

# RecyClass



## RECYCLABILITY & RECYCLED CONTENT

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## USE OF CLAIMS GUIDANCE

# RecyClass



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# INTRODUCTION

## Chapter 01

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## INTRODUCTION

Environmental claims have taken the world by storm, as companies transition from linear towards a circular economy and as the consumers look for products with a lower impact on the environment. The overall presence of green claims in non-food packaging exceeds 75%, with at least 32% of those claims referring to recyclability using the Mobius Loop logo<sup>1</sup>.

Moreover, 59% of consumers perceive these green claims as unclear. In line with this, it should be noted that the use of the Mobius Loop logo indicates that packaging is eligible for national collection schemes, and does not necessarily refer to recyclability.

Upcoming regulatory requirements at the EU level call for a transparent, structured and consistent approach to recyclability and recycled content claims on the EU market. These include the revision of the essential requirements for recyclable packaging, where all packaging must be recyclable by 2025, within the Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive ; as well as mandatory requirements for recycled content in beverage bottles the Single-Use Directive<sup>2</sup>.

RecyClass is a comprehensive cross-industry initiative that works to advance plastic packaging recyclability<sup>3</sup> and to establish a harmonized approach towards recycled content calculation in Europe. RecyClass has laid the foundation for a common methodology for recyclability and an approach to the calculation of recycled content<sup>4</sup>.

**This Guidance lays out the guiding principles for brand owners, converters and other actors of the plastics value chain on how to use the claims granted via the different RecyClass Certifications<sup>5</sup> or Technology/Product Approvals<sup>6</sup> both for recyclability and recycled content of plastics.**

Assessments are conducted by a third-party Certification Body that guarantees independent evaluation of the recyclability of a package and/or verification of recycled content in products based on traceability of recycled plastics.

The RecyClass Certification results may be voluntarily communicated to final consumers, stakeholders or customers, via different channels. Both on-product and off-product claims are allowed taking into consideration the conditions listed in the sections below.

This guidance was developed in line with the ISEAL Sustainability Claims Good Practice Guide<sup>7</sup> which lays out guidance for scheme owners in the development of systems for communicating on claims and logos related to their audit system.

# GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR THE USE OF RECYCLASS CLAIMS

## Chapter 02

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# GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR THE USE OF RECYCLASS CLAIMS

Before focusing on specific claims, users must consider the following guiding principles aimed at procuring commercial practices which must be clear, honest and straightforward. According to Regulation 2005/29/EC<sup>8</sup>, an indication of misleading claims would be:

- Claims containing untruthful or false information in some way which would deceive the average consumer, even if the information is factually correct.
- Claims leading the average consumer to make a decision that he would not have taken otherwise.
- Claims which omit material information that the average consumer needs according to the context.

Following these guiding principles, claims shall avoid general statements such as “environmentally friendly”, “sustainable” or “green product” which are general claims that may be misleading for the consumers as they do not communicate clearly why those products are better for the environment.

For recycled content, claims must state the percentage of recycled content and avoid vague messages such as “contains recycled plastics” or “circular plastics”. Messages should be clear by using statements such as “contains X% of recycled plastics in the bottle, originated during production”.

More guidance on specific messages is described in Annex VI and VII.

# RECYCLASS RECYCLABILITY CLAIMS

## Chapter 03



# RECYCLASS RECYCLABILITY CLAIMS

The following section lays down rules and guidance on how to communicate the results obtained via Technology/Product approvals<sup>9</sup>, Design-for-Recycling<sup>10</sup> and Recyclability Rate Certification<sup>11</sup>.

The Design-for-Recycling Certification and Recyclability Rate Certification are assessments designed to verify the recyclability of a package based on the RecyClass Methodology<sup>12</sup> and Design for Recycling Guidelines<sup>13</sup>. These assessments are carried out via recognised independent third party Certification Bodies. When a package contains an innovation which is not considered in the guidelines, additional laboratory testing is required. Additional testing follows the RecyClass Recyclability Protocol Evaluations<sup>14</sup>. In this case, results are assessed by the RecyClass Technical Committee that issues an Approval Letter in case of a positive outcome. More information on the requirements and procedures of the Recyclability Certifications can be found in the documents “Certification Procedures and Quality Management<sup>15</sup>” and “RecyClass Recyclability Methodology”.

Communication and claims available for the different Certifications or Approval Letters are described next.

## 3.1 RECYCLASS CLAIMS BASED ON A TECHNOLOGY/PRODUCT APPROVAL

A Technology/Product Approval offers a recyclability assessment of a specific technology or feature of a package (e.g. a multilayer film; a combination of label and glue).

