



HIGH PERFORMANCE VpCI® PACKAGING

CASE HISTORY SPOTLIGHT

Case History #221: Compostable Bags for San Francisco Organic Waste Diversion

CASE HISTORY
Eco Film™

DATE
September 2002

CUSTOMER
City of San Francisco

LOCATION
Vacaville, Ca

CORTEC REPRESENTATIVE
West Coast Packaging and Crafting

NAICS #
813312

PROBLEM
The City of San Francisco and the entire Bay Area has been evaluating methods of waste diversion for years. As state and local mandates become stricter on disposal of organic waste, having an efficient and cost effective method of collection has become increasingly important. Testing has shown that bagged waste is easier to collect from the haulers' viewpoint, however the bags themselves create additional, non-compostable waste.

SOLUTION AND APPLICATION
Through a joint effort with West Coast Packaging & Crafting, NorCal Waste and Cortec Corporation, a series of real-world and hypothetical tests were conducted on Eco Film™. The tests were designed to determine how long it would take Eco Film™ bags to degrade under typical compost conditions. Additionally, the physical strength and usability of the bags were considered. The bags were to be used for restaurant, yard and food service waste for all of the Bay Area.

CONCLUSION
Eco Film™ Biodegradable and Compostable bags degraded as indicated and exceed strength and usability criteria placed on the bags. Eco Film™ bags proved to be an excellent method of collecting organic waste without contaminating the compost.

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CORTEC CORPORATION
Environmentally Safe VpCI®/MCI® Technologies

CH221

In 2002, the City of San Francisco, California, and the entire Bay Area were looking for more efficient and cost-effective methods of waste collection as state and local mandates for organic waste disposal became stricter. Testing showed it was easier for haulers to collect bagged organic waste, but the bags created a new disposal problem.

A joint effort between the waste company, Cortec®, and a regional packaging company enabled a series of real-world and hypothetical tests on Eco Film® to see how strong the bags were and how quickly they would compost. The bags were to be used for all the yard and food service waste in the Bay Area.

Eco Film® degraded as required and surpassed strength and usability criteria, proving itself to be an excellent method of organic waste collection that would not contaminate the compost.

To read the full case history, please visit: https://www.corteccasehistories.com/?s2member_file_download=access-s2member-level1/ch221.pdf.

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