


GENERAL NOTICE
Technical Sheet

SUBJECT

Behaviour of inks for offset printing, flexography or heliogravure on paper labels in plastic bottle recycling.

IMPACT SUMMARY TABLE

Recycling stage	Impact	Description	Consequences
Pre-washing (optional)	∅	Defibration of paper label and dispersal of fibres and ink in washing water	<u>Paper label:</u> • Higher losses ➤ Increase in waste to be processed
Sorting of bottles (optional)	 ∅	<i>Bottle with metallic pigment ink: study in progress</i> Ink with mineral or organic pigment: no impact on sorting	
Grinding	∅		
Washing	∅	Dispersal in washing water of labels and inks not removed in pre-washing	<u>Paper label:</u> • Higher losses ➤ Increase in waste to be processed
Flake floating and separation	∅		
Flake sorting (optional)	∅		
Granulation (optional)	∅		
Recycling	∅		



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

GENERAL OPINION

In the current state of equipment and techniques used and available in Europe, the printing inks with mineral or organic pigments currently used on paper labels do not disrupt the recycling of plastic 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.

In the current state of equipment and techniques used and available in Europe, paper labels do not disrupt the recycling of plastic bottles but significantly increase the quantity of waste to be processed.