The Technology/Product Approval is granted by the RecyClass Technical Committees (TC) based on the results of an independent laboratory testing in accordance with RecyClass Recyclability Protocol Evaluations.

The decision of the TC will determine if the technology has:

- **FULL COMPATIBILITY WITH A CERTAIN RECYCLING STREAM:** materials that passed the testing Protocols with no negative impact OR materials that have not been tested (yet), but are known to be acceptable in a certain recycling stream.
- **LIMITED COMPATIBILITY WITH A CERTAIN RECYCLING STREAM:** materials that passed the testing Protocols if certain conditions are met OR materials that have not been tested (yet), but pose a low risk of interfering with a certain recycling stream.
- **NO COMPATIBILITY WITH RECYCLING:** materials that failed the testing Protocols OR materials that have not been tested (yet), but pose a high risk of interfering with a certain recycling stream.

RecyClass issues a Technology/Product Approval Letter to the applicant which will detail the result of the assessment and the conditions of the Approval. An example of a letter can be found in Annex I.

Upon the approval of the applicant, RecyClass can publish a press release announcing the novel findings. The text must refer to the information reported in the Approval Letter and must avoid any marketing statements about the product.

The applicant may also communicate the findings as specified in the Approval Letter, more information can be found in the sections below.

RecyClass

NAME OF THE COMPANY  
RECYCLASS TECHNOLOGY APPROVAL

Brussels, DD/MM/YYYY

The RecyClass **TC** Technical Committee was requested to carry out an assessment of **name of the technology** by the **NAME OF COMPANY** to verify its impact on the quality of **RECYCLING STREAM**.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE PRODUCT, RESULTS OF THE TEST, REFERENCE OF THE PROTOCOL USED**

Based on these results, RecyClass certifies that **NAME OF THE TECHNOLOGY** technology will not have a negative impact on the current European Recycling Stream.

**LIST OF CONDITIONS LINKED TO THE APPROVAL**

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**LIST OF CONDITIONS LINKED TO THE APPROVAL**

Any change on the formulation of the technology must be communicated to the Technical Committee which will reassess the approval of the technology.

Annex I:  
**PICTURE OF THE TECHNOLOGY TESTED**

About  
RecyClass is a comprehensive cross-industry initiative that seeks to advance plastic packaging recyclability and to establish a harmonised approach towards recycled content calculation and transparency in Europe. In close collaboration with RecyClass, the development of Recyclability Certifications and protocols, setting of minimum material values, and the design for recycling guidelines and the final online tool. RecyClass offers Recyclability Certifications and Recycled Content Recyclability Certifications for plastic packaging.

Contact: [info@recyclability.eu](mailto:info@recyclability.eu) or [www.recyclability.eu](http://www.recyclability.eu)

### 3.1.1 Business-to-business claims

The applicant can communicate to customers, stakeholders, public procurement and suppliers the results of the Approval Letter via website, press release, social media and direct communications.

Used wording must correspond to the Technology/Product Approval Letter and it must mention RecyClass. The applicant may also link the communication to the Approval Letter published at [www.recyclability.eu](http://www.recyclability.eu).

### 3.1.2 Business-to-consumer claims

A Technology/Product Approval grants full or limited compatibility with a certain recycling stream. However, it does not constitute a Certification of a final product, therefore it must not be communicated to the consumer.

Under this category, the applicant CANNOT showcase a RecyClass logo or a claim of recyclability in the final package.

3.2  
RECYCLASS CLAIMS BASED ON A DESIGN-FOR-RECYCLING CERTIFICATION

The Design-for-Recycling Certification is an evaluation of the recyclability of a package based on the RecyClass Tool<sup>16</sup>.

This Certification assesses a package and its design based on its compatibility with established European recycling streams, by verifying to which extent it is designed for recycling. Additionally, testing on sorting may also be part of the assessment.



The assessment is conducted by an independent Certification Body<sup>17</sup> which issues an Audit Report and a Certificate stating the class result received by the package.

The certificate displays a class result grading the package from a class A to F<sup>18</sup> which relate to, respectively, full to no recyclability.

This grading system provides for simplified communication while conveying the message that recyclability is non-binary. An example of this Certificate may be found in Annex II.

Certification holders who obtained a grading between A – C can claim their packaging and equivalent packages are designed for recycling. Certification results class D – F may claim their corresponding class. However, in case of D – F, no additional contradicting messages claiming the packaging to be designed for recycling can be used.

Although the package must be collected, its design presents fundamental design flaws that will affect the quality of the output material. Therefore, to avoid greenwashing, recyclability claims are NOT allowed in these cases.

Certification holder may claim that their package is designed-for-recycling and may use the Certificate and claims following the guidance laid out in the next sections.

