COmité Technique de Recyclage des Emballages Plastiques

GENERAL NOTICE
Technical Sheet

SUBJECT

Behaviour of nitrocellulose inks for heliogravure printing on PP labels or sleeves in PET bottle recycling.

IMPACT SUMMARY TABLE

Recycling stage	Impact	Description	Consequences
Pre-washing (optional)	Ø	If the ink leaves its base => dispersal into washing water	
Sorting of bottles	⌛ Ø	*Bottle with metallic pigment ink: study in progress* Ink with mineral or organic pigment: no impact on sorting	
Grinding	Ø		
Washing	Ø	If the ink leaves its base => dispersal into washing water	
Flake floating and separation	Ø	Ink remaining on a base with density < 1 is eliminated during the flotation phase ⇒ separation from base	
Flake sorting (optional)	Ø		
Granulation (optional)	Ø		
Recycling	Ø		

⚠ Caution Ø No impact ⌛ Under examination ➢ **Environmental consequences**

GENERAL OPINION

In the current state of equipment and techniques used and available in Europe, the nitrocellulose inks currently used on labels or sleeves made from PP with density < 1 do not disrupt the recycling of PET bottles.

A study is in progress on the behaviour of metallic pigment inks. The findings will be included in an update to this technical sheet.