

BUYER BALE SPECIFICATIONS PET THERMOFORM

The Plastic Recycling Corporation of California (PRCC) bale specifications for PET are intended as a guideline for assessing and improving PET bale quality. The following specifications are for bales sold by State Certified California Processors or Recyclers to PRCC. PRCC reserves the right to amend these specifications from time to time in its sole discretion, and will issue such amendment in writing to the California State Certified Processors and Recyclers from whom PRCC purchases PET Containers.

All claims and adjustments will be handled on a case by case basis.

Definitions:

- **PET** = Polyethylene Terephthalate.
- **CRV PET Beverage Bottles** = whole post-consumer, PET empty beverage containers (i) with a screw-neck top, (ii) no built in handle, (iii) containing the American Society of Testing and Materials' (ASTM) "#1", "PET" or "PETE" resin identification code, and (iv) with a California redemption value.
- **Non-CRV PET Containers** = whole clear, green or other translucent or opaque PET containers from California which are not CRV Beverage Bottles: (i) other post-consumer PET containers with no handle and with a screw-neck accepting a screw-cap type closure
- **Plant Scrap** = PRCC will accept some whole screw-neck pre-consumer PET container plant scrap; PRCC must be informed prior to shipping if the load contains plant scrap.
- **PET Containers** = collective term for CRV Beverage Bottles and Non-CRV PET containers.

THERMOFORM

Minimum of 38,000 pounds in a 40' HC and 40,000 pounds in a 45' HC. All thermoform pieces must be **optically sorted**, and no other thermoform shall come from any other sorting stations. This is done to prevent any lookalike (PS, PLA, PVC) thermoform to get mixed in with PET.

Bale Density: 15-17 lbs./ft. Density must not exceed 17 lbs. per cubic foot.

1. **Requirements.** All PET containers sold to Buyer shall (a) be 100% free of contents or free-flowing liquids, and (b) be advised that contaminants listed in Section 2 below might be in the Thermoform bales. In addition, the bales of PET Containers shall not contain contamination of the types in excess of the applicable maximum percentage by weight as specified in Section 3 below.
2. **Prohibited Contaminants.** PRCC's goal for PET containers sold to Buyer is to be 100% free of each of the following contaminants listed in Section 2, however, be advised that some of the following contaminants might still be found in Thermoform bales:
 - A. EPS (ASTM #6) plastic foam
 - B. Plastic bags and plastic film
 - C. Wood
 - D. Glass

- E. Motor oils and grease
- F. Rocks, Stones, Mud, Dirt
- G. Degradable, Biodegradable or Compostable plastic
- H. Medical and Hazardous Waste (In addition, any PET Container that previously contained any hazardous or potentially hazardous material, including but not limited to agricultural products, pesticides, herbicides, automotive fluids, medical products (drugs, IV solutions, syringes/ hypodermic needles), flammable, corrosive or reactive liquids, grease and solvents are expressly prohibited. This rule applies even if the aforementioned material was not the original contents of the PET Container.)

3. **Maximum Level of Contamination.** Each of the bales of PET Containers sold to Buyer shall comply with the following:

- A. Maximum level of total contamination of any kind per bale shall be 6% by weight.
- B. Maximum level of contamination of any kind per bale shall be 2% by weight for any of the following individual contaminants:
 - 1. HDPE Rigid Plastic Containers (ASTM #2)
 - 2. LDPE Rigid Plastic Containers (ASTM #4)
 - 3. PP Rigid Plastic Containers (ASTM #5)
 - 4. PS Rigid Plastic Containers (ASTM #6)
 - 5. PETG, PLA, PS and PVC or Black PET trays
 - 6. Aluminium
 - 7. Metal Food Cans or Beverage Containers
 - 8. Paper/Cardboard
 - 9. Opaque (non-translucent) PET Containers
 - 10. Colored PET Containers other than green
 - 11. Plant Scrap
 - 12. Scrap Metal
 - 13. Any plastic that has deteriorated from sun or weather exposure
- C. Maximum level of contamination per bale shall be 1% by weight for any kind of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) (ASTM #3), including but not limited to containers, tamper proof seals, cap liners, and labels.

4. **Bales.** Each of the bales of PET Containers sold to Buyer shall conform to the following:

- A. Bale size (preferred): 30"x60"x48"
- B. Bale size (maximum): 48"x72"x36"
- C. Bale Wire: Bales should be held together with 10-12 gauge, non-corrosive galvanized metal wire, with all bale wires wrapped in one direction. A minimum number of bale wires should be used that maintains bale integrity. This number will vary with bale size. Metal bands or strapping in lieu of wire is acceptable on a case-by-case basis.
- D. Bale Integrity: Bale integrity should be maintained throughout loading, shipping, unloading and storage.



- E. Bale Storage: Bales should be stored, with the bottom bale on a pallet, indoors or covered outdoors preferred. Material must not be stored outdoors uncovered for a period exceeding four (4) weeks to prevent UV degradation from direct sunlight and moisture contamination.