



# MULTIPLE PATHWAYS TO ENHANCE RECYCLABILITY IN PACKAGING

# AGENDA

- Design for recyclability
- Enhancing recycled material properties or increasing PCR content
- Meeting carbon footprint targets
- Key takeaways
- Avient NPE highlights



# DESIGN FOR RECYCLABILITY

## Design Features Drive Whole Package Assessment

### Design Features

Design features are classified according to the APR Recyclability Categories or test results where testing is required.



### Whole Package Assessment

Source: <https://plasticsrecycling.org/recycling-categories>  
Association of Plastics Recyclers (APR)

- Incorporate materials that are easily recyclable and compatible with existing recycling infrastructure
  - Mono-materials
  - PP, PE, PET
- Consider design features that support and enhance sorting in existing processes
- Develop your product in alignment with Design for Recycling guidelines (EBPB, RecyClass, APR)
- Sorting challenges can include:
  - Dark colors
  - Secondary finishes
  - Labels, sleeves, or adhesives
  - Metal components

# PCR PROCESSING CHALLENGES

## AT THE PROCESSOR

- Contaminated resin bales
- Reduced mechanical properties due to multiple heat histories
- Barriers / contaminants / adhesives causing discoloration and specks
- Rheology control / IV and melt flow variability



# INCREASED PCR CONTENT

## AT THE CONVERTER

- Slower throughput
- Higher scrap
- Poor mold release
- Inconsistent rheology
- Thermal instability
- Reduced mechanical properties
- Contamination
- Dimensional instability
- Incompatibility of multiple resins
- Odor

50% rPET



**Tomorrow**

25% PET will have seen  
2 or more loops

2 recycle loops =  
5 melt histories




# 8 WAYS TO SUSTAINABILITY PRODUCTS



## REDUCE

 Lightweighting

 Reduced Energy Use

 VOC Reduction



## RENEW

 Recycle Solutions

 Bio-polymers



## PRESERVE

 Eco-conscious

 Sustainable Infrastructure

 Human Health & Safety





HOW WE ENABLE SUSTAINABILITY  
**RENEW**





# RENEW

## KEY CUSTOMER CHALLENGES:

- PCR availability and quality - Post-Consumer Recyclate availability in the current market is limited and recyclate quality is variable. This makes it difficult to incorporate PCR into a circular loop
- PCR color variability and sorting - Variability in PCR color makes it difficult to incorporate into applications where color targets are strict
- Product Carbon Footprint Targets - Companies are wanting to increase transparency in their sustainability claims, by using certified product carbon footprint data.



Solutions to increase recycled content and minimize plastic waste





# RENEW

## PCR Availability and Quality



Solutions to increase recycled content and minimize plastic waste





## EXPANDS PCR USAGE

### Design for Recycling

CycleWorks™ Center for Mechanical Recycling

- Recycling trials and field testing
- Solutions evaluation and screening
- Customer collaboration

AVIENT

CycleWorks™ Innovation Center  
Milan, Italy

## Simulation capabilities







## ENHANCES RECYCLING

### Increased Recycle Content

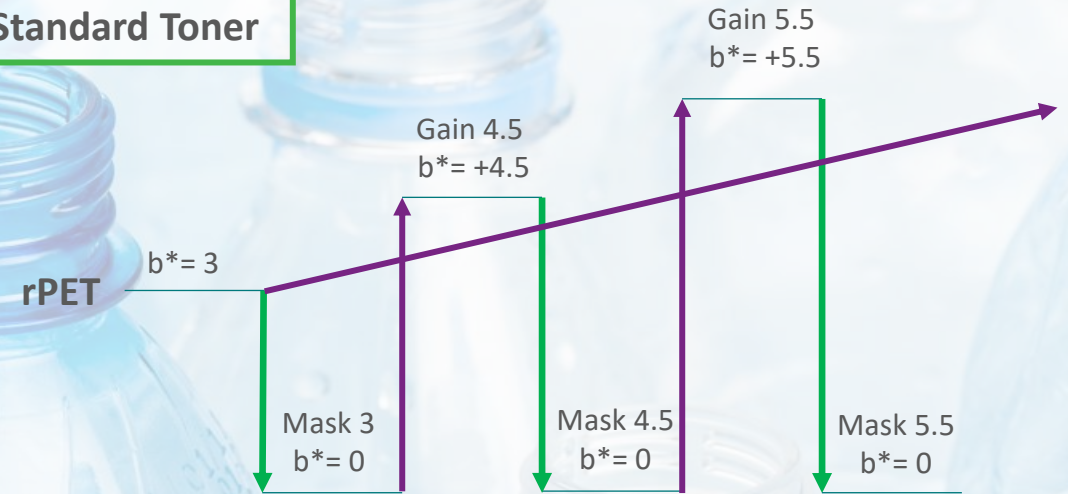
ColorMatrix™ Optica™

Process Aid and Toner for bottles containing recycled PET (rPET)

