



# Croatian Wings Newsletter

“Keep your eyes on the stars, and your feet on the ground.”

— Theodore Roosevelt

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*Happy New Year from the EcoCortec team!*



Last year was very successful and we are richer for a whole lot of new experiences. Challenges that we face are here to teach us and every obstacle is a lesson to be learned. We thrive on the vision, dedication, and above all passion for our work. Driven by our customers' satisfaction, our team strives every day to provide exceptional corrosion protection solutions that meet their needs. However, our responsibility as a green manufacturer extends beyond our customers. In our plant, we fully embrace a responsible approach toward our community as well. The whole team is excited to see what the new year will bring us and we wish everyone peace, joy, and much success in the year ahead of us.

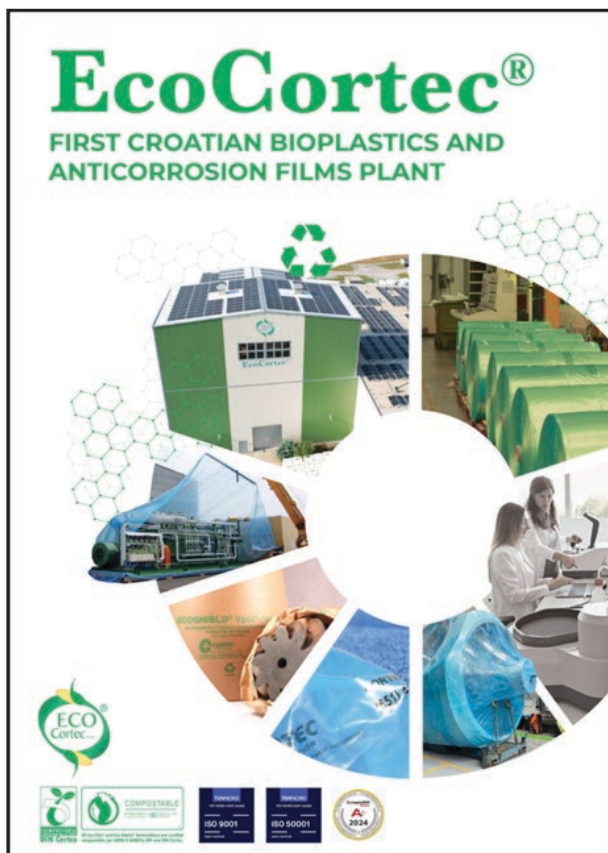




# Introducing New EcoCortec® Brochure: Now Available in Three Languages

EcoCortec's team launched an updated brochure, so far in three languages: English, German and Croatian. The brochure is showcasing the latest advancements at our Croatian plant. It contains in-depth information about EcoCortec's new equipment, manufacturing processes, technologies, products, customer service, in-house laboratory, and much more. It gives full insight into our cutting-edge equipment, sustainable manufacturing processes, and groundbreaking technologies. Explore our diverse product portfolio, learn about our exceptional customer service, and

discover the capabilities of our in-house laboratory. We are deeply committed to sustainable manufacturing and embracing the principles of the circular economy. Inside you will find a complete overview of our packaging solutions and a comprehensive list of the services we provide. We invite you to explore our new brochure and discover how EcoCortec® can help you achieve your business goals of protecting your products from corrosion while minimizing your environmental impact.







## State-of-the-Art Bio-Resin Compounding in Croatia



In 2024, EcoCortec's plant complex started compounding operations for VpCI® polymers and bio-resins. Utilizing modern, high-tech compounding lines in its polymer processing facility, our plant is now producing premium concentrated masterbatch. Compounding line ensures the highest film quality for the plant's customers. Compounding operations offer numerous benefits for both EcoCortec® and our European licensees and distributors. Conducting the entire process in-house from start to finish enhances the plant's self-sustainability and significantly shortens lead times for customers. EcoCortec® can now produce a variety of concentrated masterbatch products and integrate Cortec's patented VpCI® technology into our packaging solutions. "By



completing the entire production process in-house, EcoCortec® is now less dependent on outside sources, enhancing its self-sufficiency. Our Croatian plant can now fully implement a vertical integration philosophy." By overseeing operations from VpCI® masterbatch compounding all the way to extrusion, converting, and printing, we can achieve better quality control. Once we have the raw materials, production can proceed seamlessly from start to finish," says EcoCortec's General Manager, Dijana Zrinski. Additionally, EcoCortec's efficient shipping system minimizes any supply chain disruptions, enabling the plant to offer significantly faster turnaround times compared to other VCI film suppliers who contract their production to other facilities.





