Viva Packaging ‘IML tube’ tested and approved by RecyClass

Monday, September 19, 2022 — Results of independent laboratory testing demonstrated that the polypropylene (PP) based technology ‘IML tube’ developed by Viva Packaging is compatible with the rigid PP recycling stream.

The decorated, PP-based tube is designed with a BOPP In-Mould label (IML), with a combination of inks, varnish and cold stamp representing less than 0.7% of the total weight of the packaging. IML decoration can be used in numerous industries, including food, beverage, cosmetics and healthcare.

Sorting trials[1] were performed at CIRCPACK and, with a detection rate of 90%, demonstrating that the dark artwork of the tubes does not prevent the tubes from being successfully sorted in the PP rigid stream.

Following the sorting trials, the Institut für Kunststofftechnologie und -recycling (IKTR) carried out the recyclability tests according to the RecyClass Recyclability Evaluation Protocol for PP containers[2]. Those tests show that ‘IML Tube’ poses no disruptive impacts to the rigid, coloured PP recycling stream when the set conditions[3] are fulfilled. Recycled plastics generated from the recycling of ‘IML-tube’ can be used in injection moulding applications, with up to 50% concentration.

The results of this analysis are a clear indication for the industry on how fundamental the evaluation of the different decoration technologies is, in order to ensure that they do not disrupt the recycling process. Recyclability of decoration technologies, together with other components of packaging, is essential in enabling high-quality recycling.

[1] RecyClass Sorting Evaluation Protocol for Plastic Packaging

[2] RecyClass Recyclability Evaluation Protocol for PP containers

[3] The full list of conditions is available in the Viva Packaging ‘IML tube’ Approval Letter

RecyClass Recyclability Approvals

RecyClass issues two types of Recyclability Approvals – Technology Approvals and Product Approvals. These are issued upon conducted testing in accordance with one of the established Recyclability Evaluation Protocols. Testing results are incorporated in the RecyClass Design for Recycling Guidelines and the Online Tool. The full list of approved Technologies and Products can be found on the RecyClass website.

About RecyClass

RecyClass is a non-profit, cross-industry initiative advancing recyclability, bringing transparency to the origin of plastic waste

and establishing a harmonized approach toward recycled plastic calculation & traceability in Europe. RecyClass develops Recyclability Evaluation Protocols and scientific testing methods for innovative plastic packaging materials which serve as the base for the Design for Recycling Guidelines and the RecyClass Online Tool. RecyClass established Recyclability Certifications for plastic packaging, Recycling Process Certification and Recycled Plastics Traceability Certification for plastic products.
RecyClass – Plastic Future is Circular
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About Viva Packaging

A leading plastic packaging manufacturer since 1973. Viva Packaging Europe is a subsidiary of the Viva Group, a leading manufacturer of plastic products and personal protective equipment with its headquarters in Hong Kong and with several manufacturing sites located in North America, Europe and Asia.
Viva Packaging Europe was established in 2000 in Antwerp, Belgium and the production facility in Warsaw, Poland where it started manufacturing the first products in 2005. The focus is primarily on the production and wholesale of media packaging and packaging solutions for the cosmetics, beauty and healthcare industry, but as a specialist Injection moulding company, Viva is open to any new product development in conjunction with the customers' needs and requirements.
Viva Packaging Europe strives to be a complete and innovative player that offers sustainable and value-added packaging solutions that makes your brand stand out from the crowd.

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