

PCR & RECYCLE-READY CONSUMER POUCHES



As most of us know, sustainability is increasingly becoming a focal point in the consumer product industry, which has prompted the exploration of more eco-friendly packaging options. Two promising solutions gaining traction are PCR (Post-Consumer Recycled) pouches and recycle-ready pouches. This fact sheet aims to compare these sustainable packaging alternatives, examining their environmental impact, manufacturing processes, and end-of-life considerations.

PCR POUCHES

- PCR pouches are made from post-consumer recycled plastic
- Plastic used for PCR pouches is collected, sorted, cleaned, & reprocessed into new packaging materials
- Help reduce dependence on virgin plastic
- Contribute to lower energy consumption & minimize greenhouse gas emissions
- Divert plastic waste from landfills and incinerators
- Support a circular economy & the preservation of natural resources
- Manufacturing process involves multiple stages of reprocessing the material into high-quality recycled plastic resin
- Traditional pouch-making techniques are used to produce PCR pouches
- Can be recycled again at the end of their life-cycle, although challenges exist due to multiple plastic layers & potential contamination
- Collaboration among packaging manufacturers, waste management systems, & consumers is crucial to optimize recycling infrastructure and increase collection rates of PCR pouches

RECYCLE-READY POUCHES

- Recycle-ready pouches are designed for easy recycling within existing systems
- Are typically made from mono-material structures that can be easily separated during recycling
- Help reduce the use of virgin plastic & promote higher recycling rates
- Contribute to waste reduction & a more sustainable packaging landscape
- Manufacturing process of recycle-ready pouches varies based on the materials used
- Mono-material structures or easily separable materials like polyethylene or polypropylene are commonly used.
- Can be recycled more efficiently compared to multi-layered pouches
- Align with existing recycling infrastructure, facilitating the recycling process
- Enhance the potential for a circular economy by promoting effective recycling practices

PCR pouches and recycle-ready pouches both offer sustainable packaging alternatives in the consumer product industry. While PCR pouches contribute directly to waste reduction by utilizing post-consumer recycled plastic, recycle-ready pouches align with existing recycling infrastructure and facilitate higher recycling rates. Ultimately, the choice between these two options depends on factors such as the availability of recycling infrastructure, consumer perception, and the specific requirements of the product being packaged. By embracing these sustainable packaging solutions, the consumer product industry can contribute to a more environmentally conscious future.



800.323.9077
10826 250TH AVE TREVOR,
WI 53179
WWW.VONCO.COM



how2recycle.info