RECYCLED PLASTICS
ACC Recycling Reports
2012 National Plastic Recycling Reach Study

- At least 94% of U.S. population has access to PET and HDPE bottle recycling
- 57% has access to, at least, all plastic bottles and all non-bottle rigid containers
  - Up 17% from 2011
- 58.4% has access to non-bottle PP recycling of items such as yogurt tubs
  - Up 10.4% from 2011
- 1,400 cities and 300 unincorporated areas of counties in the U.S. collect all non-bottle rigid plastics
  - +263 cities and 85 areas
2013 Achievements: Recycling

Access to recycling

- U.S. FTC “green guides” - 60% access needed to claim “recyclable” on packaging

- ~57% access to all plastic bottle and all non-bottle rigid containers

- Now PET & HDPE Rigid non-bottle packaging over 60%

- PP & LDPE non-bottle packaging will most likely reach 60% due to increase in NYC plastics recycling
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Material Type</th>
<th>Percentage of US Population with Recycling Access</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HDPE bottles/jugs &amp; jars with caps</td>
<td>94.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PET bottles/jugs &amp; jars with caps</td>
<td>94.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PP bottles/jugs &amp; jars with caps</td>
<td>72.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LDPE bottles/jugs &amp; jars with caps</td>
<td>72.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PVC bottles/jugs &amp; jars with caps</td>
<td>71.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other bottles/jugs &amp; jars with caps</td>
<td>69.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDPE non-bottle rigid (cups/tubes/containers)</td>
<td>62.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PET non-bottle rigid (trays/clamshells/cups)</td>
<td>61.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PP non-bottle rigid (cups/tubes/containers)</td>
<td>58.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LDPE non-bottle rigid (tubes/lids)</td>
<td>67.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PVC non-bottle rigid (blisters/clamshells)</td>
<td>67.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other non-bottle rigid</td>
<td>54.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PS non-bottle rigid (cups/bowls/clamshells)</td>
<td>63.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPS food service</td>
<td>31.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulky Plastic (toys/buckets/crates/drums)</td>
<td>18.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPS packaging shapes</td>
<td>12.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Even More Cities Collect Rigid Plastics

100 Most Populous Cities: Plastic Recycling Collection Programs

- 2008
- 2011
- 2012

- All Rigid Plastic
- Bottles & Containers
- All Bottles
Key Findings:

• ~934 M lbs. of post-consumer rigid plastics collected for recycling nationwide
  – increase of 13% from ‘10, and 167% from ‘07

• Increase in number of processors, end users and reclaimers of rigid plastics

• Increase in communities offering rigid plastics recycling
Non-bottle Rigid Plastic Recycling Report - Findings

Non-Bottle Rigid Plastic Recovered Year over Year (by Resin)

2007 2008 2009 2010 2011

- PET
- HDPE
- PP
- LDPE
- PS
- PVC
- Other/Mixed
Non-bottle Rigid Plastic Recycling Report - Findings

Non Bottle Rigid Plastic - Domestic Versus Export

- 2007
- 2008
- 2009
- 2010
- 2011

Export
Domestic

0 250,000,000 500,000,000 750,000,000 1,000,000,000
Postconsumer Non-Bottle Rigid Plastic Recovered in 2011 (by resin)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resin</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PET</td>
<td>84,121,666</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDPE</td>
<td>288,983,213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PP</td>
<td>366,057,782</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LDPE</td>
<td>14,572,973</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PS</td>
<td>22,626,420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PVC</td>
<td>7,387,806</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other/Mixed/Unknown</td>
<td>151,277,386</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2011 Bag and Film Report

Key Findings:

- In 2011, 1 Billion lbs. of postconsumer film (including plastic bags and product wrap) were collected for recycling nationwide
  – an increase of ~50% from 2005
- Over 15,000 drop-off locations nationwide
- In store collection Infrastructure is critical for wraps
- Recovered plastic bags and wraps can be recycled into many useful products, including durable backyard decking, fencing, railings, shopping carts and, of course, new bags
55% Increase Since 2005

Postconsumer Film Acquired For Recycling

- Exported
- Purchased for use in US or Canada

Pounds

2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011
Percentage of Recycled Film by Grade

- Commercial Clear: 47%
- Commercial Mixed Color: 14%
- Commercial Curbside: 3%
- Commercial Other: 3%
- Mixed (Retail Collected Bag, Sacks & Wraps): 22%
- Dirty Ag: 10%
- Clean Ag: 1%
- Commercial Mixed Color: 14%
2011 U.S. Reclaimed End Uses

Lumber 55%

Film & Sheet 16%

Other 29%
Plastics Recycling is Growing in U.S.

2.6 Billion lbs of plastic bottles collected (2011)

- Recycling increase every year since 1990s
- 94% access to plastic bottle recycling

1 Billion lbs of plastic bags & film collected (2011)

- Up 50% from ‘05
- 91% access to PE bag at retail stores
- 72% access to all PE bag/film/wraps at retail stores

“Plastics Recycling Collection: National Reach Study (bottles, rigids),” Moore Recycling Assoc. (Forthcoming, 2013)
Plastics Recycling is Growing in U.S.

934 million pounds of rigid plastics collected (2011)

• Up 167% in just 4 years from ’07, 13% from ‘10

Significant increase in communities

• 2007: 25% of large cities; 2012: 50%

• California: > 66% can recycle all plastic containers curbside

• ~57% access to all plastic bottle and all non-bottle rigid containers

“Plastics Recycling Collection: National Reach Study (bottles, rigids),” Moore Recycling Assoc. (Forthcoming, 2013)
Thank You!

Ashley Carlson
Consultant
Plastics Division, American Chemistry Council
ashley@ashleycarlsonconsulting.com