# EcoCortec® Honored with Lider Invest Award for Best Medium-Sized Investment

EcoCortec® plant has received the “Lider Invest Award” for best medium-sized investment. Lider is a prominent business weekly magazine in Croatia. It’s considered one of the most influential and respected business journals in the country. The Lider Financial Investment Forum awarded prizes for the best small, medium, and large production investments in Croatia. During the conference, EcoCortec’s General Manager, Dijana Zrinski, spoke about the company’s CEO, Boris Miksic who could not attend the event. She discussed logistics, investment strategies in Croatia, EcoCortec’s market share, and its green approach to manufacturing. EcoCortec® has firmly established itself as one of the largest manufacturers of green, anti-corrosion films and bags in Europe. “Lider Invest Award is a wonderful acknowledgment of the hard and dedicated work of our team. Our mission extends beyond product manufacturing. When I launched this project in Croatia 20 years ago, I envisioned branding Croatia as the epicenter of groundbreaking corrosion protection technologies, and we are reaching our goal!” concluded our CEO, Boris Miksic.





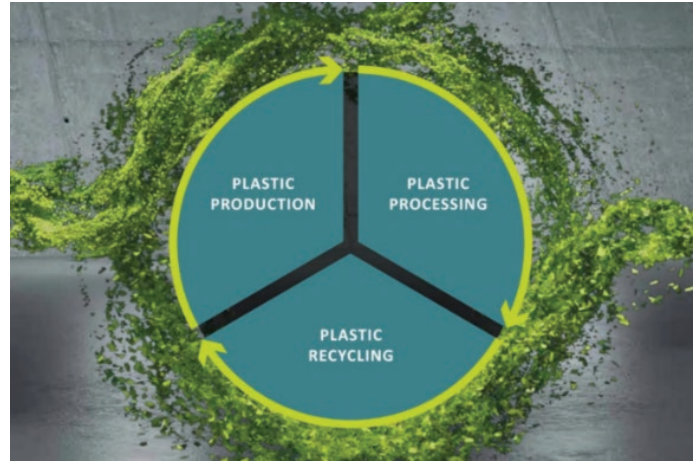


# Another Milestone in Plastic Recycling!



EcoCortec® partnered with its German distributor Jakob Schober GmbH in another important recycling project. The plastic waste is returned from its customer Jakob Schober in Waldorf, Germany to Beli Manastir, Croatia. This recycling

partnership between two companies has a goal to recover plastic scrap and incorporate it back into quality finished goods. The initiative came at a time when Europeans and the world are increasingly looking for ways to be more sustainable. It is a powerful example of how EcoCortec® is helping to make the “circular economy” a reality at the level of a direct customer-manufacturer relationship. In March 2024, Jakob Schober entered into an agreement with EcoCortec® to ship clean plastic scrap to the Beli Manastir plant for reprocessing. After further inspection at EcoCortec®, the scrap was re-granulated using state-of-the-art reprocessing equipment and tested in the lab before being used. The same truck that brought VpCI®-126 PCR to



Schober was loaded with VpCI®-126 PCR scrap for transport to EcoCortec® 1,000 km away, resulting in additional fuel savings for a better carbon footprint as well as a circular economy. The goal of the project is to increase amount of high-quality closed loop recycling, making products that can be recycled in their original markets, and reaching 30% recycled content in plastics packaging by 2030. EcoCortec® is well on its way to making these goals achievable for itself, customers, and local businesses.