- Enables increased use of rPET
- Provides superior aesthetics
- Reduced yellowing during later recycling in comparison to conventional toners
- Incorporated process aid lowers energy use during bottle blowing – less CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions

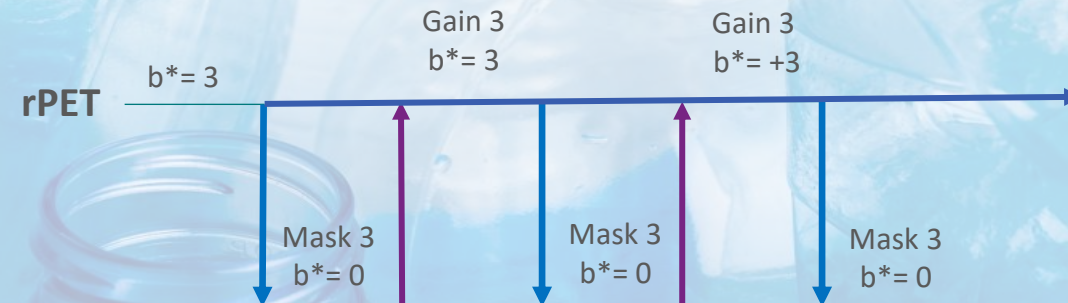
## The Challenge

### Standard Toner



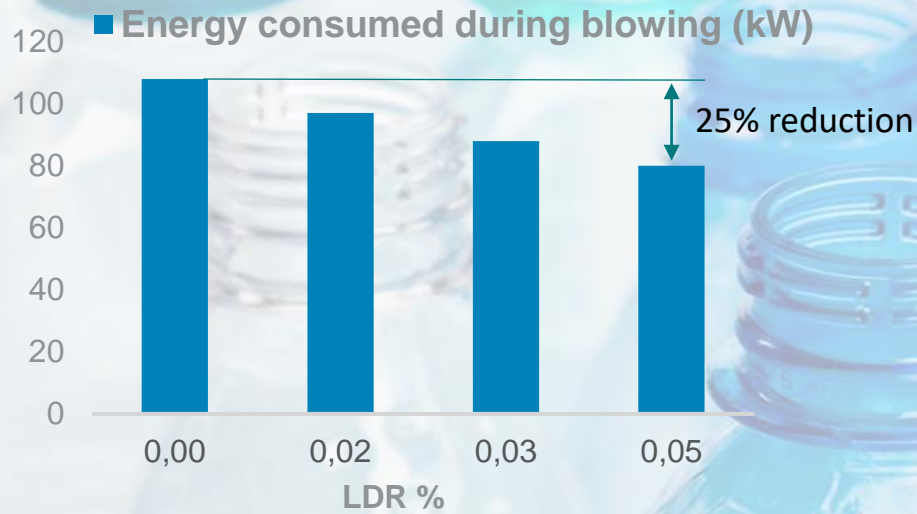
## How Optica supports circularity

### ColorMatrix™ Optica™ Toner



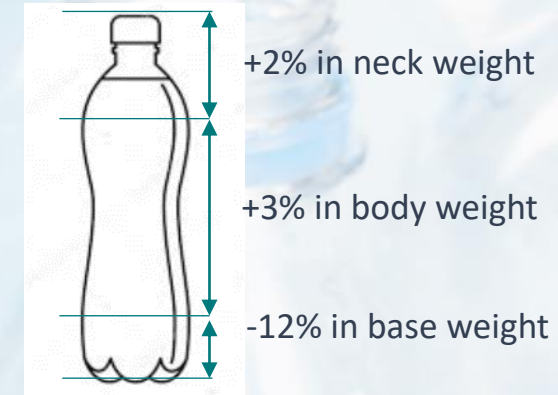


# OPTICA™ - BENEFITS FOR THE CONVERTER

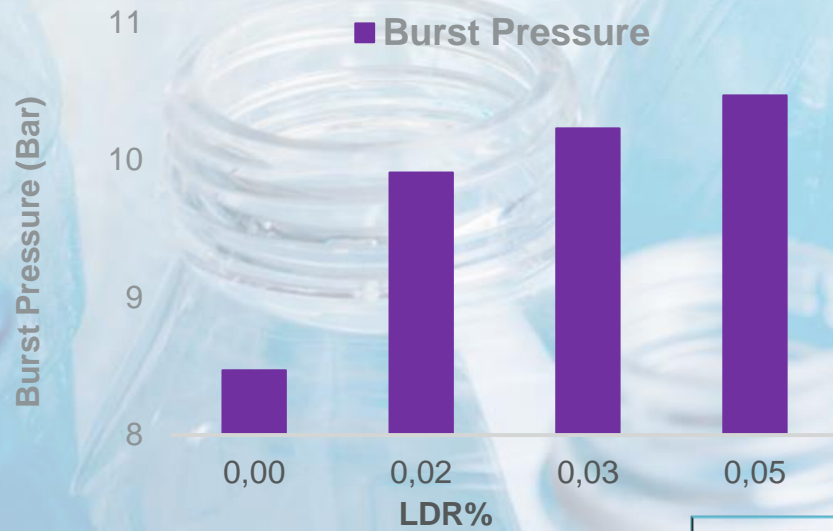


