

## Recycled Films: What you need to know

All UK plastic packaging now requires a minimum of 30% recycled content, which is otherwise subject to a £200 per tonne taxation under the new UK Plastics Packaging Tax legislation. Intended as an incentive for businesses to use recycled material, the tax aims to increase the use of recycled content in packaging as well as boosting plastic recycling rates.

### Coveris Films

Coveris Films have been at the forefront of innovative material development for over 25 years and have invested heavily in the next generation assets to sustain its position. With polythene (PE) co-extrusion capabilities up to 9-layers, the business is now set to take recycled films to a new level through its integrated extrusion and recycling model.

As the UK's largest extruder of recyclable PE films and a fully accredited plastics reprocessor since 2007, Coveris' ever-increasing recycling capability combined with a 75kt total polythene extrusion capacity delivers a unique stronghold on the polythene films market to support UK Plastics Packaging Tax demands.

Reducing our reliance on virgin plastics, Coveris' UK recycling strategy is now focused on two key areas – increased availability of input feedstock and increased output production to recycled products.

Though both of these areas are not unique to Coveris, its ability to integrate both upstream waste collection, segregation and recycling, and downstream R&D and extrusion into recycled products with little or no degradation of performance is pushing the boundaries of circular manufacturing.

Coveris has extensive experience of including post-consumer recycle (PCR) and post-industrial recycle (PIR) into its films. Delivering the best recycled products in the marketplace, the majority of Coveris' non-food contact film products have a PPT compliant version, some of our recent recycled products include:



### Recycled Duralite™ R

Coveris' award-winning Duralite™ R printed collation shrink is a robust, recycled and recyclable solution to protect our products and our planet. The fully recyclable Duralite™ R contains multiple recycled content options including 30%, 50% and Duralite™ R MAX, our maximum recycled material option with built-in features to maintain functional performance and support the growing demand for recycled plastic solutions. Recycled content is supplied by Coveris' own reprocessing operations, recycling centres and supply partners to reduce our reliance on virgin materials.



RECYCLED  
CONTENT

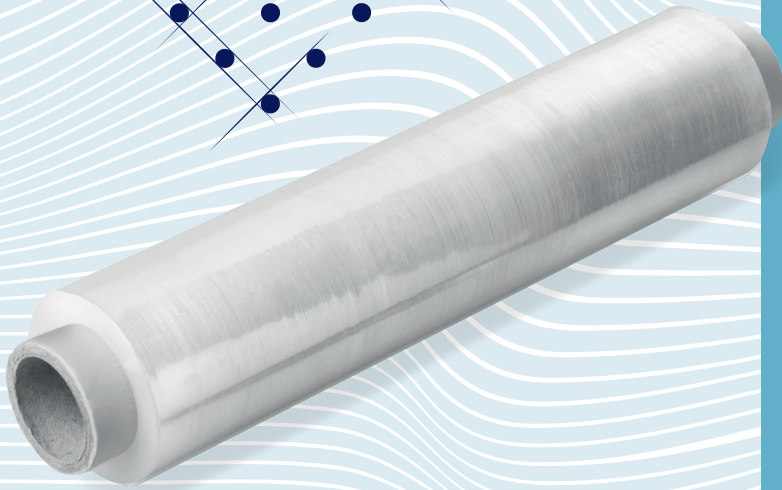


RECYCLABLE



ZERO WASTE  
PROCESS

# MAKING WAVES IN OUR VISION OF NO WASTE.



## Recycled stretch range

Coveris has most recently launched a range of lightweight, next generation stretch films containing a minimum of 30% recycled content. Offering both hand and pre-stretch solutions, the new films are the thinnest recycled stretch films currently available. Made from a blend of recycled polythene, recovered from post-consumer waste streams and Coveris' own circular manufacturing process, the low-gauge, high-performance films deliver the same packing and transportation efficiencies as virgin materials, as well as maintaining full recyclability.



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LIGHTWEIGHT



## Tissue Overwrap

### Monomaterial Solution

Printed or unprinted, recyclable  
and recycled overwrap film



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CONTENT OPTION



LIGHTWEIGHT  
ROBUST FILM

COVERIS

## Recycled tissue overwrap

Proving our capabilities in lightweight innovation, our new recycled tissue overwrap utilises Coveris' own waste materials and expert downgauging capabilities to enable the switch from a 30µm virgin film to a 30% recycled 25µm solution to support cost and operational efficiencies.



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CONTENT



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LIGHTWEIGHT

# NO WASTE.

# NO OPERATIONAL WASTE.

## Virgin alternatives

Coveris uses both post-consumer recycle (PCR) content and post-industrial recycle (PIR) via our accredited reprocessing facility. These two recycled resin types have significantly different characteristics, but both are UK Plastics Packaging Tax compliant:

### Post-consumer recycle (PCR)

- PCR is lower quality than virgin and inclusion may impact film characteristics, for example clarity, thickness, strength, performance etc
- PCR is plastics tax compliant, but no commercially viable process currently exists to make mechanically recycled PCR for direct food contact
- PCR films needs to be 'refreshed' with virgin/PIR content as part of a circular process in case of any polymer degradation during repeat recycling

### Post-industrial recycle (PIR)

- PIR produces high quality resin which is a direct replacement for virgin with no performance degradation
- PIR is plastics tax compliant and can be used as a drop-in solution without impact on blend performance
- Internally processed PIR can be certified for food contact if the infeed source has come from a food contact certified material and a known origin which has full traceability in place

## Recycled film properties

Using waste may now come at a premium to using virgin:

PROPERTIES	VIRGIN	PIR	PCR
CLARITY	BASELINE	=	--
OPERATIONAL IMPACT	BASELINE	-	--
ODOUR	BASELINE	=	-
VISUAL AESTHETICS	BASELINE	=	--
FUNCTIONALITY	BASELINE	=	-
VARIABILITY	BASELINE	=	--

### Key:

- = As baseline product
- Slight performance impact vs baseline
- Noticeable performance impact vs baseline

## Increased waste collection and reprocessing

In order to increase the availability of Coveris' tax compliant PIR content to offer more recycled content to our supply-base, customers can work with us to:

- Recover and recycle aged stock, end of lines, returns/defects from within their own business. Where this waste is clean and properly segregated, Coveris may be able to pay a premium versus other waste processors
- Identify customers we can work with to recover and recycle aged stock, end of lines, returns/defects, post-consumer waste from within their customer base