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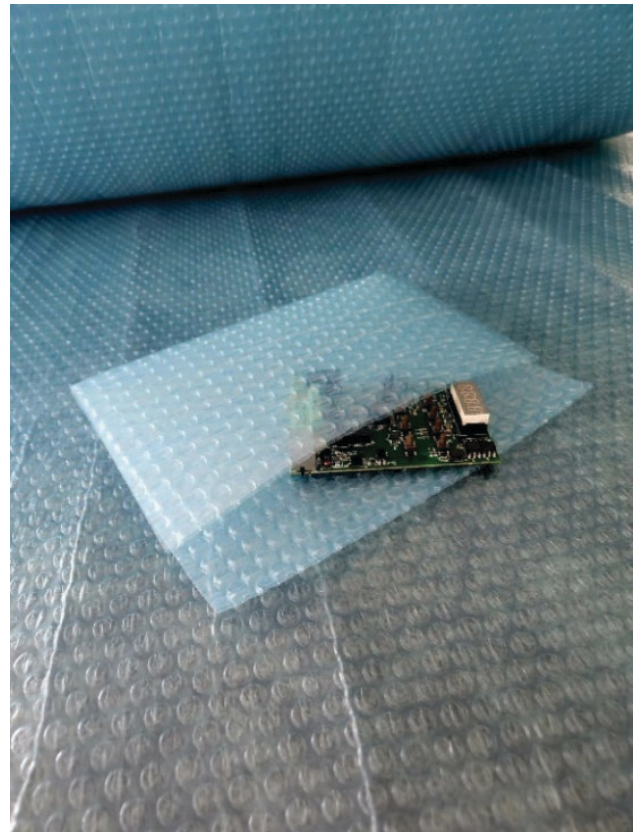






# EcoSonic® Bubble Film and Bags that Combine Cushioning Packaging with Permanent ESD protection and VpCI® launched from Croatian plant

Our team never takes a break when it comes to innovations! Driven by market demands, our valuable technical support team has created new EcoSonic® VpCI®-125 HP Permanent ESD Bubble Film and Bags powered by Nano VpCI®. They combine vapor phase corrosion inhibitors with cushioning packaging bubble bags and permanent ESD protection to protect sensitive electronic equipment from corrosion, physical damage, and the creation of triboelectric charges. The film provides comprehensive protection for electronics throughout the manufacturing, shipping, and storage processes. The bubbles serve as cushioning, dunnage, and void fill material. EcoSonic® VpCI®-125 HP Permanent ESD Bubble Film and Bags are recommended for packaging integrated circuits, printed circuit boards, PCB components, telecommunications equipment, electronic and electrical panels and enclosures. Fragile or static-sensitive components where triboelectric charge generation and corrosion are concerns will receive full protection. EcoSonic® VpCI®-125 HP Permanent ESD Bubble Film and Bags meet NACE TM0208-2018 "Vapor Corrosion Inhibiting Ability" standard for corrosion protection as well as German TL-8135-002 standard for corrosion protection. They are available by prompt delivery to our customers worldwide from EcoCortec® plant located in Croatia. Film and bags are available in custom-size rolls, sheeting, or heat-sealed bags.







# Embracing the Christmas Spirit in Our Plant



At EcoCortec®, the holiday season is a time for both celebration and giving back. Our team came together to decorate the plant with twinkling lights and a beautiful Christmas tree. A festive party was organized, where employees enjoyed delicious traditional Croatian dishes and spent time together in a holiday atmosphere. A special highlight of the celebration was a message from our CEO, Boris Miksic and his wife, Ines, read by EcoCortec's General Manager Dijana Zrinski. They expressed their gratitude for the hard work and dedication of every employee throughout the year and gave heartfelt wishes for a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. Following this, awards were presented to employees who had made special contributions throughout the year, recognizing their exceptional efforts. The Christmas celebrations at EcoCortec®, served as a powerful reminder of the importance of teamwork,



**EcoCortec's COO, Kornelija Zvecevac, presented awards to our valued employees in recognition of their exceptional contributions throughout the past year.**

community, and the true spirit of the holiday season. In keeping with our commitment to supporting the community, our team also organized a special holiday initiative for children.