Additional information regarding how to dispose of a package is out of the scope of the Certification and it is specific for each Member State where EPR schemes or other organisations procure guidelines to consumers.

3.2.1 Business-to-business Claims

Certification holder may use the Certificate and claims in communication such as website, press releases, social media channels and direct communication aimed at stakeholders, customers, public procurement or suppliers. Certification holder can also reference to the Certificate in their documentation delivery notes or product specification sheets corresponding to the certified packaging. These claims must be paired with a link to the Design-for-Recycling Certificate (e.g. certificate code<sup>19</sup>) and a reference to RecyClass.

Claims must specify that the Design-for-Recycling Certification class result offers scoring on recyclability in Europe which does not consider the specific collection systems in the different EU countries.

A disclaimer that indicates that the recyclability of a packaging is subject to the national collection systems which might vary locally must be clearly stated. The applicant may include a list of countries where the packaging is collected (or exclude certain countries where this is not the case) following the information provided by RecyClass. Certified packaging must achieve an assessment result between A and C in order to communicate that the packaging is designed to be recycled. A list of examples of adequate messages may be found in Annex VI.

RecyClass Design for Recycling Certification applies to final products. *Semi-finished products* can obtain a *Letter of Compatibility*. See letter of compliance in annex III. The results of the letter of compatibility can be communicated business to business. However, at this stage, the use of the RecyClass logo is prohibited.

3.2.2 Business-to-consumer Claims

Certification holder may not use the Design for Recycling Certificate and corresponding claims on-pack aimed towards the final consumers. The Design for Recycling Certificate assesses the compatibility of a certain packaging with sorting and recycling practices, but it does not take into consideration the collection. Therefore, under this category, the applicant CANNOT showcase a RecyClass logo or a claim of recyclability in the final packaging towards the consumer.

Certification holder may use the Design for Recycling Certificate and corresponding claims in communication such as website, press releases, social media channels and direct communication aimed towards the final consumers.

Claims must specify that the Design-for-Recycling Certification class result offers scoring on recyclability in Europe which does not consider the specific collection systems in the different EU countries. A disclaimer that indicates that the recyclability of a packaging is subject to the national collection systems which might vary locally must be clearly stated. The applicant may include a list of countries where the packaging is collected (or exclude certain countries where this is not the case) following the information provided by RecyClass.

Certified packagings must achieve an assessment result between A and C in order to communicate that the packaging is designed to be recycled. A list of examples of adequate messages may be found in Annex VI.

3.3  
RECYCLASS CLAIMS BASED ON A RECYCLABILITY RATE CERTIFICATION

The Recyclability Rate Certification is a quantitative evaluation of the recyclability of a package according to the RecyClass Recyclability Methodology verified by a recognised Certification Body<sup>20</sup>. Recyclability is measured in form of a percentage of the total body weight of the final package that can be effectively recycled.

The Certification Body will issue an Audit Report and Certificate following the assessment. The specific percentage results in a more technical approach to the package’s recyclability while the Certification is still aimed at the final consumer as well. The Certificate is linked to a country or group of countries depending on their collection systems. An example of the Certificate may be found in Annex IV.

In addition to the share of material recyclability, the Certificate includes an equivalent class result to the rate (e.g. 100% recyclability is equivalent to class A). More information on the equivalences between rate and class result is available in the document “Recy-Class Recyclability Methodology”. The double scoring ensures complete alignment in the communication of the results for both Recyclability Certifications.

Certification holder may claim recyclability for their packaging and may use the logo found in Figure 2 for communication purposes in line with the guidance laid out in the following sections.

Figure 2. Recyclability logo - Examples Class A, C & E



The Recycling Rate Certification features a recyclability percentage and equivalent class according to the results of the audit. The logo indicates the class issued to the certified packaging.

Certification holders who obtained a recyclability rate higher than 50%, or classes between A and C, can claim plastic packaging recyclability of the certified packages and equivalent. Certification results between classes D and F may claim their corresponding class and equivalent logo. However, no additional contradicting messages regarding the plastic packaging recyclability of the package can be used. Although the package must be collected, its design presents fundamental

flaws which will affect the quality of the output material. Therefore, to avoid greenwashing, recyclability claims are NOT allowed in these cases. Examples of claims may be found in Annex V may also be used to communicate the packaging recyclability.

Additional information regarding how to dispose of a package is out of the scope of the Certification as it is specific to each Member State where EPR schemes procure guidelines to consumers.

Information on how to communicate about the Certification results, depending on the audience, is provided in the sections below.

3.3.1 Business-to-business Claims

Certification holder may use the Certificate or the corresponding logo in communication such as website, press release, social media channels and direct communication aimed at stakeholders, EPR schemes, customers or suppliers.

