

Trays Circularity Evaluation Platform from PETCORE Europe



PET Thermoforms represent more than one million tons of PET packaging in Europe and the sector is gearing up towards circularity. The Tray Circularity Evaluation Platform (TCEP) has been created to support the development of the recycling of thermoforms.

The tools developed and used by TCEP

	YES Full compatibility – materials that passed the testing protocols with no negative impact	CONDITIONAL Limited compatibility – materials that passed the testing protocols if certain conditions are met	NO Low compatibility – materials that failed the testing protocols
Material			
White Opaque			
Size			
Additives			

TCEP has developed design guidelines for PET Thermoforms that are widely recognised and used by the industry.

Strong testing procedures have been established to assess recyclability and a modus operandi ensures that the assessments are based on scientific evidence and final assessment is valid for the whole value chain.

As a result, these assessments are scientifically relevant, trusted, and independent from the views of any one single sector.

The team

Created in 2020, TCEP relies on the expertise of experienced professionals from across the full value chain who are active in the sectors of recycling, thermoforms conversion and waste management.



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Looking to the future

The Platform can rely on a strong network of more than 160 companies, who are PETCORE members and able to bring complementary expertise whenever needed.

The Platform is also supportive of the European standardisation process on the design guidelines for PET Thermoforms and their recyclability assessment with CEN.

To further improve the recycling of thermoforms, we call upon all companies to bring their new PET thermoforms solutions and innovations to TCEP in order to get an objective, third party assessment of their recyclability.

