Brussels, November 10th, 2015

The Technical Committee of the European PET Bottle Platform (EPBP) was requested to assess the effect of CCL Label GmbH low density pressure sensitive labelling systems (LD-PSL+) on the quality of recycled PET. CCL Label's LD-PSL+ solutions are based on a duplex laminate of LD-polyolefin films with tactile relief varnish in conjunction with an acrylic pressure sensitive adhesive.

CCL Label's LD-PSL+ pressure sensitive labelling systems are specifically designed to be fully removable in one piece from the PET flakes by the hot washing solution during the PET recycling process: the adhesive is designed to be completely removed together with the label substrate, leaving no residuals on the clean PET flakes.

This EPBP opinion is valid only where non bleeding inks are used in conjunction with CCL Label LD-PSL+ pressure sensitive labelling systems.

Data supplied from tests carried out according to the EPBP testing protocol demonstrated no negative impact on the colour and processing performance of the resulting rPET.

Based on the EPBP assessment's outcome and current market's knowledge in 2015, the European PET Bottle Platform (EPBP) confirms that CCL Label LD-PSL+ pressure sensitive labelling systems will not have a negative impact on current European PET recycling provided the following conditions are met:

(a) The density of the printed LD-pressure sensitive label with the adhesive is below 1 g/cm^3 (adhesive + label + ink), taking batch to batch tolerances into consideration;

(b) The inks:

   a. Are non bleeding;

   b. Have high chemical resistance;

   c. Have low migration

   d. Comply with the European Legislation (e.g. Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive on the heavy metal concentration levels).

(c) The concentration of LD-pressure sensitive labelled bottles is limited to a max to 10% of the whole EU PET bottle market. This market penetration rate takes local accumulation effects into consideration.