Certification holder can also use the logo in their documentation delivery notes or product specification sheets corresponding to the certified packaging. These claims must be paired with a link to the Recyclability Rate Certificate (e.g. certificate code) and a reference to RecyClass.

Business-to-business communication must refer to the recyclability rate percentage which is easily understood within the industry and show an accurate result of the assessment. Claims must be in line with the information stated in the Certificate. Information about the specific geographical area linked to the Certificate must be considered.

When the package is not final<sup>20</sup>, the Certification holder must avoid using the logo with the class on-product. On-product use of the logo always refers to the final packaging.

3.3.2 Business-to-consumers claims

Certification holder may use the Certificate or the corresponding logo in communication such as website, press releases, social media channels and direct communication (ads, banners, etc.) aimed at consumers. Claims and logo may also be used on-product which allows the consumer to make an informed purchase based on the packaging’s recyclability class.

Claims and logo must refer to the class result only, which provides a simple indication of the packaging recyclability to avoid creating confusion with a recycled content percentage in the product. Consumers will benefit from clear and simple communication messages. Claims can refer to plastic packaging recyclability when the recyclability rate is higher than 50% (or class A, B or C). A list of examples of adequate messages may be found in Annex VI.

The Recyclability Rate Certification is linked to a specific geographical area. The use of claims and logo should be limited to the countries mentioned in the Certificate or must be clearly mentioned in the information accompanying the logo (mention logo is applicable to country x, y).

The document “RecyClass Logo Design Guidance<sup>21</sup>” offers additional information on how to properly display the logo in terms of graphic design, allowing flexibility to marketers to choose an option which is better suited to their branding. RecyClass proposes several versions of the logo in different sizes to fit all types of packaging.

# RECYCCLASS RECYCLED CONTENT CLAIMS: CLAIMS BASED ON A RECYCLED PLASTICS TRACEABILITY CERTIFICATION

## Chapter 04

# RECYCLASS RECYCLED CONTENT CLAIMS

## 4.1 CLAIMS BASED ON A RECYCLED PLASTICS TRACEABILITY CERTIFICATION

RecyClass Recycled Content Traceability Certification allows certification holders to claim the recycled content of a product, component or compound to suppliers, customers, stakeholders or consumers when it is certified via a Recycled Content Traceability Certification. The Certification verifies that traceability of recycled content in plastics is in place within the whole value chain process. The Certification Scheme was developed according to ISO 22095<sup>22</sup> and EN 15343<sup>23</sup> on traceability, conformity assessment and recycled content.

The Certification is granted via independent Certification Bodies. Following an on-site audit, an Audit Report, Summary Sheet and Certificate will be issued, detailing the successful certification of the applicant and providing a list of certified products which contain recycled content. An example of the Certificate may be found in Annex V. The Certificate includes a list of products or components with recycled content, specifying if it refers to pre- or post-consumer material.

Claims of recycled content are possible according to the messages found in annex VII which can be paired with their corresponding logo included in Figure 3.

Claims and logo for certified products, compounds or components can only be used with a recycled content percentage equal to or higher than 10%.

Claims and logo percentage must reflect the recycled

content as per the Certification when communicating with the industry. When communicating to the consumer, please see section 4.1.2.

Requirements on the use of the claims and logo are further detailed in the following sections.

RecyClass	
RECYCLED CONTENT TRACEABILITY CERTIFICATE	
THIS CERTIFIES THAT	
BRAND NAME	
LEGAL COMPANY NAME AND ADDRESS	
Has been assessed in accordance with the Audit Scheme 1.0 (October 2020) and has the required procedures in place in order to ensure the traceability of recycled plastics incorporated in products listed in the attached Annex.	
Type of process or operation audited: compounding, converting, trading, storage, filling, etc.	
Audit Report and Certificate Registration Code: XXX-XXX-000	CERTIFIED BY: NAME OF AUDITOR Title of the auditor
Date of issue of certificate: 05/2023	CERTIFICATION NAME Certification address
Valid until: 05/2025	
*Validity conditions and terms of use may be found in the Audit Scheme documents and the Certification Agreement.	
RecyClass - Avenue de Broqueville 12, 1150 Woluwe, Saint-Pierre - Belgium - Phone: +32 (0)2 544 88 00 - info@recyclass.eu - www.recyclass.eu	
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Figure 3. RecyClass Recycled Plastics Traceability logo - Example 100% recycled plastics



### LOGOS WITH ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

RecyClass Recycled Plastics logo - Example use of 35% of pre-consumer recycled plastics



4.1.1 Business-to-business Claims

Certification holders may use the Certificate itself or the recycled content percentage for certified products or components along the value chain in communication such as website, press releases, social media channels and direct communication with stakeholders, customers and suppliers. Certification holder can also use the claim or logo in their documentation, delivery notes, product boxes or product specification sheets corresponding to certified products. The logo must use the percentage as stated in the Certificate and it should clarify the origin of the material accurately. These claims must be paired with a link to the Recycled Content Traceability Certification (e.g. certificate code) and a reference to RecyClass.

