SIEGWERK

02/02/2026 Press release

Siegwerk becomes first to receive RecyClass technology approval for UV/LED-curable inks on PE films

Receiving RecyClass' first UV ink approval underscores Siegwerk's strong technology leadership and ability to develop solutions that enable circular packaging innovations.

Siegburg, Germany – February 02, 2026 — Siegwerk, one of the leading global providers of printing inks and coatings for packaging applications and labels, has received a RecyClass Technology Approval for various acrylic UV/LED-curable inks and varnishes from its SICURA series. This marks a market first, as it is the first technology approval granted by RecyClass for UV-curable ink technology used on polyethylene (PE) flexible packaging.

The approval confirms that specific products from the company's SICURA series, such as SICURA Nutriflex, SICURA Flex Dual Cure and SICURA Litho Pack, are fully compatible with the colored PE flexibles recycling stream in Europe. This applies as long as the packaging is designed in line with the conditions defined by RecyClass. The approval is based on independent laboratory testing of Siegwerk's SICURA Nutriflex NT26 carried out in accordance with the RecyClass Recyclability Evaluation Protocol for PE films.

To date, UV-curable inks have not been explicitly addressed in RecyClass' Design for Recycling Guidelines for PE films. The new approval therefore represents an important step in expanding the scientific basis for assessing innovative ink technologies and supports the wider use of UV/LED-curable solutions in recyclable flexible packaging structures. "This is a significant milestone for UV

printing in flexible packaging, closing a critical gap in recycling," said Marc Larvor, Head of Technology, Narrow Web EMEA at Siegwerk. "Siegwerk has demonstrated that our UV/LED inks can deliver the required packaging performance and support full recyclability – a combination that was previously unaddressed in industry guidelines. It's a testament to our R&D team's expertise and our commitment to enabling circular packaging solutions without compromising on performance or safety."

The RecyClass approval granted for SICURA Nutriflex NT26 has also been extended—based on chemical equivalence—to several additional acrylic UV/LED-curable inks and varnishes used in Narrow Web, Sheetfed and Liquid Food packaging applications. Alongside SICURA Nutriflex NT26 this includes, SICURA Nutriflex NT25, SICURA Nutriflex 10, SICURA Nutriflex LEDtec, SICURA Nutriflex OPV, SICURA Flex Dual Cure, SICURA Flex OPV, SICURA Litho Pack, SICURA Litho Pack DC, SICURA Nutriplast 2N, SICURA Nutriplast 2DC, and SICURA Nutri GTR. These products are likewise considered fully compatible with the colored PE flexibles recycling stream under the same conditions validated for SICURA Nutriflex NT26.

This multi-approval sends a strong signal to the value chain, giving brand owners and converters greater confidence in selecting UV-curable inks for recyclable PE packaging designs and supporting their decision-making towards circular packaging solutions. "This approval is a huge step forward for packaging sustainability as it effectively opens the door for brand owners to use high-performance UV-curable inks in recyclable PE packaging formats," added Lara Kleines, Business Partner Recycling and Polymers at Siegwerk. "We are more than proud to provide our customers a new level of freedom in designing sustainable packaging without trade-offs." By collaborating with initiatives like RecyClass and validating the recyclability of its products through scientific testing, Siegwerk ensures its innovations always align with recyclers' needs and help drive truly circular packaging solutions.

Note: The RecyClass technology approval is granted for the ink technology itself and does not constitute a recyclability certification of a final packaging. Packaging using the approved technology must still be assessed as a whole and comply with the applicable RecyClass Design for Recycling Guidelines. The full conditions and scope of the approval are detailed in the official RecyClass Technology Approval Letter, available here: Technology Approval Letter

More about Siegwerk's solutions for the development of circular packaging can be found here: https://www.siegwerk.com/en/inks-coatings/circular-economy-solutions.html

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