

**TO: ALL PET SUPPLIERS**

**FROM: PRCC**

**DATE: AUGUST 1, 2024**

**Subject: Elimination of all dangerous contamination in PET bales**

As part of our ongoing commitment to improve the efficiency and quality of our plastic recycling processes, it is essential to address the issue of metal contaminants in the plastic recycling stream. Metal contaminants can significantly impact the quality of recycled plastic products and damage recycling equipment, leading to increased maintenance cost and downtime. Good quality means satisfied buyers who are less likely to seek refunds or compensation, reducing the potential risk of expensive claims. To mitigate these risks, we recommend implementing the following best practices:

**1. Initial inspection and sorting:**

- **Manual sorting:** Train staff to manually inspect and remove all metal items from the plastic waste stream at the initial sorting stage.
- **Roll-off usage:** When receiving loose PET in a roll-off, make sure that the roll-off was not previously used for other materials. If so, inspect for contaminants, especially at the bottom of the loose PET pile.
- **Visual inspection:** Implement a visual inspection process using cameras and/or sensors to identify and separate metal contaminants.
- **Baling process:** Observe the plastic bottles as they go into the baler chamber and remove any metal contaminants.

**2. Magnetic separation:** Install magnetic drums and overhead magnets to capture ferrous metals. These devices should be placed at various points along the conveyor belt where the plastic waste is transported. For the MRF operators, use eddy current separators. Use eddy current separators to remove nonferrous metals, such as aluminum and copper from the plastic stream.

**3. Employee training and awareness:** Conduct regular training sessions for employees on the importance of metal contamination prevention, and the proper use of sorting and separation equipment.

**4. Quality control and monitoring:** Implement a system of regular audits to monitor the effectiveness of all types of contamination control measures and identify areas for improvement.

**5. Final inspection before loading the PET bales into a trailer:** Implement a procedure for the forklift operator to inspect all sides of the PET bales before loading into a trailer.

By following these best practices, we can significantly reduce the presence of metal contaminants in our recycled plastic, thereby improving product quality, reducing equipment wear and tear, and enhancing overall operational efficiency. Your cooperation and commitment to these measures are crucial for our continued success in the plastic recycling industry.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

*PRCC management*