Additionally, RecyClass highly recommends sharing the Certificate where relevant information regarding the certified products may be found. In those claims that the Certificate is not shared, a reference to the Certificate and RecyClass must be procured.

Claims of recycled content traceability according to the Certification within the value chain can be:

- **Generic claims recognising a site Certification** where a third-party auditor verified the ability of the site to trace the recycled content used in an array of a product portfolio.
- **Specific claims concerning the recycled content of a product or component** which was included in the list of certified products in the Audit Report and Certificate. Claims of recycled content in products and components throughout the value chain must be precise to the result of the Audit specifying the origin of the waste and percentage of recycled content (e.g. transparent film with 50% recycled plastics from pre-consumer waste.).

4.1.2 Business-to-consumer Claims

Certification holders may use claims of recycled content towards consumers via the website, press releases, social media communication or direct communication (banners, ads, etc.); as well as logo display on and off the product. Claims to consumers must refer to RecyClass Certification of Recycled Plastics Traceability.

Off-product claims must be linked to a specific product or component certified when communicating towards the consumer. The information needs to be aligned with the data provided during the audit process which is reported in the Certificate and Audit Report. When claims refer to a component, this must be specifically clarified. All claims of recycled content must be linked to a Certificate code which can be identified and linked to an Audit Report. In addition to the percentage, the applicant can choose to add additional messages regarding the recycled content of a specific product. A list of examples of accepted claims can be found in Annex V.

Claims and logo can be used on and off a product when the component represents at least 50% of the total weight of the plastic parts of the certified product. In this case, it must be clarified that the claim refers to a specific component and not the overall product.

When calculating the recycled content of a final product with several plastic components, results must be rounded down to an integer value.

As an example, for packaging, the calculation of recycled plastic for the whole product considers the overall weight of the plastic components whereas non-plastics are excluded (e.g. paper, metal, etc.).

- Example: a plastic bottle weighing 100g (75 g main plastic body, 5g plastic sleeve, 20g plastic cap). The main body of the bottle has 98% post-consumer recycled content, the other 2% are additives. Plastic sleeve and cap do not contain recycled content. The recycled content of the product taking into account the total weight will be 73.5%. The value can be rounded down to 73% or 70%. This is the value that must be communicated to the final consumer and included in the recycled content logo. The origin of the material can also be communicated as “post-consumer” or “originated from post-use”.

Alternatively, the certification holder can communicate the recycled content per component.

- Following the previous example, the certification holder could also communicate “contains 98% of recycled plastics on the bottle/ excluding cap and label from post-consumer origin”.

In addition to the percentage of recycled content, claims and logo include the indication of the origin of the waste when the origin is pre-consumer. When the origin of the waste is post-consumer, the applicant can choose to disclose the origin.

The document “RecyClass Logo Design Guidance” offers additional information on how to properly display the logo in terms of graphic design, allowing flexibility to marketers to choose an option which is better suited to their branding. RecyClass proposes several versions of the logo in different sizes to fit all types of packaging.





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# GLOSSARY

**CERTIFICATION HOLDER:** Applicant of a RecyClass Certification that successfully passed the audit for recycled content or that obtained an assessment for recyclability.

**CONSUMERS:** General public.

**DESIGN-FOR-RECYCLING ASSESSMENT:** The package is designed to be recyclable, following the RecyClass Design for Recycling Guidelines. This Assessment evaluates and ranks the recyclability of plastic packaging, determining to which extent it is suitable for a specific recycling stream based on the state-of-the-art sorting and recycling technologies available in Europe. This assessment does not consider the collection, sorting and recycling specificities in a given country. The Assessment is based on RecyClass Design for Recycling Guidelines and its associated self-assessment tool, which allows classifying the technical recyclability of plastic packaging on the EU market.

**LETTER OF COMPATIBILITY:** Letter reporting the results of the Design for Recycling Compatibility Evaluation for semi-finished packaging. The letter issued by the Certification Body results in an intermediate class ranking taking following the audit scheme of the Design for Recycling Assessment.

**SEMI-FINISHED PACKAGING:** Packaging's body or main component without all its final attachments (e.g. closure system, labels, artwork).

**PRE-CONSUMER<sup>24</sup>:** Material diverted from the waste stream during the manufacturing process. Excluded is reutilization of materials such as rework, regrind or scrap generated in a process and capable of being reclaimed within the same process that generated it.