Reduced energy consumption

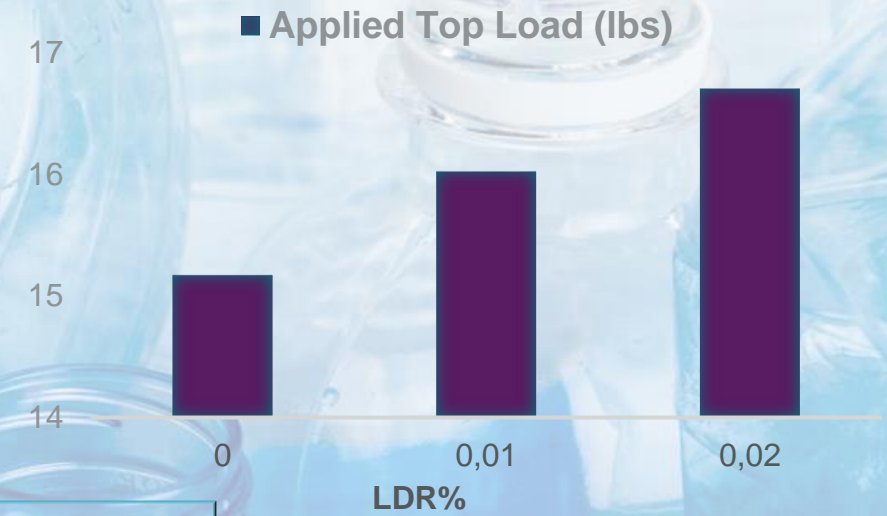
## Polymer Weight Distribution



Re-optimisation in bottle blowing



Improved mechanical strength







# RENEW



Solutions to increase recycled content and minimize plastic waste

## PCR Color Variability and Sorting



## SUPPORT PCR RESIN COLORATION

### PCR Color Prediction Service

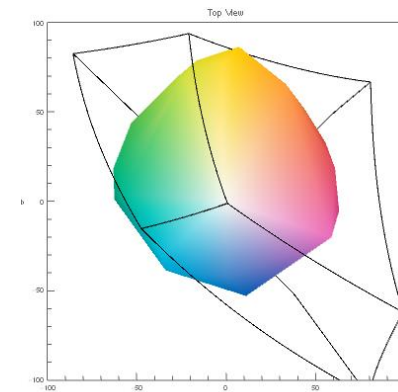
- Enables use of lower-quality PCR
- Predicts achievable colors
- Increases PCR utilization rates
- Helps brands to achieve PCR usage goals

