reECONIC: a refuse truck with fishing-net plastic and a lignin dashboard

13/05/2026

Mercedes-Benz Trucks presented the **reECONIC** at IFAT in Munich, an electric refuse collection truck built on the eEconic to show how far recycled and bio-based material can go in a series vehicle. The project, initiated by recycler TSR and led with Faun, brings together 33 partners.

Among the plastic solutions: seat upholstery in recycled polyamide from used carpets and **fishing nets**, and a dashboard made from **lignin**-based plastic. The rest of the cab combines steel with 88% recycled content, aluminium with at least 75% post-consumer content, 64% recycled glass and beechwood in the floor, wings and roof.

According to the partners, about 80% of the vehicle's steel, aluminium, glass and plastic (5.2 of 6.5 tonnes) could be replaced with recycled or bio-based materials, figures certified by TÜV Süd. The truck enters real-world testing in Frankfurt in the second half of 2026.

Source: electrive