**POST-CONSUMER<sup>25</sup>:** Material generated by households or by commercial, industrial and institutional facilities in their role as end-users of the product which can no longer be used for its intended purpose. This includes returns of material from the distribution chain.

**RECYCLABILITY:** Plastics must meet four conditions for a product to be considered recyclable:

1. The product must be made with plastic that is collected for recycling, has market value and/or is supported by a legislatively mandated program.
2. The product must be sorted and aggregated into defined streams for recycling processes.
3. The product can be processed and reclaimed/recycled with commercial recycling processes.
4. Recycled plastic becomes a raw material that is used in the production of new products.

This definition does not intend to restrict innovation. For innovative materials to be recyclable, it shall be demonstrated that they can be collected and sorted in sufficient quantities and are compatible with existing industrial recycling processes or have sufficient material quantities to justify operating new recycling processes. Nonetheless, fulfilling these four categories does not automatically designate a product recyclable.

**RECYCLABILITY RATE ASSESSMENT:** The package is designed to be recycled, following the RecyClass Design for Recycling Guidelines, and is effectively recycled in the specific geographical area for which the assessment is conducted. In this assessment, the existence of selective collection schemes, as well as the existence of sorting and recycling infrastructures are being checked.



# ANNEX

ANNEX I. APPROVAL LETTER EXAMPLE

RecyClass

NAME OF THE COMPANY  
RECYCLASS TECHNOLOGY APPROVAL

Brussels, DD/MM/YYYY

The RecyClass XXX Technical Committee was requested to carry out an assesment of name of the technology by the NAME OF COMPANY to verify its impact on the quality of RECYCLING STREAM.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PRODUCT, RESULTS OF THE TEST, REFERENCE OF THE PROTOCOL USED.

Based on these results, RecyClass certifies that NAME OF THE TECHNOLOGY technology will not have a negative impact on the current European Recycling Stream

LIST OF CONDITIONS LINKED TO THE APPROVAL

LIST OF CONDITIONS LINKED TO THE APPROVAL

LIST OF CONDITIONS LINKED TO THE APPROVAL

Any chance on the formulation of the technology must be communicated to the Technical Committee which will reassess the approval of the technology.

Annex 1.

PICTURE OF THE TECHNOLOGY TESTED

About.

RecyClass is a comprehensive cross-industry initiative that works to advance plastic packaging recyclability and to establish a harmonized approach towards recycled content calculation and its traceability in Europe. Activities within RecyClass include the development of Recyclability Evaluation Protocols and scientific testing of innovative materials which serve as the base for the Design for Recycling guidelines and the free online tool. RecyClass offers Recyclability Certifications and Recycled Content Traceability Certification for plastic packaging.

Contact: [Alice.Vallan@plasticsrecyclers.eu](mailto:Alice.Vallan@plasticsrecyclers.eu) [www.plasticsrecyclers.eu](http://www.plasticsrecyclers.eu)

c/o Plastics Recyclers Europe  
Avenue de Broqueville 12  
1150 Brussels, Belgium

Phone: + 32 2 315 24 60  
[info@recyclclass.eu](mailto:info@recyclclass.eu)  
[www.recyclclass.eu](http://www.recyclclass.eu)

ANNEX II. DESIGN-FOR-RECYCLING CERTIFICATE EXAMPLE

RecyClass

DESIGN-FOR-RECYCLING CERTIFICATE

THIS CERTIFIES THAT

PRODUCT NAME  
PRODUCT BRAND

LEGAL COMPANY NAME AND COMPANY ADRESS

The product and equivalent products listed in Annex I were assessed and certified according to RecyClass Recyclability Methodology (version 1.1), hereby obtaining the following recyclability class:



Audit Report and Certificate Registration Code:  
XXX-XX-00

Date of issue of Certificate:  
05/2021

Date of expiration of Certificate:  
05/2021

\*Validity conditions and terms of use may be found in the Audit Scheme documents.

CERTIFIED BY:

NAME OF AUDITOR  
Title of the auditor

CERTIFICATION NAME  
Certification adress

RecyClass - Avenue de Broqueville 12, 1150 Woluwe-Saint-Pierre - Belgium - Phone : +32 2 315 24 60 - [info@recyclclass.eu](mailto:info@recyclclass.eu) - [www.recyclclass.eu](http://www.recyclclass.eu)


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ANNEX III. DESIGN FOR RECYCLING – LETTER OF COMPATIBILITY

RecyClass

LETTER OF COMPATIBILITY

DESIGN FOR RECYCLING



**XX** assessed the recyclability of the semi-finished-product described underneath. The analysis was done conform the RecyClass guidelines and methodology. Based on the results of our judgement we are confident to grant you this letter of compatibility.

