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	For Palanca	November 1, 2002	

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<u>New Eco Film[®] Enables Strength and Biodegradable Capability</u>

Cortec[®] Eco *Film*[®] offers a 100%, biodegradable plastic film that provides resiliency and strength for packaging in a wide variety of applications. Whereas most plastic films are not biodegradable and never decompose, $Cortec^{®}$ Eco *Film*[®] starts decomposing into water and carbon dioxide in less than 8 weeks in a compost facility. Unlike PLA and starch-blend films, the Cortec[®] Eco *Film*[®] proprietary formulation can be blended to enhance film properties for strength, permeability, and elasticity. This enables the film to meet a variety of specialized application needs while providing the benefits of biodegradability and reduced disposal costs.

For example, the film can be made with significant strength and barrier advantages for applications that require moisture resistance. Currently, lawn and yard waste is placed in PE bags which must be individually slit open by hand to release grass, leaves and compostable material. Cortec[®] Eco *Film*[®] eliminates this labor intensive process to enable full truck bed dumping. Bags made with PLA and starch-blend films weaken or disintegrate with moisture or rain making them unusable for outdoor yard waste applications.

The ability to accentuate various properties during manufacture also enables the film to be used in many food applications such as dry or moist fresh produce bags and wrap. By modifying permeability, the bags can be used for dry processed food and cereals. By modifying elasticity and stiffness the bags can be used for frozen food applications. By modifying elasticity and thickness, the film also becomes suitable for protective bags used in dry cleaning. It can even be used to replace wax and PE coatings on paper ware to retain moisture resistance while enhancing the recycling properties of paper materials.

 $Cortec^{\text{®}} Eco Film^{\text{®}}$ is available in clear, opaque and colored form. It accepts imprinting for identification and branding. Available as bags or rolls, it can be used for application in manual or automated packaging systems including heat sealable form and fill packaging equipment.

Applications include:

- Food packaging for fresh, frozen, and processed food
- Paper ware
- Industrial and automotive parts
- Agriculture
- Landscaping
- Lawn and yard recycling, municipal waste recycling
- Dry cleaning.



Photos: High-resolution photos of Cortec[®] Eco *Film*[®] available for download at: <u>http://www.cortecvci.com/whats_new/announcements/announcements.php</u>

Company Description: Cortec[®] Corporation, a pioneer in environmentally friendly packaging, metalworking, cleaning, water treatment and metal protection technologies, is located in White Bear Lake, Minnesota, USA. They manufacture over 300 products in five plants located in Minnesota and Wisconsin. Cortec is a global supplier of innovative and environmentally friendly specialty chemicals, plastics and coated papers.

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