

RECYCLABILITY – NOVA CHEMICALS® POLYETHYLENE RESINS

ALL of NOVA Chemicals' polyethylene resins, including our performance SURPASS®, SCLAIR® and NOVAPOL® resins, can be recycled!

Within our polyethylene manufacturing facilities, we reclaim and recycle our polyethylene resins that do not meet our product specifications; however, NOVA Chemicals does not deliberately add recycled materials into the polyethylene resins we sell.

At many of our customers' manufacturing facilities, their products made from our polyethylene resins and the subsequent end-use consumer products are recycled also. These include:

- Films – that can be manufactured into consumer products such as grocery bags
- Rigid polyethylene products – that can be manufactured into consumer products such as containers

Films

At film manufacturing facilities, polyethylene film can be reclaimed and recycled back into the production process. This pre-consumer film can be ground and re-melted in an extruder, and reused/recycled in the manufacture of other films or products.

Consumer end-use film products, especially grocery/retail bags, plastic newspaper bags and dry cleaning bags, can and are being recycled at the community level. Many grocers/retailers offer take-back programs that allow consumers to return used bags for further recycling, provided they are clean, dry and empty. These bags are often recycled into high-value products such as composite lumber, but also can be reprocessed into small pellets (post-consumer resin) that become feed stock for many other products such as new bags, pallets, containers and crates.

Rigid Products

At rigid products manufacturing facilities, pre-consumer rigid polyethylene products can be reclaimed and recycled back into the production process. This pre-consumer material can be ground and re-melted in an extruder, and reused/recycled in the manufacture of other rigid products such as containers and pallets.

A growing number of communities are collecting and recycling rigid plastic containers, such as tubs, trays and lids. Through these programs, plastics are collected, processed for recycling and used to create second-generation products such as detergent containers and composite lumber for outdoor decking.

Consumer products made from polyethylene are marked with a small resin identification code – a number with arrows around it. The resin identification code indicates the specific type of plastic that an item is made from, and is intended to help consumers know whether and how to recycle various plastic products and packages. The resin code system also allows an easy way to separate plastics for further recycling. The polyethylene product codes are (2) for High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) and (4) for Low Density Polyethylene (LDPE). Plastics capture and recycling facilities may not be available in all locations, so be sure to check if recycling facilities exist in your area.

NOVA Chemicals encourages environmentally and economically sustainable plastics recovery and recycling programs. We are a primary funding member of the Canadian Plastics Industry Association ([CPIA](#)) which sponsors plastics recycling research and integrated waste reduction strategies for Canadian municipalities and are directly involved with the Alberta Plastics Recycling Association ([APRA](#)). We support lifecycle assessments of our polymer products. Significant information, including Information Sheets about recycling of plastics can be found on [CPIA's](#), [APRA's](#) and the American Chemistry Council (ACC) [Plastic Division's](#) websites. The [Recycled Plastic Markets Database](#) as well as industry and Canadian community programs also exist.

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