



## Model Bale Specifications: Polypropylene Small Rigid Plastics

This model is not meant to replace the specifications of individual buyers, many of whom may have different allowables in terms of contents and bale sizes. Rather, it is meant to provide a benchmark to suppliers.

*Any whole bottle, container or product, with a #5 PP resin code, generated through a positive sort from curbside, drop-off or other public or private recycling collection program. Examples of Bottles, Containers and Products include: prescription bottles, yogurt cups, margarine tubs, ice cream tubs, cold drink cups, microwavable trays, tofu tubs, dishwasher safe storage containers, hangers, caps*

### VARIATION – Polypropylene All Rigid Plastics

- Bulky PP is items greater than 5 gallons, (e.g. buckets, crates, waste baskets, toys, and storage bins)

**ACCEPTABLE LEVELS OF CONTAMINANTS:** Total contaminants should not exceed 8% by weight:

- Metal (2% max. acceptable )
- Paper/cardboard (2% max. acceptable )
- Liquid or other residues (2% max. acceptable)
- HDPE #2 (2% max. acceptable)
- Any other plastic containers or packaging including PET (#1), PVC (#3), PS (#6), Other (#7) (2% max. acceptable)

### **THE FOLLOWING CONTAMINANTS ARE NOT ALLOWED AT ANY LEVEL:**

- Any plastic bags, sheets, or film
- Wood, glass, electronics scrap
- Items with circuit boards or battery packs
- Containers which held flammable, corrosive or reactive products, or pesticides or herbicides.
- Oils, grease, rocks, mud, dirt
- Medical and hazardous waste
- Products with degradable additives

**IMPORTANT:** Any plastic container that previously contained any hazardous or potentially hazardous material should be strictly avoided. Many purchases will reject an entire load if any of the above materials are found and will return them at the supplier's expense.

**Bale Size:** Approximately 30"x42"x 48" or 30"x48"x 60". Bale sizes should allow a minimum of 35,000 pounds to be shipped on 48 foot trailer, which is an industry standard. Individual companies may apply price deductions for shipments that do not meet their minimum weight requirements.

**Bale Density:** 15-20 lbs/ft<sup>3</sup>

**Bale Wire:** Bales should be held together with 10-12 gauge, noncorrosive galvanized metal wire, with all bale wires wrapped in one direction (crisscrossing or double strapping should be pre-approved by the buyer before shipping). A minimum number of bale wires should be used to maintain bale integrity. This number will vary with bale size and density.

**Bale Tare Weight:** A tare weight of 8 pounds per bale will be taken from the gross weight.

**Bale Integrity:** Bale integrity must be maintained throughout loading, shipping, unloading and storage.

**Storage:** Bales should be stored, with the bottom bale on a pallet, indoors or covered outdoors. Material must not be stored outdoors uncovered for a period exceeding four (4) weeks to prevent UV degradation from direct sunlight and moisture contamination.