## The Challenge

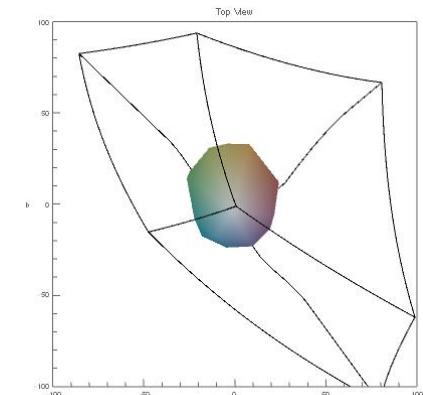
Inconsistent quality streams pose a challenge to converters, and brands to have consistent product quality

PCR resin quality varies from virgin to recycled or from recycled to recycled, creating color deviation on existing products

PCR resin undertone and opacity restricts color options asking for compromises sometimes too late, given the pre-agreed product launch deadline



Gamut Virgin Resin



Gamut PCR Resin



# UNDERSTANDING RESIN GAMUT

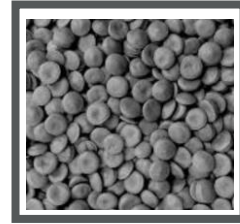
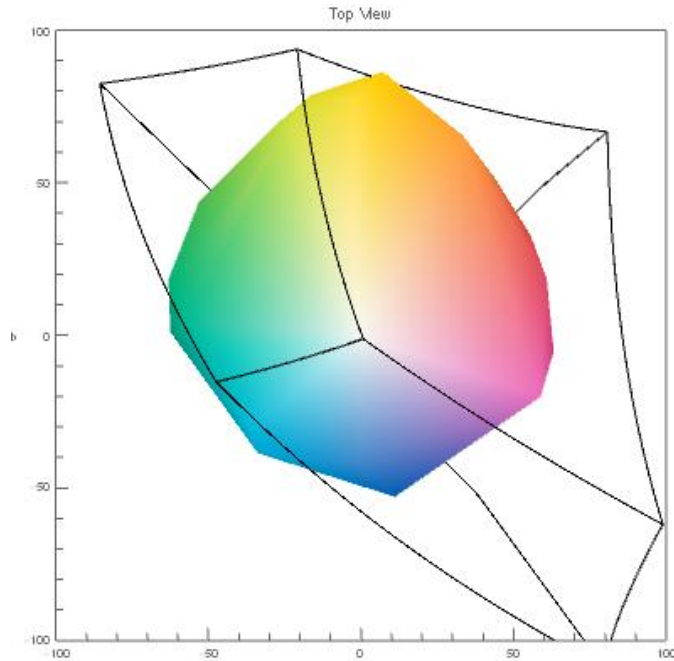
IS MY COLOR DOABLE?



