



Black Bear appoints Victor Vreeken as Chief Technology Officer

- Black Bear further strengthens team to support its scale-up and global technology roll-out
- Vreeken holds master's degrees in Mechanical Engineering, Chemical Engineering and Business Administration (MBA).
- With comprehensive technical and commercial experience gained at DSM and Avantium, he will add significant expertise to Black Bear's management team.

NEDERWEERT, NETHERLANDS, 09.12.2019. Black Bear, the Dutch ELT rubber upcycling company, has appointed Victor Vreeken as its new Chief Technology Officer. Victor will lead the Black Bear's efforts to scale-up and globally roll-out the company's innovative circular technology to convert tire rubber into recovered carbon black, gas and biogenic oil.

Before joining Black Bear, Vreeken spent over 8 years at Avantium, active in the emerging industry of renewable and sustainable chemistry. Most recently he was Chief Operations Officer for Renewable Polymers business within Avantium. In this role, Victor Vreeken was responsible for the development and scale-up of Avantium's technology for the conversion of sugars to plastics. Prior to that he held various positions at DSM both in operations and in commerce.

Silvio Ghyoot, CEO Black Bear Carbon:

"I am glad that we can further reinforce our team with Victor", Silvio Ghyoot, Black Bear Carbon CEO says, "as he will be instrumental in designing and executing our technology vision and goals as we enter 2020".

About Black Bear Carbon

Black Bear is a green, recovered carbon black (rCB) manufacturer that produces carbon black using end-of-life tires instead of fossil oil as a resource material. Black Bear chooses to change the industry with breakthrough technology and with passionate people; because we believe that we can save considerable amounts of CO₂ in the carbon black market, solve the waste-tire problem and operate a profitable business at the same time.

Carbon black is a crucial component in rubber, plastics, inks and paints and is used to modify their properties into usable products. Almost everything that you see around you that is black in color has carbon black in it. Current manufacturers produce carbon black by combusting oil (the "furnace

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process”), emitting CO₂ and thereby polluting the environment. Black Bear recovers carbon black from used tires in a clean and sustainable way.

Black Bear plans to lead the transition towards a circular economy for tires by rolling out hundreds of tire upcycling plants with local partners around the world, focusing on Europe for its next plants. When it reaches its full potential of repurposing every end-of-life tire with its circular solution, Black Bear will reduce global annual oil consumption by more than 215 million barrels. After 6 years of testing and 2 years production experience, Black Bear is now ready to roll-out its concept worldwide and start producing on large commercial scale.

Further information: [Website](#), [LinkedIn](#).

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