



Brussels, March 25th, 2021

The Technical Committee of the European PET Bottle Platform (EPBP) was requested to assess the effect of Multi-Color Corporation's RecyclABEL® clear #11581 and RecyclABEL® white #11582 low density pressure sensitive labelling systems (LD-PSL) on the quality of recycled PET. This system contains a transparent as well as an opaque label solution. The two solutions have been formerly assessed and commercialised as Spear RC Clear #11581 and Spear RC White 11582, respectively.

The Multi-Color Corporation's label solutions are based on clear (RecyclABEL® clear #11581) and white (RecyclABEL® white #11582) BOPP films with NaOH sensitive emulsion acrylic pressure sensitive adhesive.

The Multi-Color Corporation's low density pressure sensitive labelling system is specifically designed to be fully removable in one piece from the hot washing solution during the PET recycling process: the adhesive is designed to be completely removed together with the label substrate, ensuring no absorption on the clean PET flakes.

This EPBP opinion is valid only where non bleeding inks are used in conjunction with Multi-Color Corporation's RecyclABEL® clear #11581 and RecyclABEL® white #11582.

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 2020, the European PET Bottle Platform (EPBP) concludes that Multi-Color Corporation's RecyclABEL® clear #11581 and RecyclABEL® white #11582 systems will not have a negative impact on current European PET recycling provided it is used only under the following conditions:

- (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.

This endorsement replaces the one issued to Spear RC for Spear RC Clear #11581 and Spear RC White 11582 on 5 May 2015.

The EPBP reserves the right to update and change the conditions of this technical opinion at any time, upon prior notice to Multi Color Corporation, in accordance to the most recent technologies, assessments and experience.

The European PET Bottle Platform EPBP is a voluntary industry initiative that provides PET bottle design guidelines for recycling, evaluates PET bottle packaging solutions and technologies and facilitates understanding of the effects of new PET bottle innovations on recycling processes. The EPBP initiative fully supports the economic and environmental sustainability of the European PET value chain.