→ Colour of virgin HDPE pellets

→ Wide color gamut

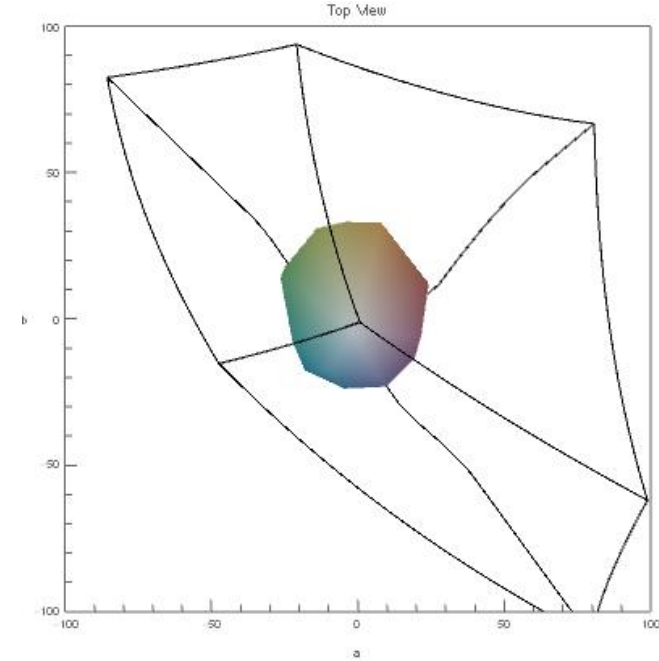
→ Wide color option possibilities



→ Colour of jazz/grey rHDPE pellets

→ Narrow color gamut vs HDPE

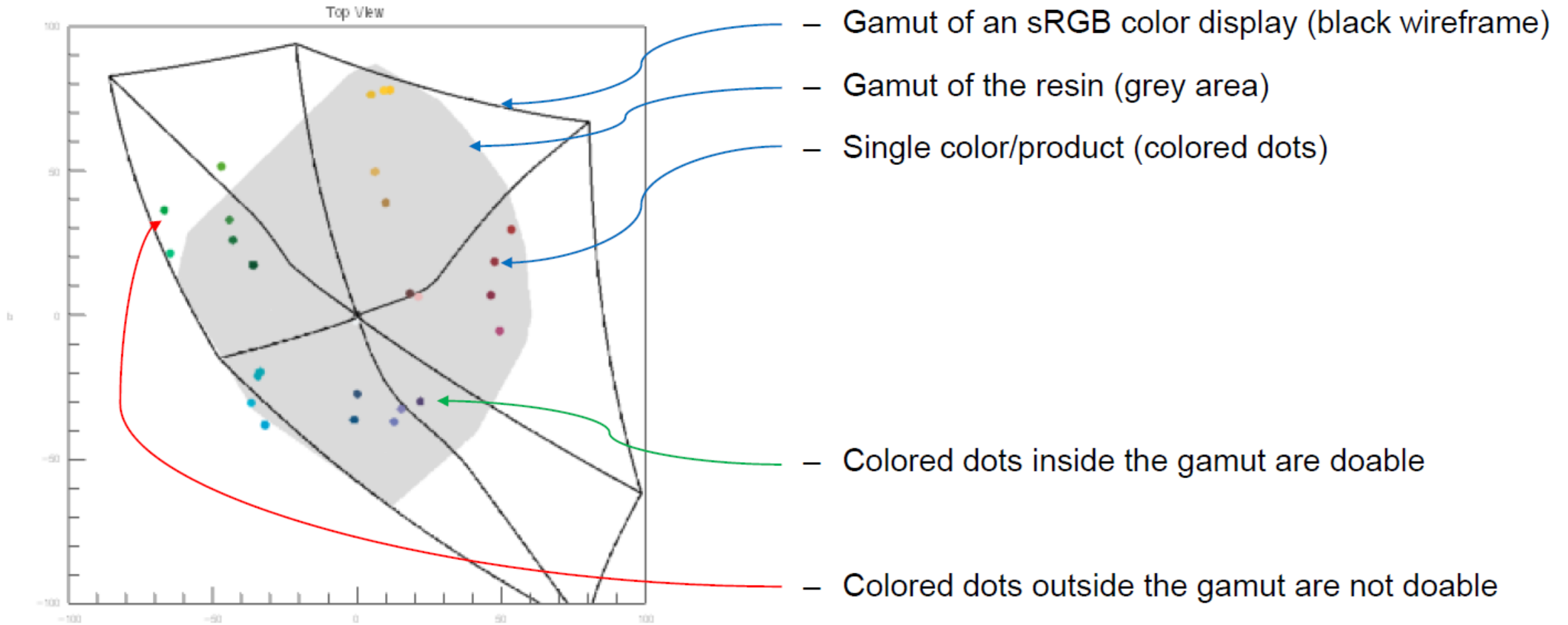
→ Fewer color option possibilities



Avient can provide customer guidance on maximum recycle content possible and color concentration required to achieve desired color