Please be aware that changes in design, print, used materials and/or the effect of product-content or residue, might change the outcome of the assessment of a final packaging. We advise you to have the final/complete product packaging certified.

**GRANTED TO:**  
Name company  
Address company

**PACKAGING:**  
Product type, name etc.

**RESULT**

We confirm that the semi-finished product we have assessed, is compatible with readily available sorting & recycling technologies commonly used at industrial scale in the recycling sector in Europe.

As an intermediate result, we have established that this semi-finished product is sorted into the **XX** fraction.

**THE RECYCLASS RECYCLABILITY OF THIS SEMI-FINISHED PRODUCT IS CALCULATED AS CLASS **XX**.**

**DISCLAIMER**

At this stage, the use of the RecyClass logo is prohibited. The use of any claims on the recyclability of the semi-finished product are not supported by RecyClass. To use the logo and/or to have RecyClass endorsement, you must submit the final packaging for certification. Indeed, it is the final packaging (including its decorative elements and product-residue) that will enter the recycling system.

This letter of compatibility is valid until **xx/xx/202x**, three years after the release of the audit report.

Audit Report and Certificate Registration Code N°:  
  
Date of issue of certificate :  
  
Valid until :

CERTIFIED BY :

\*Validity conditions and terms of use may be found in the Audit Scheme documents.

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ANNEX IV. RECYCLABILITY RATE CERTIFICATE EXAMPLE

RecyClass

RECYCLABILITY RATE CERTIFICATE

THIS CERTIFIES THAT

PRODUCT NAME  
BRAND NAME  
LEGAL COMPANY NAME AND ADRESS

The product and equivalent products hereby listed in Annex I were assessed and certified according to RecyClass Recyclability Methodology, thereby obtaining the following recyclability rate and class:

90%

RECYCLABILITY

The value represents the proportion of material in the packaging that is recoverable and valuable for the recycling stream.



Audit Report and Certificate Registration Code N°:  
K01-012-653  
  
Date of issue of certificate :  
05/2021  
  
Valid until :  
05/2022

CERTIFIED BY :  
  
NAME OF AUDITOR  
Title of auditor  
  
CERTIFICATION NAME  
Certification adress

\*Validity conditions and terms of use may be found in the Audit Scheme documents.

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ANNEX V. RECYCLED CONTENT TRACEABILITY  
CERTIFICATE

RecyClass

RECYCLED CONTENT  
TRACEABILITY CERTIFICATE

THIS CERTIFIES THAT

BRAND NAME

LEGAL COMPANY NAME AND ADRESS

Has been assessed in accordance with the Audit Scheme 1.0 (October 2020) and has the required procedures in place in order to ensure the traceability of recycled plastics incorporated in products listed in the attached Annex.

Type of process or operation audited: compounding, converting, trading, storage, filling, etc.

Audit Report and Certificate Registration Code:  
XXX-XXX-000

Date of issue of certificate:  
05/2021

Valid until:  
05/2021

\*Validity conditions and terms of use may be found in the Audit Scheme documents and the Certification Agreement.

CERTIFIED BY:

NAME OF AUDITOR  
Title of the auditor

CERTIFICATION NAME  
Certification adress

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ANNEX VI. LIST OF RECYCLABILITY CLAIMS  
OR EQUIVALENT MESSAGES

THE FOLLOWING LIST OF MESSAGES MAY BE USED WHEN COMMUNICATING THE RESULTS OF THE DESIGN FOR RECYCLING CERTIFICATE WHEN THE RESULTS OBTAINED WERE CLASS A, B OR C.

PROPOSED MESSAGES

1. (PLASTIC PACKAGE) DESIGNED TO BE RECYCLED – CHECK LOCAL COLLECTION SYSTEMS
2. RECYCLING-READY PLASTIC PACKAGING – CHECK LOCAL COLLECTION SYSTEMS
3. (PLASTIC PACKAGING) COMPATIBLE WITH RECYCLING STREAMS AVAILABLE IN EUROPE

THE FOLLOWING MESSAGES CAN BE USED FOR RECYCLABILITY RATE CERTIFICATIONS WHICH ARE LINKED TO A SPECIFIC LOCATION WITH RESULTS BETWEEN 50 AND 100%:

PROPOSED MESSAGES(RECYCLABILITY RATE)

1. RECYCLABLE
2. RECYCLABLE PLASTIC PACKAGING
3. THIS PLASTIC PACKAGING IS RECYCLABLE IN BENELUX

# ANNEX VII. LIST OF RECYCLED CONTENT CLAIMS OR EQUIVALENT MESSAGES

THE FOLLOWING CLAIMS PROVIDE A LIST OF CLAIMS TO BE USED WHEN COMMUNICATING THE RECYCLED CONTENT OF A PRODUCT.

