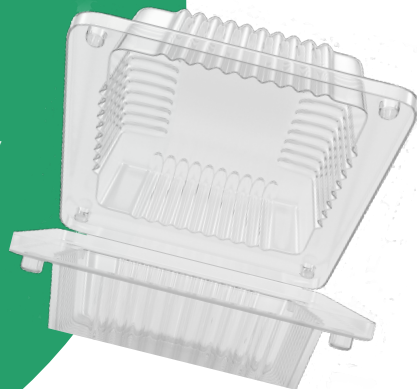


PET trays are mainly used in food packaging applications, as they preserve and keep food fresh longer.



PET TRAYS

COLLECTION & SORTING

Trays are collected together with other household waste. In a sorting plant the collected material is separated in different material streams and baled.



SORTING & PRE WASHING

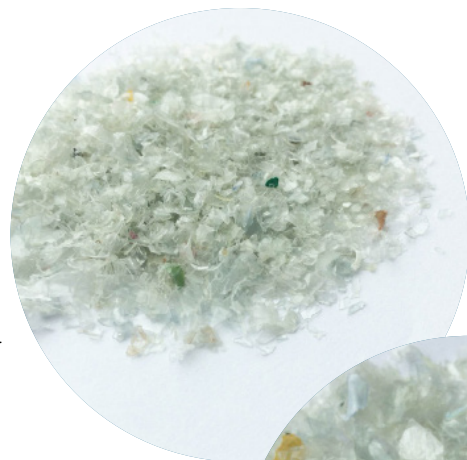
Bales are opened at a recycling facility. The input material is further sorted via Near-Infrared technology. Sorted material is then pre-washed to remove primary contaminants.

DID YOU KNOW?

PET trays can contain up to 4 times more organic contamination (food residue) per 1 Mt of processed waste when compared to PET bottles.

GRINDING

During the grinding stage, sorted trays are cut into smaller pieces known as flakes. Ground flakes can differ in size due to the brittleness of trays. Smallest pieces are called fines.



PET TRAYS GRINDING & WASHING

2

DESIGN FOR RECYCLING

Absorbion pads are often glued to the trays posing additional challenges for recyclers.

DID YOU KNOW?

High yellowing after the roast oven tests indicates high residual glue levels on the materials.

WASHING

Efficiency of washing is increased by applying different washing cycles to flakes and fines separately.

FLOTATION

PET flakes are separated from HDPE, PP and LDPE in a swim-sink tank based on the differing densities of polymers.

EXTRUSION

During the extrusion process, flakes are melted and filtered. Any remaining impurities are removed at this stage.

High temperature applied during the process increases the quality of the flakes & fines.



PET TRAYS EXTRUSION

3



DID YOU KNOW?

More than 50% of PET Trays, by weight, put on the European market contain recycled food contact material.