

Single-Use Plastic Charter

Introduction

Single-use plastic is a significant threat to life in the ocean and the planet as a whole. The shipping industry has, over the last few decades, been proactive in improving its environmental performance by implementing strict regulations about the disposal of waste. Here at V.Group we have a goal of **ZERO** pollution from plastic waste to sea and are committed to continuously minimising the generation of shipboard waste.

Within all V.Group business units, we must remain vigilant to the significant threat that single use plastic poses. It is estimated there are more than **150 million tonnes of plastic** in the world's oceans and every year **one million birds** and more than **100,000 sea mammals** die from eating and being tangled in plastic waste. V.Group will lead the way and pledge to help eliminate marine plastic litter from our seas forever.

Definition of 'Single-Use Plastic'

Single-use plastics, often also referred to as disposable plastics, are commonly used for plastic packaging and include items intended to be used only once before they are thrown away or recycled. These include, among other items, grocery bags, food packaging, bottles, straws, containers, cups and cutlery.

Aim

The aim of the V.Group 'Single-Use Plastic Charter' is to demonstrate our commitment by working to eliminate the use of non-essential single-use plastics, replacing them with reusable non-plastic alternatives or biodegradable options where possible, on board our vessels and within all of our offices.

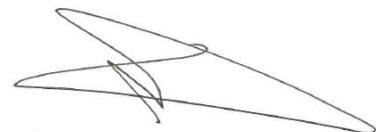
Specified non-essential single-use plastics to which the above applies include:

- Plastic beverage and water bottles
- Food wrappers
- Plastic straws
- Plastic carrier bags
- Plastic containers and lids
- Cotton buds
- Plastic packaging
- Plastic rope coverings
- Plastic serving methods, such as sachets, etc.
- Plastic cutlery, cups and plates
- Plastic trays

To achieve this aim, all business units will promote the use of alternative packaging in our supply chain, including catering, and promote the use of alternative drinking water sources to reduce dependency on plastic bottles.

Discourage the incineration of plastics and encourage recycling

It has been identified as more effective and environmentally friendly to implement sorting and storing of materials for recycling on land. In our aim to help eliminate marine plastic litter from our seas, V.Group will actively encourage recycling throughout all of its business operations.



Graham Westgarth
Chief Executive Officer