# COLOR GAMUT AND RESIN GAMUT

KEY STEP TO UNDERSTAND IF A COLOR IS DOABLE

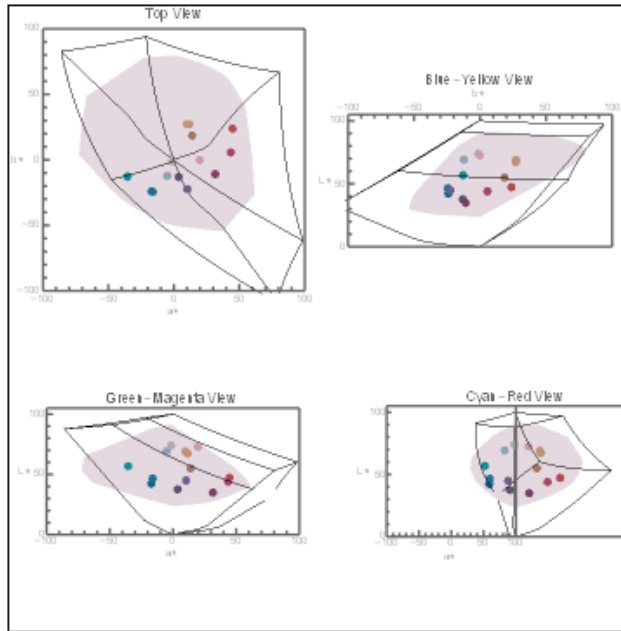




# ASSESS COLOR FEASIBILITY - EXAMPLE

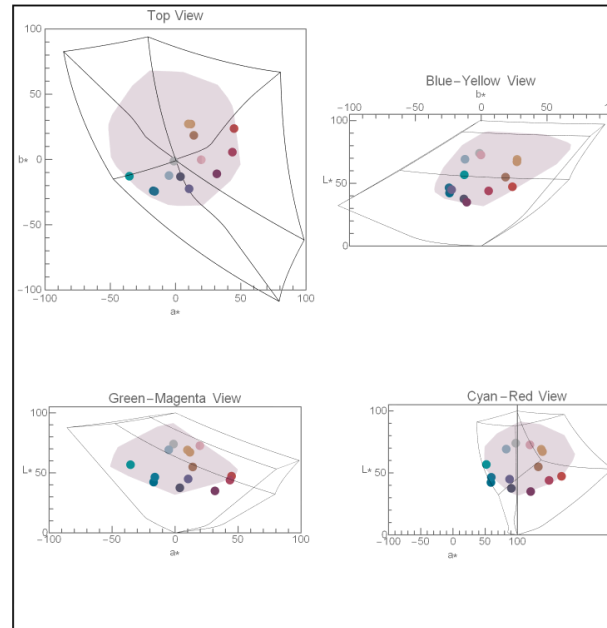
## VERSUS PCR RESIN GAMUT

**r-PET 1 - size of gamut: 393'628**



- OK ■ FE31820052@
- OK ■ FE54820080@
- OK ■ FE53820079@
- OK ■ FE24820028@
- OK ■ FE31820053@
- OK ■ FE51820081@
- OK ■ FEG3820010@0
- OK ■ FEG3820009@0
- OK ■ FE84820051@0
- OK ■ FE43820024@1
- OK ■ FE53820083@
- OK ■ FE72820011@
- OK ■ FE54820086@
- OK ■ FE34820055@

**r-PET 3 - size of gamut: 210'942**



- NOK ■ FE31820052@ 0.5% .457 mm Distance=1.88057
- OK ■ FE54820080@ 0.5% .508 mm
- OK ■ FE53820079@ 0.5% .457 mm
- NOK ■ FE24820028@ 0.5% .482 mm Distance=0.766121
- OK ■ FE31820053@ 0.5% .61 mm
- NOK ■ FE51820081@ 0.7% .660 mm Distance=1.15118
- OK ■ FEG3820010@0.7% .48 mm
- OK ■ FEG3820009@0.7% .48 mm
- OK ■ FE84820051@0.6% .51 mm
- OK ■ FE43820024@1.4% .53 mm
- OK ■ FE53820083@ 0.6% .58 mm
- OK ■ FE72820011@ 1.0% .46 mm
- NOK ■ FE54820086@ 1.2% .52 mm Distance=4.9297
- NOK ■ FE34820055@ 0.9% .50 mm Distance=6.67859