## PROPOSED MESSAGES

- 1. CONTAINS XX% RECYCLED PLASTICS
- 2. CONTAINS XX% RECYCLED PLASTICS IN THE “PRODUCT” / EXCLUDING “COMPONENT”
- 3. CONTAINS XX% RECYCLED PLASTICS CERTIFIED BY RECYCLASS
- 4. MADE OF XX% RECYCLED PLASTIC ORIGINATED FROM PRE-/POST-CONSUMER ORIGIN
- 5. XX% RECYCLED CONTENT / EXCLUDING “COMPONENT”

IN ORDER TO ADD ADDITIONAL MESSAGES TO THESE LISTS, PLEASE GET IN TOUCH WITH RECYCLASS TO REVIEW THE DOCUMENT UNDER THE CLAIMS TASKFORCE.

# ANNEX VIII. REFERENCES

1. EC, 2014. Consumer Market Study on Environmental Claims for Non-Food Products available on: [https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/study\\_on\\_environmental\\_claims\\_for\\_non\\_food\\_products\\_2014\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/study_on_environmental_claims_for_non_food_products_2014_en.pdf)
2. OJ L 155, 12.6.2019, p. 1–19
3. RecyClass Recyclability Methodology available at RECYCLASS-RECYCLABILITY-METHODOLOGY\_v.1.1.pdf
4. RecyClass Recycled Plastics Traceability Certification Audit Scheme available at Certification-Traceability-of-recycled-Plastics-Audit-Scheme-21-07-2020-1.pdf (recyclclass.eu)
5. Certifications information available at Recyclclass – The recycling tool for plastic packaging
6. Technology and Product Approvals information available at Accredited Laboratories – Recyclclass
7. ISEAL. Sustainability Claims Good Practice Guide available at [https://www.isealalliance.org/sites/default/files/resource/2017-11/ISEAL\\_Claims\\_Good\\_Practice\\_Guide.pdf](https://www.isealalliance.org/sites/default/files/resource/2017-11/ISEAL_Claims_Good_Practice_Guide.pdf)
8. OJ L 149, 11.6.2005, p. 22–39
9. Technology and Product Approvals available at Accredited Laboratories – Recyclclass
10. Design for Recycling Certification available at Recyclability Product Certification – Recyclclass.
11. Recyclability Rate Certification available at Recyclability Product Certification – Recyclclass
12. RecyClass Recyclability Methodology available at <https://recyclclass.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/RECYCLASS-RECYCLABILITY-METHODOLOGY-2020-06-04.pdf>
13. Design for Recycling Guidelines available at <https://recyclclass.eu/recyclclass/design-for-recycling-guidelines/>
14. Recyclability Protocol Evaluations available at <https://recyclclass.eu/recyclability-evaluation-protocols/>
15. Certification Procedures and Quality Management available at <https://recyclclass.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Recy-Class-Recyclability-Certification-Procedures-and-Quality-Management-2020-30-07-2020-002.pdf>
16. RecyClass Online Tool available at <https://recyclclass.eu/tool/>
17. List of recognised Certification Bodies is available at <https://recyclclass.eu/recyclclass/recyclability-product-certification/>
18. RecyClass Recyclability Methodology available at RECYCLASS-RECYCLABILITY-METHODOLOGY\_v.1.1.pdf
19. Certificate code is a serial number that RecyClass issues as an identifier for each Certificate.
20. Eligibility for Recyclability Certifications describes that “packaging products must include all their different components and must be either pledged on the market or yet to be introduced with no further alternations to be made to its design.” More information available in section 8 of the document Quality Management and Procedures available at RecyClass-Recyclability-Certification-Procedures-and-Quality-Management-2020-30-07-2020-002.pdf
21. RecyClass Logo Design Guidance.
22. ISO 22095:2020 Chain of Custody – General Terminology and models available at <https://www.iso.org/standard/72532.html>
23. EN 15343:2007 Plastics. Recycled plastics. Plastics recycling traceability and assessment of conformity and recycled Content available at <https://www.evs.ee/en/evs-en-15343-2007>
24. EN 14021:2016 Environmental labels and declarations — Self-declared environmental claims (Type II Environmental labelling) available at <https://www.evs.ee/en/evs-en-14021-2004>
25. EN 14021:2016 Environmental labels and declarations — Self-declared environmental claims (Type II Environmental labelling) available at <https://www.evs.ee/en/evs-en-14021-2004>

RecyClass

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