Dijana Zrinski and EcoCortec's COO Kornelija Zvecevac visited a local primary school in Beli Manastir and delivered Christmas gifts to little students. The school board expressed their sincere gratitude with a special message: "Our students from the primary grades and special education classes were delighted by guests from EcoCortec who brought Christmas gifts and distributed them to our students in anticipation of the upcoming holidays. We would like to thank Ms. Dijana Zrinski and Ms. Kornelija Zvecevac for visiting our school and bringing joy to our students."

**Who is more important in the community than children? Dijana and Kornelija put a smile on their faces by handing them sweet presents and invited them to visit our plant nearby. It was a great morning for everyone!**





# New VpCI®-126 HP UV Shrink Film PCR Coming from EcoCortec®

With sustainability as our premise, we are expanding our portfolio of PCR products. EcoCortec® created exciting new product: VpCI®-126 HP UV Shrink Film PCR. This film combines high-strength resins with ultraviolet light stabilizers (UV), VpCI® technology and high-quality post-consumer recycled content. This state-of-the-art film provides multi-metal protection for parts, equipment, and vehicles for up to three years, even in aggressive outdoor conditions. VpCI®-126 HP UV Shrink Film PCR is a sustainable solution with high post-consumer recycled content.

*Film is designed to optimize recycling and reuse, minimizing the environmental impact. It enables customers to achieve sustainability goals without compromising on mechanical or corrosion inhibiting performance. Film is made made with guaranteed 30% post-consumer recycled content.*

You can read more about new Cortec®'s VpCI®-126 HP UV Shrink Film PCR Here :  
<https://ecocortec.hr/eng/VpCI-126-HP-UV-Shrink-Film-pcr>

**VpCI®-126 HP UV Shrink Film PCR**  
Patented High Technology Vapor phase Corrosion Inhibiting Films with Post-Consumer Recycled Content

**PRODUCT DESCRIPTION**

Cortec's VpCI®-126 HP UV Shrink Film PCR combines high strength resins with ultraviolet light stabilizers (UV), Vapor phase Corrosion Inhibitor Technology and high-quality post-consumer recycled content. This state-of-the-art film provides multi-metal protection for parts, equipment, and vehicles for up to three years, even in aggressive outdoor conditions. VpCI®-126 HP UV Shrink Film PCR is a sustainable solution with high post-consumer recycled content. Film is designed to optimize recycling and reuse, minimizing the environmental impact. It enables customers to achieve sustainability goals without compromising on mechanical or corrosion-inhibiting performance.

Unlike some preservation films that rely on white pigments to reflect UV light, VpCI®-126 HP UV Shrink Film PCR contains unique inhibitors that protect the polymer from UV exposure and prevents degradation. It is ideally suited for transit, staging, and lay-up of critical equipment, including equipment with large void spaces, multiple metals, and complex geometries. VpCI®-126 HP UV Shrink Film PCR can replace conventional rust preventatives such as oils and desiccants. Parts protected with this film are ready to use with no additional cleaning and/or degreasing necessary, saving you time and money. VpCI®-126 HP UV Shrink Film PCR is also transparent, making it easy to identify parts without compromising your package. Metal parts packaged in VpCI®-126 HP UV Shrink Film PCR receive continuous protection against salt air and humid environments, moisture, aggressive

Industrial atmospheres, and dissimilar metal corrosion.

The corrosion inhibitors vaporize and condense on all metal surfaces within the enclosed space and diffuse to every area of your part: protecting its exterior, as well as void spaces and recessed areas. Equipment is completely protected from corrosion during storage, lay-up, and staging as well as during domestic and overseas shipments. VpCI®-126 HP UV Shrink Film PCR, in conjunction with other Cortec® products, provides a total turnkey preservation for long term storage.

