

Vegetable Oil Polymers Network (VOPNet)

Warwick Manufacturing Group,
Warwick HRI & Dept. Chemistry - UoW

Warwick Manufacturing Group

- Manufacturing with polymers + composites
- Industrial links

Warwick HRI

- OREGIN
- Plant biodiversity/Genetics/Crop Improvement

Warwick Dept. of Chemistry

- Triglyceride Chemistry work - rape and euphorbia oil
- Cardanols - natural phenolics



VOPNet

- Funded via a 3 year grant from EPSRC
- Building on previous experience -

SusCompNet

- WMG maintains membership list, web site and mail-base
- 550+ members
- 40% industrialists
- 10% from continental Europe



Drivers and Barriers

- Legislation
- Public pressure and concern - how "green" is my material?
- New Raw materials
 - New and old polymers and Fibre production routes
- "New" polymer chemistry
- New Materials science
 - Fibre matrix interactions
- New Processing
 - New and old methods

For whom?

The whole supply chain

- **Primary producers**
- **Material processors**
- **Designers** - new opportunities start here
- **Manufacturers** - coping with new materials
- **Users** - why should we?
- **Disposers** - composting



Activities

- Half day seminars (1st end of June 2005)
 - Research partnership brokerage
 - Dissemination
- Mailing lists
- Web site
- Publications

