

Editorial Contact:  
Cortec® Advertising Agency:

Shannon Garrow  
(651) 429-1100 Ext. 1128

[sgarrow@cortecvci.com](mailto:sgarrow@cortecvci.com)

Company Contact:  
Cortec® Corporation

Markus Bieber  
(651) 429-1100 Ext. 1152

[mbieber@cortecvci.com](mailto:mbieber@cortecvci.com)

Technical Contact:  
Cortec® Corporation

John Wulterkens  
(651) 429-1100 Ext. 1130

[jwulterkens@cortecvci.com](mailto:jwulterkens@cortecvci.com)



**Attention: Editor**  
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**PRESS RELEASE**



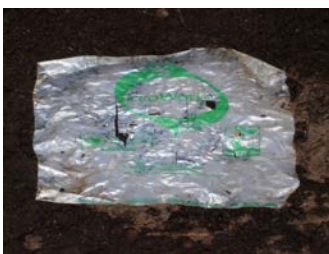
## Minimizing Environmental Impact of Common Plastics with Cortec® Recyclable and Compostable Films and Bags

Most plastic bags are manufactured from polyethylene, a product of natural gas or petroleum. While highly convenient, these bags pose a pollution problem if not disposed of responsibly.

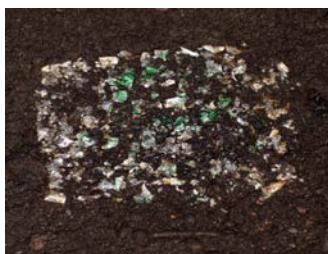
*EcoWorks® film in four stages of biodegradation*



Day 1



Day 30



Day 60



Day 111

One way to minimize environmental impact is to use polyethylene bags that are recyclable. For example, Cortec® Corporation, a leader in environmentally responsible corrosion control solutions, manufactures recyclable VpCI® brand bags (used for corrosion protection of metals) that customers can send back to Cortec® after use to reprocess into new film at up to 20% recycled content (satisfying quality requirements). The customer receives a credit, and Cortec® receives an additional source of “repro.” This provides a

resourceful method for diverting thousands of pounds of waste from the landfill annually, helping both manufacturer and end user reduce their carbon footprint.

Another option for minimizing the impact of plastic packaging is to use compostable bags that do not contain polyethylene and can biodegrade without harming the surrounding environment. Incorporating biobased content increases sustainability by drawing on a renewable resource.



*Used VpCI-anticorrosion bags collected from a major off-road equipment manufacturer ready for recycling at Cortec Advanced Films in Cambridge, Minnesota.*

Cortec® custom-manufactures such film for all-purpose waste bags and shopping bags under the Eco Works® brand name. These US-patented films and bags are compostable in a commercial compost setting. They contain biodegradable polyesters, including an annually renewable biopolymer source derived from plant sugars. The bags are available in Eco Works® 10 and Eco Works® 30 versions, containing 10% and 30% biobased polymers, respectively. The film has a stiff feel to it, similar to HDPE bags, but without being petroleum-derived.

Eco Works® film and bags bear the DIN CERTCO “seedling” logo, a distinguishing mark of compostability around the globe verifying that the film meets requirements for industrial compostability according to European (EN 13432), U.S. (ASTM D 6400), and ISO (ISO 17088) standards. When placed in an industrial compost setting, Eco Works® film and bags will fully biodegrade into carbon dioxide and water within a matter of weeks, with no eco-toxicity to the soil, plants, or microorganisms involved in the process. Unlike some “biodegradable” films of the past, Eco Works® does not rely on biodegradability additives for compostability.



*EcoCortec® d.o.o.*



*Cortec® Advanced Films*

Recyclable and compostable films and bags are produced and recycled for the North American market at Cortec® Advanced Films in Cambridge, Minnesota, and for the European market at EcoCortec® d.o.o. in Beli Manastir, Croatia.

Cortec's DIN CERTCO certification covers the following Patented Eco Works® 10 and 30 products that are available from Cortec® by custom order:

- Compostable Film (reg # 7P0090)
- Compostable Waste Bags (reg # 7P0091)
- Compostable Shopping Bags (reg # 7P0343)



There are a variety of ways to be an environmentally responsible consumer. Eco Works® film and bags are just one of the routes Cortec® offers for more sustainable plastic bag use via a compostable material with biobased content.

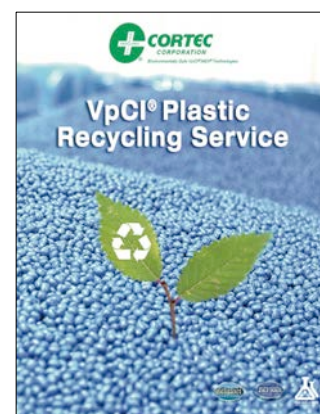
To learn more about Eco Works®, please visit:

[https://www.cortecvci.com/Publications/PDS/Eco\\_Works.pdf](https://www.cortecvci.com/Publications/PDS/Eco_Works.pdf)

To learn more about Cortec's recycling program for VpCI® film, please visit:

[http://cortecrecycling.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Recycling\\_Brochure.pdf](http://cortecrecycling.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Recycling_Brochure.pdf)

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Cortec® Corporation is the global leader in innovative, environmentally responsible VpCI® and MCI® corrosion control technologies for Packaging, Metalworking, Construction, Electronics, Water Treatment, Oil & Gas, and other industries. Our relentless dedication to sustainability, quality, service, and support is unmatched in the industry. Headquartered in St. Paul, Minnesota, Cortec® manufactures over 400 products distributed worldwide. ISO 9001, ISO 14001:2004, & ISO 17025 Certified.

Cortec Website: <http://www.cortecvci.com> Phone: 1-800-426-7832 FAX: (651) 429-1122