**FEATURES**

- Made with guaranteed 30% post-consumer recycled content.
- Provides UV protection for outdoor storage.
- Multi-metal corrosion inhibition providing contact, barrier, and vapor-phase protection.
- Will shrink using a wide variety of shrink tools including electric and propane heat guns.
- Recyclable and non-toxic.
- Uses recycled content of high, consistent quality.

## EcoCortec® Shared Insights at CCE Internationalization Conference as a Leading Croatian Exporter

EcoCortec® was invited to participate in the prestigious CCE Internationalization conference held at Zagreb's Hilton Garden Inn hotel. The conference gathered Croatia's biggest exporting companies, sharing experiences with domestic and international experts from the economy, technology, and politics. The goal was also to discuss current business trends in a global environment, management challenges, risk management, and logistics processes. Particular focus was on financial support for internationalization.

As a speaker in the panel entitled "Export Without







*Borders: Financing Strategies, Risk Management, and Logistics Challenges*”, General Manager, Dijana Zrinski shared EcoCortec’s successful export strategy. The company’s impressive track record, with 95% of its products reaching markets across three continents, positions us as a leading Croatian exporter. Dijana talked about the company’s commitment to efficiency and sustainability, discussing its advanced logistics operations and innovative circular production model. She also provided valuable insights into the financial strategies that fueled EcoCortec’s growth, particularly in light of recent investments.



## Welcome Aleksandra - New Quality Control Specialist in EcoCortec®

EcoCortec® is delighted to welcome Aleksandra Balkovic to our team. Aleksandra joined the company as a Quality Control Specialist within our laboratory. She is part of the research and development team for VpCI® corrosion protection products, which has always been of interest to her. We are confident that her expertise will be a valuable asset to our team and contribute significantly to maintaining the high quality standards of our products. Aleksandra holds an MSc in Chemical Engineering. She graduated in 2018 with an MSc in Chemical Engineering from the Faculty of Chemical Engineering and Technology, University of Zagreb. Previously, she worked as a Deputy Production Manager for Wiip e and as a chemical engineer in the cosmetics and pharmaceutical company Biofarm. She recently moved from Zagreb to Beli Manastir, where she quickly found a job in her field at EcoCortec®. Welcome on board, Aleksandra!







Media corner

# Featured in FORBES Germany, Austria & Switzerland Magazine

We are proud that EcoCortec® was one of the few Croatian companies featured in FORBES Germany, Austria & Switzerland Magazine edition. The story of our plant and an interview with our general manager, Dijana Zrinski, was featured in German and English. It feels amazing to be recognized by one of the most famous and prominent business magazines!



**Q&A**

**DIJANA ZRINSKI**  
EVP & General Manager, EcoCortec

Inhibitor films, which we refer to as VPCI films. Our company offers customization, converting, extruding, and printing capabilities, with a commitment to recycling. Our anti-corrosion solutions provide the most reliable VPCI films on the market. As technology leaders, our vertical integration ensures quality control from start to finish. Every product is rigorously tested in laboratories before being shipped worldwide.

EcoCortec's films and bags are utilized across various industries, offering an efficient way to protect metal parts and equipment from rust and corrosion. Our one business is focused on safeguarding packaging and packaging materials to prevent corrosion. We target specific industries rather than being a mass manufacturer for end users. Our packaging solutions are targeted to global projects across diverse sectors, including automotive, oil and gas, electronics, water treatment, and manufacturing.

We also develop and produce environmentally friendly packaging options, including biodegradable and compostable materials, in line with the growing focus on sustainability in the packaging industry. One of our greatest achievements is our recycling center, the first of its kind in Europe. At EcoCortec Recycling Center, we reprocess most of our films into new products, achieving a true circular economy in our manufacturing and design process. We have actively participated in EU funded projects aimed at reducing plastic waste, and in 2022, our company made a new investment in a reprocessing facility.

