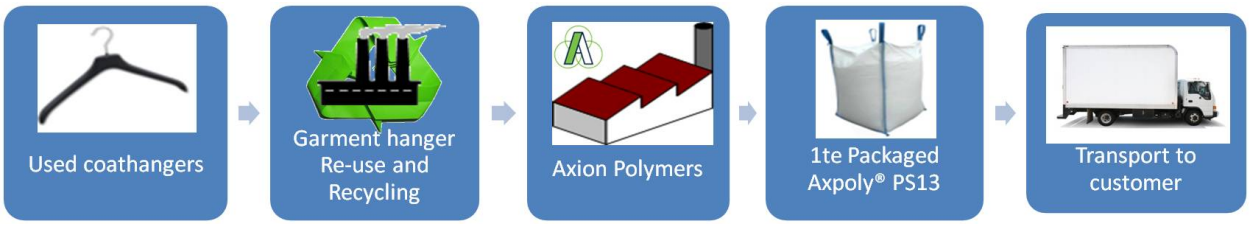
Axpoly® PS13 – Reducing Carbon emissions with the Carbon Trust

What is a Carbon Footprint?

A Carbon Footprint of a product or service is a measure of the amount of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions produced in order to complete it. The Footprint is measured in units of Carbon dioxide (CO_2) and other greenhouse gases. In the case of a product such as Axpoly® PS13 high impact polystyrene, it includes all the GHG emissions from sourcing the raw materials required to make it, all the way through to the final product being shipped to our customers.

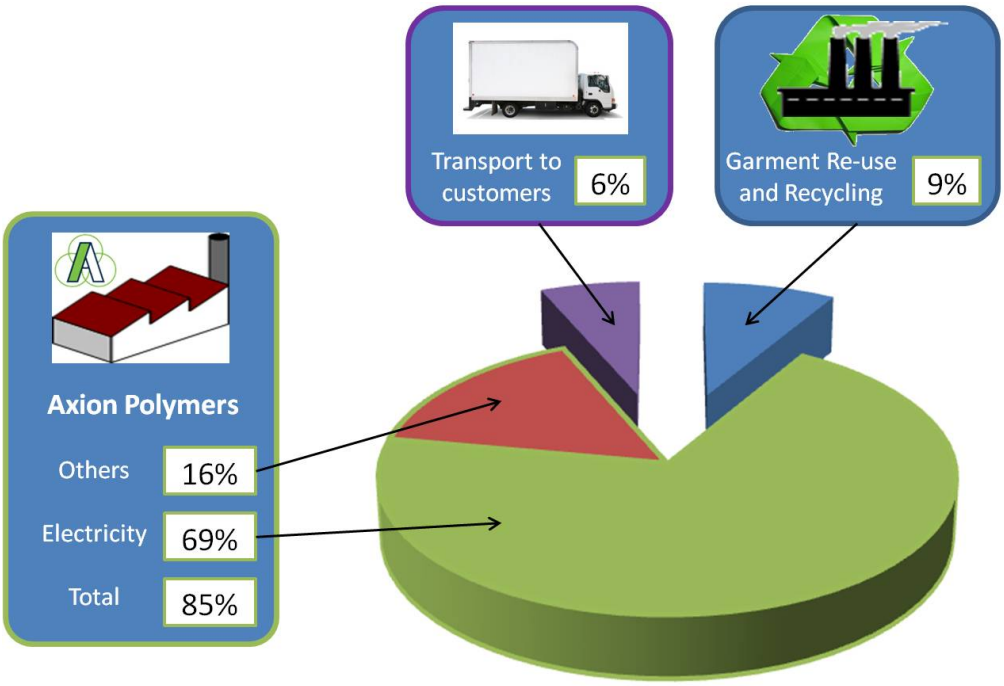
Our Carbon Footprint

In order to calculate the Carbon Footprint of Axpoly® PS13, we carried out a detailed analysis of every stage of the product's life from our suppliers delivering the raw material to Axion's factory, to the transport required to take our product to the customer. Using the BSI British Standard, PAS 2050:2008 document methodology, we were able to calculate the Carbon Footprint of our product in a way that is completely comparable with any other product assessed in the same way using the PAS 2050 guidelines. Axpoly PS13 carbon impact calculations are made using data from the life cycle of the product, including the collection of used garment hangers from retail stores (the feedstock for the recycled polymer), the energy consumption in the re-use and recycling centre, processing in Axion Polymers' factory and transportation to Axion's customers.



