

| | CATEGORY | FULL COMPATIBILITY | LIMITED COMPATIBILITY | NON-COMPATIBILITY |
|-------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| | Material Composition (amount of PET (except lid) in the packaging) | A ≥ 95 %, B ≥ 80 % | C ≥ 70 % | Non-recyclable < 70 % |
| | Description (Testing Protocol) | 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 PET recycling | 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 PET recycling | Materials that failed the testing protocols OR materials that have not been tested (yet), but pose a high risk of interfering with PET recycling |
| MAIN BODY | Materials** | PET Thickness > 180 µm | PET/PE multilayers with or without barrier not hindering NIR detection of the PET | PLA; PVC; PS; PETG; C-PET; PET-GAG; Expanded PET; Thickness ≤ 180 µm (sorting test) |
| | Colours | Transparent & opaque light colours | Dark colours (NIR detectable) | Black, Metallic, Non NIR-detectable colours |
| | Size | | Items compacted ≤ 5 cm | Items compacted ≤ 2 cm |
| | Product Residues (Easy-to-Empty Index) | A if the index is ≤ 5 %, B if the index is ≤ 10 % | C if the index is ≤ 15 % | Index is > 15 % |
| | Barriers | PET based oxygen scavenger without yellowing effect SiO _x and AlO _x plasma for barrier on lid For multilayers: Barrier material within PE layer (i.e., PE/EVOH/PE) or with barrier material blended in PE | PET based oxygen scavenger with limited yellowing effect | Barrier layers within the PET layer or in direct contact to PET layer PA; Any other barrier; Any other oxygen scavenger |
| | Additives | Silicone surface coating; Antiblocking masterbatch ≤ 3 % | UV stabilizers; AA blockers; optical brighteners; antiblocking masterbatch; anti-stat agents, anti-fogging agents | Bio-/oxo-/photodegradable additives; Nanocomposites PFAS based antifog; Any other PFAS-based additives |
| | Laminating Adhesives for Multilayers*** | Water-based acrylics | EVA | Solvent-free laminating adhesives |
| | ATTACHMENTS | Closure Systems (Lidding Films) | Floating plastics with density ≤ 1 g/cm ³ without glue residual | Unprinted PET or BOPET films Foamed PET |
| Other Components | | PET Trays with porous enabling liquid retention | Soaker pads & bubble pads easily removable by hands Soaker pads not hindering recognition of the underlying PET polymer by covering less than 50% of the back of the tray (sorting test mandatory above 50% coverage) Black soaker pads (sorting test) | PVC; PS; EPS; PU; PA; PC; PMMA; Thermoset plastics; metals; Soaker pads & bubble pads not easily removable by hands or leaving residue glued |
| DECORATION | Facestock Label Materials | Labels in PE; PP; OPP (all with density ≤ 1 g/cm ³), with a size that does not hinder* the recognition of the underlying PET polymer (≤ 50 % coverage) | BPA-free paper labels without fibre loss during recycling process Labels with a coverage > 50 % (sorting test) | Plastic labels with density > 1 g/cm ³ ; Paper labels with fibre loss during recycling process; Paper labels containing BPA; Non-floating paper labels |
| | Adhesives (for Labels, Lids, Soaking Pads, etc.) & Sealant*** | Alkali/water soluble or alkali/water releasable adhesive at 70 °C EVA sealant | Alkali/water soluble or alkali/soluble partially releasable adhesive at 70 °C | Any other adhesives |
| | Inks | Non-bleeding (Retentive)**** inks compliant with EuPIA Charter applied on removable parts (lids & labels) | Production or expiry date directly applied on the tray | Bleeding inks; Inks non-compliant with EuPIA Charter ; PVC binders; Any direct printing on PET Thermoform |
| | Other Decorative Technologies | Laser marking (production or expiry date) | | Other laser marking |

Disclaimer: Use of recycled content does not impact the recyclability assessment.

*Approved technologies can be found [here](#).

**Polymer resin can be either fossil- or bio-based, virgin or recycled.

***Under investigation

****Non-bleeding (Retentive) behavior can be checked using the RecyClass REP-PETtray-01 Protocol