How significant are your exports to Asia, United States & specifically Europe in your international business strategy? We have a global export footprint, reaching over 25% of countries worldwide through an extensive distribution network. Our products are widely available, thanks to partnerships with distributors who specialize in specific markets. While a substantial portion of our solutions are sold in Europe, we also have a significant presence in the Middle East and Asia, with a hub in Singapore serving the Asian market. And, of course, we are in the US. In particular, the German-speaking markets in Europe hold great economic importance for us. Croatia, our home country, has a relatively small market, and we operate in a niche product sector. As a result, expanding our presence in European markets, including German-speaking countries, is a key strategic objective. The German market is the largest in Europe and plays a pivotal role in our efforts to grow and fulfill our mission of providing environmentally safe packaging technologies.

Could you elaborate on the specific significance of sustainability within the company & how it aligns with the growth of the green economy in Croatia? Sustainability is a core value that we uphold as the benchmark for excellence. Within our niche and even among our competitors in Croatia, EcoCortec is at the forefront of sustainability initiatives. As mentioned earlier, our recent investment in a reprocessing facility, realized last year, exemplifies our commitment to sustainability. This strategic move empowers us to

manufacture our materials, extend greater control over the value chain and to production, and enhance our cost efficiency. In fact, we take great pride in being recognized as the first biodegradable plant in Croatia, a distinction that highlights our dedication to ecological responsibility.

What role does innovation play in your brand? How is EcoCortec driving innovation within the industry? Our business model revolves around innovation and the creation of sustainable products. EcoCortec, a part of the Cortec Corporation in the US, is a leading manufacturer of corrosion inhibitors, known for its innovative product range. Our VPCI product is a testament to our innovative approach, utilizing environmentally safe and biodegradable materials. We are constantly exploring bio-green materials to enhance our vapor phase corrosion inhibitors. Annually, we introduce around 50 new products, emphasizing the importance of research, development, and investment in new technologies to maintain our leadership position.

We take pride in our numerous patented innovations, registered both in the US and Europe. Last year, we heavily invested in state-of-the-art equipment and laboratories for research and development, committing over 2 million euros to these efforts. This ongoing investment underscores our dedication to pioneering advanced concepts in the industry.

What core values do you aim to convey to FORBES readers in Germany, Austria & Switzerland? I would say that our values encompass innovation, sustainability, ecological responsibility, the pursuit of a circular economy model, and a strong commitment to invest in our employees. These values collectively drive us to set new industry standards, particularly in the application of green corrosion inhibitors. ■



# EcoCortec® Shines in 2024 Media Spotlight

EcoCortec® has enjoyed significant media attention throughout 2024, with the company featured in numerous prominent magazines. This widespread coverage highlights EcoCortec's innovative approach to corrosion prevention and its commitment to sustainability. We are delighted that the global technical and business communities are recognizing our plant and dedicating space to our sustainable corrosion control packaging solutions. Led by CEO Boris Miksic, EcoCortec's team in Croatia has worked

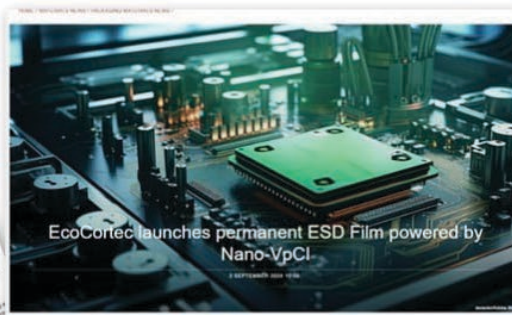
hard for the past 20 years, investing time and energy to establish a leading facility for green anticorrosion packaging and position Croatia as a critical spot in Europe in this field. EcoCortec's patented VpCI® inhibitors are regularly featured in various media outlets, enabling us to consistently strengthen our brand and place valuable content towards technical communities worldwide. We utilize platforms not only to showcase our products and solutions but also to educate the technical community on sustainable





and environmentally friendly approaches to corrosion protection. Today, EcoCortec® sets an example in successful manufacturing operations that embrace

circular economy principles, create sustainable products, and prioritize community well-being.



WHITE PAPER

NEWS TOPICS RESOURCES VIDEOS ADVERTISING

