



### **Model Bale Specifications: Solid Polystyrene**

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.

**Basic overview:** *Postconsumer is defined as “used for its intended purpose and otherwise directed to disposal”.* Any non-foam container or product, with a #6 PS resin code, generated through a positive sort from curbside, drop-off or other public or private recycling collection program. Examples of solid PS containers and products include: yogurt cups and tubs, red party cups, CD “jewel” cases, disposable coffee lids, and some clamshell containers.

#### **THE FOLLOWING CONTAMINANTS MUST BE LESS THAN FIVE PERCENT:**

- Any other plastic containers or packaging including PET (#1), HDPE (#2), PVC (#3), LDPE (#4) PP (#5), or, Other #7 Plastics
- Non-plastics\*

\*Non-plastics including, but not limited to, aggregate (asphalt, concrete, rock, stone, etc.), fiber (cardboard, fabric, paper, etc.), glass, metal, and wood.

#### **THE FOLLOWING CONTAMINANTS ARE NOT ALLOWED IN ANY QUANTITIES:**

- Hazardous waste
- Medical waste
- Universal waste
- Radioactive materials
- Residual Chemicals (Flammable, corrosive or reactive materials, Pesticides, Herbicides).

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

**Bale Size/Minimum Shipping Weight:** Approximately 30"x42"x 48" or 30"x48"x 60". Bale sizes should allow a minimum of 38,000 pounds to be shipped on 53 foot trailer.

**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 two (2) weeks to prevent UV degradation from direct sunlight and moisture contamination.