



# Bioplastics Worldwide. Your Markets – Your Solutions – Our Certifications.

Bioplastics are still quite a new market and represent only one percent of the total plastics produced worldwide.

Nevertheless, compared to conventional plastics, bioplastics reveal a great progress in regard to properties and quality. Thus, bioplastics are more and more applied in various markets like packaging, catering products, automotive.

For customers and waste management it is of great importance to be able to rely on the product's properties regarding biodegradability in different environmental and renewable resources. This is why independent certification by DIN CERTCO according to European or international standards plays an important role in this field.

DIN CERTCO is a certification body of the TÜV Rheinland Group. It is highly regarded at home and abroad for its independence, neutrality, competence and more than 40 years of experience in the field of environmental certification.

### GLOBAL MARKET ACCESS FOR YOUR BIOPLASTICS IN EUROPE

Biodegradable and compostable plastic bags are the product segment with the highest volume in Europe. Currently, bioplastics represent about one percent of the about 320 million tonnes of plastic produced annually and the demand is continuously rising. A new EU law was introduced on July 2nd 2019 for the ban of single-use

non-biodegradable plastics by 2021. This includes single use cutlery, plates, straws, and other consumer products containing oxo-degradable and non-biodegradable plastics.

Since 2015, an amendment of the EU Directive on Packaging and Packaging Waste "Directive 94/62/EU" regulates the consumption of plastic bags, especially lightweight plastic carrier bags (LPCB) with a wall thickness  $<50~\mu m$  in the EU, in order to reduce their impact on the environment. LPCB represent the vast majority of bags in the EU. Further LPCB shall not be provided free of charge at points of sale. However, this does not apply for very lightweight plastic bags, wall thickness  $<15~\mu m$ .

EU member states can implement their own laws and regulations to reach a decrease in bag consumption. Let's contact us to be updated about legistations established in some EU members states as well as other markets in the world until now.

#### **HOW TO GET CERTIFIED?**

DIN CERTCO offers certification along the whole supply chain: from raw materials through intermediates to the final products.

#### 1. Application

- Receipt of your inquiry
- Submission of relevant documents (e.g. composition, safety data sheets) and your completed application
- Issue of individual offer if needed



#### 2. Assessment and testing

- Technical assessment and evaluation of required testing
- Testing in a DIN CERTCO recognized laboratory
- Assessment of testing report



#### 3. Certificate

- Issue of certificate in case of positive assessment
- Right to use the respective mark is granted
- Regular surveillance

### COMPOSTABLE AND BIOBASED PRODUCT CERTIFICATION BY DIN CERTCO

Our internationally recognized certification marks for your market access worldwide.

#### **USA / CANADA**

Applicable standards are ASTM D 6400 or ASTM D 6868. Since 2017 DIN CERTCO cooperates with the Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI). BPI operates North America's leading certification system for compostable products providing you access to the North American markets.





#### **AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND**

Certification according to the Australian standards AS 4736 for industrial compostability and AS 5810 for home compostability, respectively. DIN CERTCO cooperates with the ABA (Australasian Bioplastics Association) on industrial and home compostable certification.









#### **EUROPE / CHINA**

The standard in Europe for industrial compostability is EN 13432. For industrial compostable products, the "DIN-Geprüft industrial compostable" mark can be achieved, in addition to the well-established "Seedling" which DIN CERTCO grants under agreement with European Bioplastics for more than 20 years. For home compostable products,

the French standard NF T 51-800 and the Australian standard AS 5810 can be chosen for "DIN-Geprüft home compostable" certification.







#### **REST OF THE WORLD**

For industrial compostability, the standards ISO 17088 and ISO 18606 can be applied if the country of interest has harmonized these ISO standards.





## TEST MARK - ADDITIVES FOR COMPOSTABILITY ACCORDING TO EN 13432



Harmless additives, such as printing inks, master-batches, lubricants or other biodegradable additives can as well be certified by DIN CERTCO for their compostability according to EN 13432 and other relevant standards.

### TEST MARK - BIODEGRADABILITY IN SOIL PRODUCT CERTIFICATION ACCORDING TO EN 17033



Mulch films, semi-finished products and materials can be certified as "DIN-Geprüft Biodegradable in Soil" according to EN 17033. Biodegradable mulch films have long been used as an alternative in agriculture and

horticulture. The newly developed "EN 17033 Plastics - Biodegradable mulch films for use in agriculture and horticulture" is the standard for certification valid for the European market.

#### **BIOBASED PRODUCT CERTIFICATION**

With these marks, you document the use of renewable raw materials and demonstrate the proportion of biobased carbon. In using our internationally recognized "DIN-Geprüft biobased" label or the new "biobased" label of the Dutch NEN, you also secure the trust of your customers and business partners. Tests are based on ASTM D 6866, ISO 16620, or EN 16785-1.





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