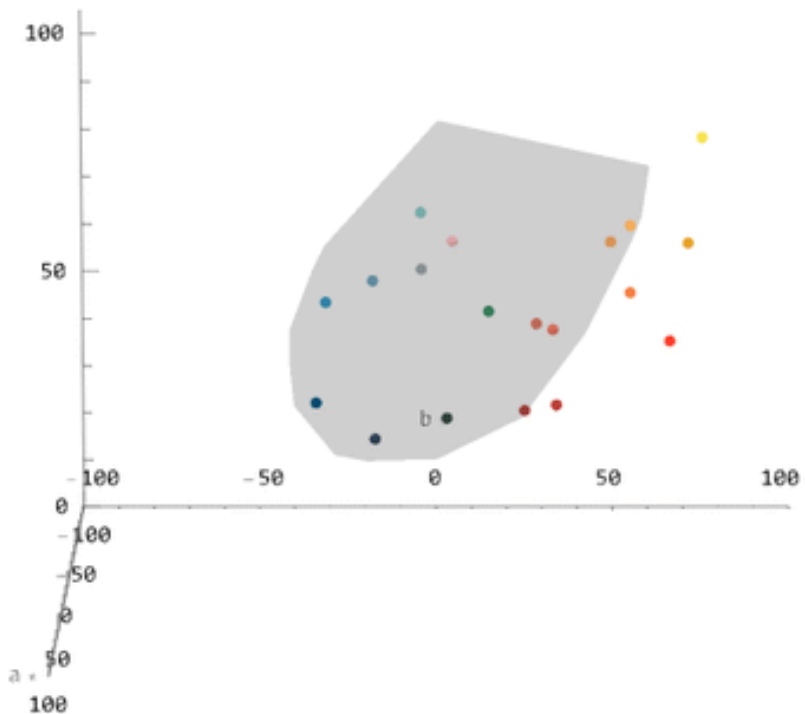
**COLORS ARE INSIDE THE GAMUT OF THE RESIN**

**→ ALL THE COLORS CAN BE MATCHED IN r-PET 1**

**SOME COLORS ARE OUTSIDE / TO THE EDGE OF THE GAMUT**

**→ THE COLORS CAN NOT BE MATCHED IN 100% r-PET 3**

**→ COMPROMISE NEEDED (i.e decrease pcr content, adjust the target...)**



## How the Color Prediction Service supports transition to high level of PCR

- Help frame the available color space based on the PCR characteristics including opacity and undertone
- Allow quick and reliable assessment prior lab trials of color possibilities or limitations in targeted PCR
- Speed up color development process by cutting lab iterations based on the data generated by the color prediction tool
- Polyolefins, PET, Styrenics





# RENEW

## Meeting Product Carbon Footprint Targets



Solutions to increase recycled content and minimize plastic waste



# PRODUCT CARBON FOOTPRINT (PCF) CALCULATOR

- Avient's PCF calculator can calculate the carbon footprint of products from "Cradle to Gate"
- The calculator is certified by TÜV Rheinland and aligns with the ISO 14067:2018 standard for quantifying and reporting the carbon footprint of a product



