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## PLASTICS AND ENVIRONMENT

### German manufacturer loses second PLA-based carrier bag lawsuit / Appeal to federal court



A superior court in Cologne has ruled against bioplastic carrier bag manufacturer **Victor Güthoff & Partner** (Frechen; [www.victorgroup.eu](http://www.victorgroup.eu)) in the company's appeal of an earlier ruling by a district court. Güthoff had asked the lower court to order the environmental organisation **Deutsche Umwelthilfe** (DUH, Berlin; [www.duh.de](http://www.duh.de)) to stop refuting claims by German supermarket chains **Aldi** and **Rewe** that carrier bags made from the **BASF** polyester/PLA blend "Ecovio" are fully compostable – see [Plasteurope.com](#) of [12.02.12014](#).

As it has no further legal recourse at state level, the bag manufacturer said it will ask the German **Federal Court of Justice** to hear the case. Without being specific, Güthoff said the court of the last instance ignored several important parts of its petition. The company has filed a EUR 2.7m damage claim against DUH to cover losses it said it incurred when the supermarkets removed the bags from their shelves.

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