








General Notice

Behaviour of PVC labels or sleeves during the recycling of HDPE and PP bottles

1/ Summary table of impacts on regeneration

| Recycling stage | Impact | Description | Consequences |
|--|---|---|------------------|
|  Sorting on bottles (optional) | ∅ | - | - |
|  Crushing | ∅ | - | - |
|  Flotation | ∅ | Flakes from PVC labels (density >1) are almost totally separated from the HDPE and PP streams | - |
|  Washing | ∅ | - | - |
|  Granulation  Recycling |  | Traces of PVC create black stains during recycling of HDPE | Quality problems |



Caution

∅ No impact

→ Environmental consequences

2/ COTREP's conclusion

With the current equipment and techniques used and available in Europe, a PVC label or sleeve slightly disrupts the regeneration phase of the HDPE stream. Although the flotation stage eliminates most of the PVC, flake residues can create black stains during recycling.

COTREP recommends substitution of PVC with a different, more compatible plastic where possible.

NB: In the case of an integral sleeve or label, the behaviour of the packaging may vary, particularly during the sorting stages. For further information please consult General Notice No. 12.