Product Carbon  
Footprint  
Certified Calculation  
Method

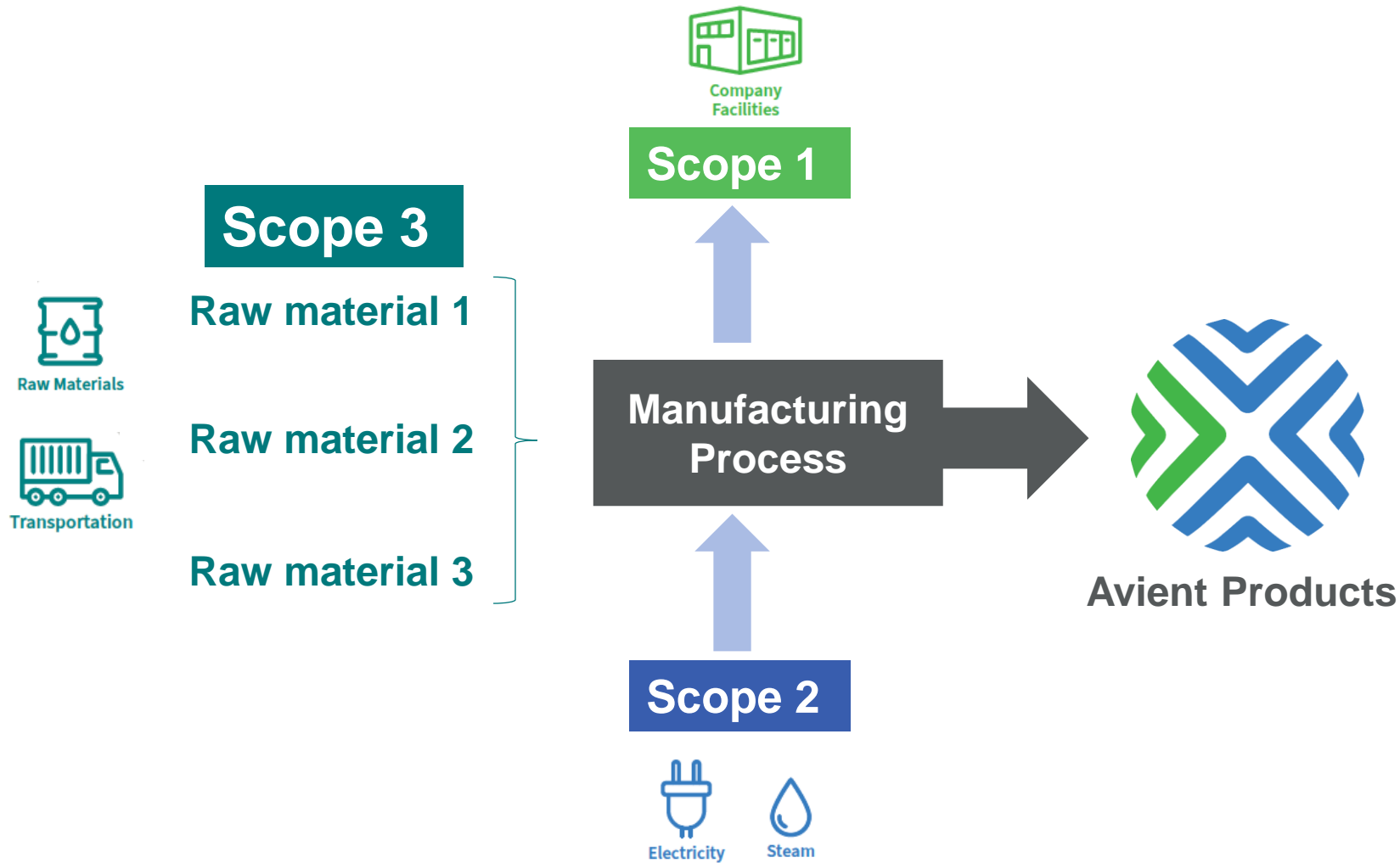


[www.tuv.com](http://www.tuv.com)  
ID 0000084994



# AVIENT'S PCF CALCULATOR

## CALCULATION PROCESS







# KEY TAKEAWAYS

## FOR EVERY CHALLENGE...

- ✓ PCR availability and quality
- ✓ PCR color variability and sorting
- ✓ Product carbon footprint targets

## ...THERE IS AN AVIENT SOLUTION

With performance-enhancing additives and solutions

With the Color Prediction Service and in-house expertise

With the product carbon footprint (PCF) calculator



# AVIENT AT NPE 2024

**NPE2024**  
The Plastics Show  
May 6–10, 2024

COME TO OUR CUSTOMER EVENT & TECH SEMINARS

Visit us at S210 South Hall



# NPE 2024 AVIENT TECHNICAL SYMPOSIUM

**AVIENT MEET THE SPEAKERS**

**LIGHTWEIGHTING** **PFAS ALTERNATIVES**

**RECYCLING** **CARBON FOOTPRINT**

SEAN BERNHARDT  
ELVIS CUDJOE  
ANDREW DONOVAN  
STEPHANIE DYCHA  
MIRANDA FLYNN  
NAVRAJ HEER  
REBECCA PELTZMAN  
WILLIAM PEPE  
ROB POUPARD  
JENNIFER SCHMIDT  
JOHN SWANSON  
MARC-HENRY WAKIM

**TUESDAY, MAY 7**

10:00	Weight Reduction Strategies for Improved Sustainability
11:00	How to Replace Metal with Long Fiber Technologies
1:00	Optimizing Product Appeal Through Color and Design
2:00	Multiple Pathways to Enhance Recyclability in Packaging
3:00	PFAS Alternatives: 2024 and Beyond

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 8**

10:00	Structural Thermoplastic Composites 101
11:00	Making Composites Circular: Challenges and Opportunities
1:00	PFAS Alternatives: 2024 and Beyond
2:00	Product Carbon Footprint Decoded
3:00	Multiple Pathways to Enhance Recyclability in Packaging

**THURSDAY, MAY 9**

10:00	Product Carbon Footprint Decoded
11:00	Exploring Sustainable Alternatives to Traditional Polyamides
1:00	Navigating the Pros and Cons of Sustainable TPEs
2:00	Advantages of TPEs with Antimicrobial Technology
3:00	The Latest Advancements in Non-Halogenated FR Solutions

Attendance is Complimentary - Space is Limited.

**Register Now!**

All seminars are held in Avient's meeting space  
South Hall, Level 2, Room S210.





**THANK YOU**  
**ANY QUESTIONS?**