

Media information

Wednesday, July 27, 2022

Earth Overshoot Day 2022

Let's #MoveTheDate! Interzero and its customers reduce global overshoot

+++ Interzero is focusing on conservation of natural resources

+++ Long-term collaboration with the Global Footprint Network

+++ Precisely calculated: For every euro of value add generated, Interzero gives ten times more back to the planet than the global economy takes on average

Berlin/Cologne. "One World. Zero Waste. Let's #MoveTheDate." This is the theme of the extensive campaign Interzero has launched to focus on the conservation of natural resources through its work with its customers. In collaboration with the Global Footprint Network, the service provider in the circular economy showed how the recycling of recyclable materials that it initiates reduces the burden on the Earth and is moving Earth Overshoot Day to some extent.

Theoretically, by 28 July humanity will already have used up all of the natural resources that our planet can provide in a given year. "We simply must not accept the increasing exploitation of resources," said **Sebastiaan Krol, CEO of Interzero Circular Solutions**. "On the contrary, we are working to create a world without waste where we can use the resources available to us in a sustainable and responsible way. The zero waste solutions we develop for our customers actively contribute to climate action and resource conservation every day and ensure that present and future generations can access the raw materials they need."

Based on Interzero data, researchers from the Global Footprint Network confirmed that for every euro of value add the company generates with its zero waste solutions together with its customers, global overshoot shrinks by over 28 global square metres. This contrasts starkly with the 2.6 global square metres of overshoot added for every euro generated by the global economy.

That means, per euro of economic output, Interzero gives back ten times more to our planet than the global economy takes on average. Without Interzero, Earth Overshoot Day would be 4 minutes and 20 seconds earlier worldwide. The impact of Interzero's collaboration with its customers is therefore measurable even on a global scale.

"We at Interzero are proud that thanks to the zero waste solutions we have developed with our customers and partners we give back significantly larger quantities of resources than are consumed. Extending the overshoot by 4 minutes and 20 seconds is a start – and an incentive for us to expand our activities further," said Sebastiaan Krol emphatically.

- Seite 1 von 2 -



The Global Footprint Network bases its calculations on a resource accounting tool called the Ecological Footprint. Using this indicator, the non-profit organisation compares the current resource demand of the global (or a country's) population against Earth's capacity for biological regeneration. Valid basic data for Interzero's contribution to conservation of resources is provided by the "Resources SAVED by Recycling" study carried out by the Fraunhofer Institute for Environmental, Safety and Energy Technology UMSICHT. Once per year, Interzero commissions the scientists to determine the volumes of greenhouse gases and resources saved through the recycling of recyclable materials.

"Worldwide, humans now use the ecological resources equivalent to 1.75 Earths," said **Dr Mathis Wackernagel, President of the Global Footprint Network.** "We are therefore very happy to collaborate with Interzero. Companies that follow the One Planet approach and also implement this in their day-today business improve everyone's future prospects – and particularly their own competitiveness."

When it comes to preserving our natural environment, every little bit counts. Interzero intends to get this across to its staff, customers and business partners in the new campaign and thus set a sustainable movement in motion.

Further motivation will come from an in-house **campaign video** in which Interzero calls on people to use natural resources more responsibly. "Let's #MoveTheDate!"



About Interzero:

Interzero is one of the leading environmental service providers in the field of closing product, material and logistics cycles and innovation leader in plastics recycling with the largest sorting capacity in Europe. Under the guiding principle of "zero waste solutions", the company advises over 20.000 customers throughout Europe on the responsible handling of recyclable materials, thus helping them to improve their own sustainability performance and conserve primary resources. With about 2,000 employees, the company achieves a turnover of over one billion euros (2021). In 2020 alone Interzero saved 1.4 million tonnes of greenhouse gases* compared to primary production and at the same time 12.3 million tonnes of primary raw materials* through its recycling activities. Further information can be found at www.interzero.com.

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- Seite 2 von 2 -