



## PCR Glossary

**Consumer** The final end-user; can be either a person(s), industry or business that has used the product for its intended purpose.

**Post-consumer** Material that has been used for its intended purpose. Post-consumer material may be generated by households or commercial establishments.

**Post-industrial or Pre-consumer** Material that has been processed initially and failed to meet specifications or otherwise not sold as prime material and sold to another party for reuse or reprocessing. Post-industrial material cannot be post-consumer material unless the manufactured item had been used for its intended use and was directed toward disposal.

**Reprocess (Repro)** To convert recovered materials into new raw materials that can be used to make finished goods. This can include materials reprocessed from both post-consumer and post-industrial recycled sources. → [Plastic reclaimers reprocess plastic bottles into pellets, which can then be manufactured into new plastic products.](#)

**Reground plastic** Used to describe post-industrial scrap that is granulated and reground.

**Resin Identification Code (RIC):** A numerical coding system in which symbols and numbers are molded directly onto plastic bottles and containers to identify the resin from which they are made. The RIC was established in the late 1980s by the Plastic Bottle Institute; since 2014 it has been managed by ASTM. The RIC is not a recycling code.

- #1 - polyethylene terephthalate (PET)
- #2 - high-density polyethylene (HDPE)
- #3 - polyvinyl chloride (PVC)
- #4 - low-density polyethylene (LDPE)
- #5 - polypropylene (PP)
- #6 - polystyrene (PS)
- #7 - mixed plastic

**Circular Economy** A circular economy keeps materials, products and services in circulation for as long as possible.

**Closed-loop Recycling** When recyclable materials are converted back into the same application or recycled back to a similar quality as the original material.

**Open-loop Recycling** When recyclable materials are converted into new raw materials and products. The products could be unrelated to the original product's use. → [Post-consumer recycled plastic bottles made into athleisure leggings.](#)

Source: [APR](#)

See Versa Pak's SQF certification, as well as its FDA, RoHS, non-allergen, Buckeye Kosher and Kosher compliance statements:

