














**GENERAL NOTICE**  
*Technical Sheet*

**SUBJECT**

Behaviour of an aluminium or aluminium-containing closure system in the recycling of PET bottles

**IMPACT SUMMARY TABLE**

Recycling stage	Impact	Description	Consequences
 <b>Pre-washing</b> (optional)	∅		
 <b>Sorting of bottles</b>		1 bottle with closure containing aluminium detected, ⇒ up to 5 bottles without aluminium cap ejected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Higher losses</li> <li>➤ <b>Increase in waste to be processed</b></li> </ul>
 <b>Grinding</b>	∅		
 <b>Washing</b>	∅		
 <b>Flake floating and separation</b>		Aluminium particles are not eliminated and remain in the PET stream	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PET stream polluted</li> </ul>
 <b>Flake sorting</b> (optional)		1 aluminium particle detected, ⇒ up to 100 non-aluminium fleck ejected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Higher losses</li> <li>➤ <b>Increase in waste to be processed</b></li> </ul>
 <b>Granulation</b> (optional) and  <b>Recycling</b>		Presence of aluminium particles: ⇒ - Filters blocked - Stream blocked - Visual flaws - Holes, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Process disrupted</li> <li>- more machine stoppages</li> <li>- higher losses</li> <li>• Quality defects</li> <li>➤ <b>Increase in waste to be processed</b></li> </ul>

 Caution ∅ No impact ⌚ Under examination ➤ **Environmental consequences**

**GENERAL OPINION**

In the current state of equipment and techniques used and available in Europe, this capping system significantly disrupts the recycling of PET bottles.

**COTREP advises against use of this capping system.**