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**TOMRA SORTING RECYCLING CREATES MANAGERIAL ROLE TO STRENGTHEN FOCUS ON NEW PLASTICS ECONOMY**

*New appointment reflects TOMRA’s full commitment to the ambitious vision for a circular economy*

TOMRA Sorting Recycling has promoted Business Development Engineer László Székely to the newly-created post of Head of New Plastics Economy. This initiative reinforces TOMRA’s commitment to the aims of the New Plastics Economy (NPE) and will steer progress towards objectives which are differentiated from the company’s other business development activities.

TOMRA’s New Plastics Economy team will work to encourage the sorting and recycling of post-consumer plastics such as Polyolefins and Styrenes, to change the widespread practice of burning such materials or sending them to landfill. TOMRA is also committed to working with packaging producers to help make packaging more widely recyclable; to reduce the reliance of packaging production on raw materials; and to contribute to the drive for upgrading post-consumer plastics, so that there is greater use of recycled rather than virgin materials.

László Székely joined TOMRA brand TITECH (rebranded later as TOMRA Sorting Recycling) in 2012 after completing studies in waste management and contaminated site treatment at the Technische Universität Dresden, in Germany. Serving as a Business Development Engineer, László was TOMRA’s segment-champion for applications capable of sorting glass from different waste streams, with joint responsibility for development of the AUTOSORT Laser glass-sorting unit. He was also closely involved in the planning and construction of the first two automatic MSW (municipal solid waste) sorting plants in Hungary, and assisted two big brands with upgrading for post-consumer plastics (Polypropylene). Since 2017 László has been involved in projects focusing on post-consumer polyolefin packaging, PET trays and working with packaging and converter businesses.

László Székely said: “I am delighted that my dedication and expertise have been recognized in this way because progress towards the New Plastic Economy is so important. I was really excited when I joined TOMRA, because I admired the company for being a technical pioneer and market leader, and seven years later I am still hugely excited by this company’s innovative spirit.”

TOMRA’s NPE work will also involve, at a senior level, Jürgen Priesters, Vice President, Head of Business Development Recycling, and Business Development Engineer Charlotte Glassneck.

The vision of the New Plastics Economy, which applies principles of the circular economy, was created by the Ellen MacArthur Foundation with three ambitions: to create an effective after-use plastics economy by improving the economics and uptake of recycling, reuse and controlled biodegradation for targeted applications; to drastically reduce leakage of plastics into natural systems (especially the ocean) and other negative impacts; and to decouple plastics from fossil feedstocks. Although these aims were launched in 2016 as a three-year initiative, they have built a momentum which will inspire action for many years to come.

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**About TOMRA Sorting Recycling**

TOMRA Sorting Recycling designs and manufactures sensor-based sorting technologies for the global recycling and waste management industry. Over 5,500 systems have been installed in almost 80 countries worldwide.

Responsible for developing the world’s first high-capacity near infrared (NIR) sensor for waste sorting applications, TOMRA Sorting Recycling remains an industry pioneer with a dedication to extracting high purity fractions from waste streams that maximize both yield and profits.

TOMRA Sorting Recycling is part of TOMRA Sorting Solutions which also develops sensor-based systems for sorting, peeling and process analytics for the food, mining and other industries.  
TOMRA Sorting is owned by Norwegian company TOMRA Systems ASA, which is listed on the Oslo Stock Exchange. Founded in 1972, TOMRA Systems ASA has a turnover of around €750m and employs more than 3,500 people.

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