

**Plastics - Recycled Plastics - Plastics recycling traceability and assessment of conformity and recycled content**

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## EESTI STANDARDI EESSÕNA

## NATIONAL FOREWORD

<p>Käesolev Eesti standard EVS-EN 15343:2007 sisaldab Euroopa standardi EN 15343:2007 ingliskeelset teksti.</p> <p>Käesolev dokument on jõustatud 18.12.2007 ja selle kohta on avaldatud teade Eesti standardiorganisatsiooni ametlikus väljaandes.</p> <p>Standard on kättesaadav Eesti standardiorganisatsioonist.</p>	<p>This Estonian standard EVS-EN 15343:2007 consists of the English text of the European standard EN 15343:2007.</p> <p>This document is endorsed on 18.12.2007 with the notification being published in the official publication of the Estonian national standardisation organisation.</p> <p>The standard is available from Estonian standardisation organisation.</p>
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<p><b>Käsitlusala:</b> This European Standard specifies the procedures needed for the traceability of recycled plastics. This gives the basis for the calculation procedure for the recycled content of a product. This standard is applicable without prejudice to any existing legislation. NOTE The procedures are needed to formulate or describe the traceability, while the traceability can be used as a basis for calculating the recycled content</p>	<p><b>Scope:</b> This European Standard specifies the procedures needed for the traceability of recycled plastics. This gives the basis for the calculation procedure for the recycled content of a product. This standard is applicable without prejudice to any existing legislation. NOTE The procedures are needed to formulate or describe the traceability, while the traceability can be used as a basis for calculating the recycled content</p>
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ICS 13.030.50; 83.080.20

English Version

## Plastics - Recycled Plastics - Plastics recycling traceability and assessment of conformity and recycled content

Plastiques - Plastiques recyclés - Traçabilité du recyclage des plastiques et évaluation de la conformité et de la teneur en produits recyclés

Kunststoffe - Kunststoff-Rezyklate - Rückverfolgbarkeit bei der Kunststoffverwertung und Bewertung der Konformität und des Rezyklatgehalts

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 2 November 2007.

CEN members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration. Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the CEN Management Centre or to any CEN member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN member into its own language and notified to the CEN Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

CEN members are the national standards bodies of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom.



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## Foreword

This document (EN 15343:2007) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 249 "Plastics", the secretariat of which is held by NBN.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by June 2008, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by June 2008.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN [and/or CENELEC] shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This standard is one part of series of CEN publications on Plastics Recycling which is structured as follows:

- EN 15342, Plastics — Recycled Plastics — Characterization of polystyrene (PS) recyclates
- EN 15343, Plastics — Recycled Plastics — Plastics recycling traceability and assessment of conformity and recycled content
- EN 15344, Plastics — Recycled Plastics — Characterisation of Polyethylene (PE) recyclates
- EN 15345, Plastics — Recycled Plastics — Plastics recyclate characterisation of (PP) recyclates
- EN 15346, Plastics — Recycled plastics — Characterisation of poly(vinyl chloride) (PVC) recyclates
- EN 15347, Plastics — Recycled Plastics — Characterisation of plastics wastes
- EN 15348, Plastics — Recycled plastics — Characterization of poly(ethylene terephthalate) (PET) recyclates
- CEN/TR 15353, Plastics — Recycled plastics — Guidelines for the development of standards for recycled plastics

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

## Introduction

Recycling of plastic waste is one type of material recovery process intended to save resources (virgin raw materials, water, and energy), while minimising harmful emissions into air, water and soil as well as any impacts on human health. The environmental impact of recycling has to be assessed over the whole life cycle of the recycling system (from the waste generation point to the disposal of final residues). To ensure that recycling constitutes the best environmental option for treating the available waste, some prerequisites preferably should be met:

- recycling scheme being contemplated should generate lower environmental impacts than alternative recovery options;
- existing or potential market outlets should be identified that will secure a sustainable industrial recycling operation;
- collection and sorting schemes should be properly designed to deliver recyclable plastics waste fractions fitting reasonably well with the available recycling technologies and with the (changing) needs of the identified market outlets, preferably at minimum costs for society.