The supply chain for Axpoly® PS13

Axionpolymers
www.axionpolymers.com

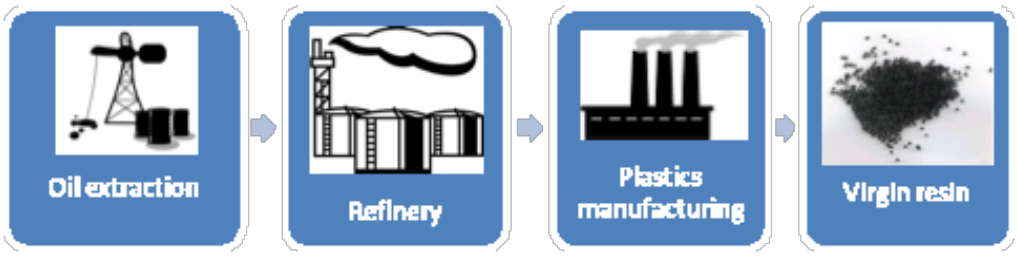


Allocation of our Carbon Footprint

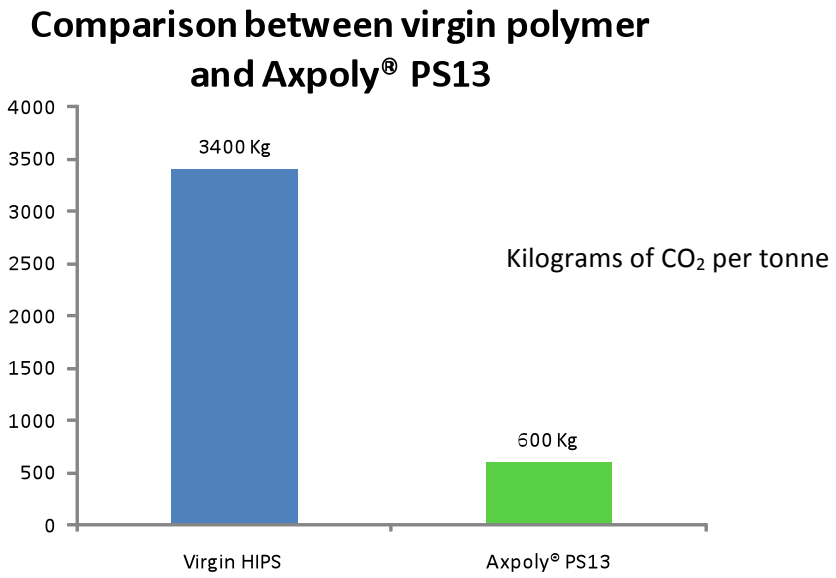
Our calculations, certified by the Carbon Trust, show that 600Kg CO_2 are produced for every one tonne of Axpoly® PS13 that we make. This is a huge saving (82%) in Carbon compared to virgin plastic which emits 3400Kg CO_2 for every one tonne produced. The pie chart above illustrates where emissions are generated throughout the process.

Comparison with virgin High Impact Polystyrene

The Carbon Footprint of Axpoly® PS13 can be compared to the Carbon Footprint of virgin HIPS as published by Plastics Europe in 2005, and used in Footprint Expert. This states that virgin HIPS generates a Carbon Footprint of 3400Kg of CO_2 per tonne.



The supply chain for virgin polymer



Reducing our Carbon Footprint

Axpoly® PS13 is the first polymer in the UK to have its Carbon Footprint certified by an independent third party allowing it to use the Carbon Footprint label issued by the Carbon Trust.

Axion Polymers is dedicated to reducing Axpoly PS13's Carbon Footprint. By working with the Carbon Trust we are committed to significantly reducing emissions over the next two years. The detailed analysis of the production process has highlighted areas that we can focus on to reduce our Carbon Footprint, enabling us to make our products using less Carbon and delivering even greater savings over virgin plastics.

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