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The future: our waters as clear as glass

Haarlem (NL), Monday 2 September - **The plastic in the sea is a regular topic of conversation. But the problem starts much closer to home. Almost 80%* of all plastic in the sea comes from land and ends up there via our rivers and canals. The River Thames is one of the most polluted rivers in Europe with almost 85 pieces of microplastic per litre. ** It's time to make a change. Dopper – the Dutch social enterprise which offers the solution to using disposable plastic bottles – issued a remarkably clear statement today. *Dopper won't rest until our waters are as clear as glass.* Which is why we have developed a minimalistic and chic glass Dopper to get this message across. The tide needs to be turned and clean waters ought to be celebrated.**



River clean-ups have revealed that 60% of litter in the River Thames consists of single-use plastic and that there would be much less rubbish in the water if there were more reusable plastics available.*** And that's exactly what Dopper's mission is all about: choose re-usable over single-use plastic and in that way ensure clean waters. Last Thursday, Merijn Everaarts – founder of Dopper – unveiled the latest addition to the reusable water bottle family: Dopper Glass. In his opinion, there can be no more excuses for buying water in single-use bottles.

A glass Dopper is a real addition to the family. There are now truly no more excuses for buying single-use bottles of water. This variant represents how we want to see our waters across the globe: as clear as the water in the glass Dopper. That's our dream. On top of that, it has a stylish feel and look about it. A classy water bottle to sit on the meeting table, kitchen table or for the glass of water next to your coffee mug. And every now and then you can raise your glass to crystal clear water with colleagues, friends and relatives. All over the world. Because it's has become evident that that's needed.

– Merijn Everaarts, the founder of Dopper



Strong character

In addition to the statement this Dopper Glass makes, this bottle exudes style. It looks chic on your desk, on the kitchen table but also during dinner. Especially the double-walled - a thermos bottle - exudes luxury. The glass bottles are made of borosilicate glass. This type of glass is also used in laboratories. It's thin, light and surprisingly sturdy. This Dopper has an extra thick bottom and therefore the bottle is super stable and strong. The thermos bottle holds up to 450 ml of crystal clear water (either hot or cold, or anything in between), the normal version holds up to 400 ml.

Impact of microplastics

'Microplastics are tiny plastic particles – of up to 5mm – that end up in the environment. There is still a lot of ongoing research into the risks that these tiny pieces of plastics pose to people. What we do know, is that marine life is threatened by it. It doesn't simply float on the surface; it lingers in the water and settles on the seabed. Just because you can't see them, doesn't mean that microplastics aren't there. And that is the risk.', says Maarten Erich, Aquatic Biologist of [By The Ocean We Unite](#). *"One thing is clear; we can't create clean waters by the removal of harmful chemicals and bacteria from the 1.3 billion km³ of seawater, or by fishing every bit of plastic out of the ocean. No way. The course that we should take is prevention."*

Dopper Glass is [available](#) from today.

Annex: Microplastics in European waters fact sheet.

*<https://thegreatbubblebarrier.com/>

** Research by Dr Christian Dunn, a senior lecturer at the School of Natural Sciences, Bangor University, in North Wales, UK. www.bangor.ac.uk/natural-sciences/staff/christian-dunn

*** <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/47343995>

ABOUT DOPPER

Dopper is empowering people to choose reusable over single-use water bottles, to protect our world's waters. Fighting plastic pollution, one single-use water bottle at a time. But if you want to know exactly what we're doing, check out our [mission page](#). If you want to know more about how it started and our life as a B Corp (and what that is) read on.

The beginning of the bottle

"I once saw a shocking documentary about the huge amount of plastic that manages to make its way into our

oceans, where it changes into a giant garbage patch that resembles plastic soup. I also noticed how many single-use plastic water bottles are thrown away every day, even though in many countries the best drinking water simply comes from the tap. This certainly made me feel uncomfortable. I just had to do something about it!"

We've all seen those documentaries about the plastic soup. But instead of just feeling shocked and moving on, our founder Merijn Everaarts, decided to take action. He started to wonder: why would you buy bottled water, when you have excellent water coming straight from your tap?

Competition

In January 2010, Merijn launched a design competition for the perfect sustainable water bottle, Rinske van Remortel's design won and BANG! In 2010 the Dopper Original saw the light of day.

Out of nearly 100 entries, Delft University of Technology alumnus Rinke van Remortel's design was chosen. Because of its unique three part design, the bottle is easy to keep clean and durable. Did you notice it's a bottle and cup in one? Brilliant. And if you turn it upside down, to rest on it's white cup, you are putting water on a pedestal. So cool, we just got chills.

Dopper launched on October 10th, 2010 – "Sustainability Day" in the Netherlands. From there, this ocean-saving water bottle has started its quest to spread the message to the rest of the world.