This standard has been produced in accordance with the guidance produced by CEN on Environmental Aspects and in accordance with CEN/TR 15353 — Plastics — Recycled plastics — Guidelines for the development of standards for recycled plastics.

NOTE CEN/TR 15353 considers the general environmental aspects which are specific to the recycling process.

Legislation, international standards or end users may require traceability of the constituent components of products in order to allow better product control or to locate and withdraw unwanted material and/or defective products from the market. The purpose of this standard is to describe the necessary procedures for mechanical recycling that are needed for products that have been manufactured completely or in part from recycled plastics and need proof of traceability. It will enable producers to use the recycled materials with confidence and it will provide the end users with a basis for their acceptance.

However it is often impossible to trace back each individual product at the end user stage and to check the use of the product through its life.

Consequently products are out of industrial control for a period of time. It is possible that during this period contamination with other materials may occur that could affect the product's suitability for recycling into the intended applications. In that case the recyclers have two options. Either their input control or sorting equipment guarantee that contaminants do not enter the recycling process or the recyclers must use a qualified process in which the pollution and/or mixed materials are removed to such levels that they do not affect the intended application for the recycled material.

In addition, during processing and use of the original product, chemical or structural changes in the material, may have occurred. In that case the recyclers can recycle into new materials with reduced properties, or they can try to repair the material damage, or they enhance the material properties by addition of virgin components or additives.

A recycling process should be designed such that contaminants or material damage that might have an influence on the intended application are removed or repaired to such an extent that they will not negatively influence the suitability of the recycled material for the intended application. If such contamination or damage cannot be removed or repaired during recycling, the purchase and/or

control of the incoming materials should guarantee that contaminated or damaged material does not enter the process in sufficient quantity to affect the properties of the recyclate.

Controls of the input material, of the recycling process and of the material produced are the prime instruments that determine the quality of recycled products.

If the origin of all the component parts of a product, virgin as well as recyclates, is known it is possible to calculate the recycled content of the product, a value which may be required by customers or regulators.

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## 1 Scope

This European Standard specifies the procedures needed for the traceability of recycled plastics. This gives the basis for the calculation procedure for the recycled content of a product.

This standard is applicable without prejudice to any existing legislation.

NOTE The procedures are needed to formulate or describe the traceability, while the traceability can be used as a basis for calculating the recycled content

## 2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

EN 15342, *Plastics — Recycled plastics — Characterisation of polystyrene (PS) recyclates*

EN 15344, *Plastics — Recycled plastics — Characterisation of polyethylene (PE) recyclates*

EN 15345, *Plastics — Recycled plastics — Plastics recyclate characterisation of (PP) recyclates*

EN 15346, *Plastics — Recycled plastics — Characterisation of poly(vinyl chloride) (PVC) recyclates*

EN 15347, *Plastics — Recycled plastics — Characterisation of plastics wastes*

EN 15348, *Plastics — Recycled plastics — Characterisation of poly(ethylene terephthalate) (PET) recyclates*

CEN/TR 15353:2007, *Plastics — Recycled plastics — Guidelines for the development of standards for recycled plastics*

EN ISO 472:2001, *Plastics — Vocabulary (ISO 472:1999)*

EN ISO 14021, *Environmental labels and declarations — Self-declared environmental claims (Type II environmental labelling) (ISO 14021:1999)*

ISO 17422, *Plastics — Environmental aspects — General guidelines for their inclusion in standards*

## 3 Terms, definitions and abbreviated terms

For the purposes of this European Standard, the terms and definitions given in EN ISO 472:2001 and those prepared in CEN/TR 15353:2007 and the following apply.

### 3.1

#### **qualified recycling process**

recycling process producing material which meets the requirements for the intended applications

### 3.2

#### **challenge test**

test of a recycling process in which purposely specified contaminants or damaged materials are introduced in prescribed quantities to judge the ability of the recycling process to produce material with certain specified properties