

COLORANTS FOR THE PROPER RECYCLING OF BLACK PLASTICS



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In the packaging industry black is commonly used for luxury products such as cosmetics, electrical and electronic equipment (E&E) and in the food industry for bottles and trays. Black gives the impression of freshness to the food and enables "unwanted" colors or imperfections to be masked.

However, the use of black hinders the recyclability of those plastics as they are undetectable by common sorting machines in recycling facilities. The currently used scanners use near infrared (NIR) light to detect the type of polymer. This light is absorbed by carbon black pigments that are often used to color black plastics packaging, making the plastics difficult to identify and sort.

COLORANTS TO ENABLE THE IDENTIFICATION OF BLACK PLASTICS IN THE SORTING PROCESS

Heubach has developed three new products for the black coloration of plastics, covering a wide range of polymers:

SOLVAPERM® BLACK PCR

- Polymer soluble dye for PET and PS
- Food contact approved in selected countries
- Excellent fastness properties

GRAPHTOL® BLACK CLN

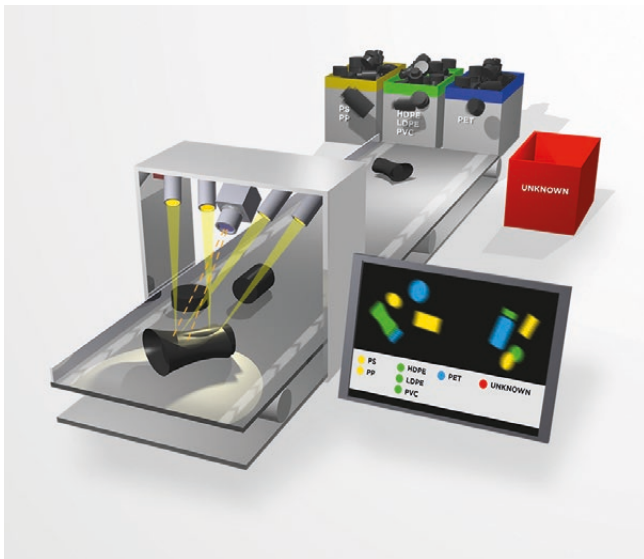
- Pigment for polyolefins
- Food contact approved in selected countries worldwide
- Excellent dispersion
- High fastness properties

POLYSYNTHREN® BLACK H

- Polymer soluble dye for PA and other engineering polymers
- Food contact approved in selected countries in Europe
- Excellent fastness properties

With Heubach's new black NIR detectable colorants, masterbatch customers and brand owners within the home and personal care as well as the food industries can continue to design and implement black packaging, knowing that subsequent sorting for recycling is possible.

Customers using Heubach's new black colorants can thus fulfill their commitments towards recyclability of their products or packaging without compromising on quality or performance.



HEUBACH COLORANTS ENABLE THE IDENTIFICATION OF BLACK PLASTICS IN THE SORTING PROCESS



PACKAGING COLORED WITH CARBON BLACK CANNOT BE SORTED BY NIR CAMERAS

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