

Which card for your environmentally conscious customers?

A quick guide to sustainable card materials



The world is heading towards environmental crisis

It falls to all of us to make responsible changes to the ways we work and live to move towards a more sustainable world. For card production, this starts with materials. There are many different types of materials from which cards can be manufactured – but which are the most sustainable?

Plastic pollution: A clear and imminent risk to our ecosystem



The manufacture of new plastics is said to take up more than 8% of the entire world's petroleum use every year¹

of the world's plastic isn't recycled²

91% 17.6bn #5

pounds of plastic leaks into the marine environment from land-based sources every year³



The World Economic Forum reports that the top 5 most imminent dangers to our planet are environmental - plastics bear a responsibility in all 5⁴

What materials can be used to produce payment cards?

| Material | Source | Composition | End of life options | Impact when incinerated | |
|-----------------------|--|---------------------|--|-------------------------|-------------|
| | | | | Environmental | Health |
| PLA | Industrial crops of corn starch and sugar cane (non-food) | Bio-based | () | | Deg |
| | | | Industrially compostable | None | None |
| rPVC | Post Industrial PVC | Recycled plastic | Ź100 | | D |
| | | | Fully recyclable | Greenhouse gases | Toxic |
| Ocean Plastic | Plastic collected by the ocean or ocean shore | Recycled plastic | 2 | | D K S |
| | | | Partially recyclable | Greenhouse gases | Toxic |
| Composite Plastics | Mix of rPVC or PLA and virgin plastics (PET, PVC) | Recycled plastic | \bigotimes | | Deg |
| | | | Not recyclable | Greenhouse gases | Toxic |
| rPET | Recycled material from skeleton of pharmacy packaging industry | Recycled plastic | 8 | | D |
| | | | Incineration or landfill | Greenhouse gases | Toxic |
| rPETG | Recycled material from skeleton of pharmacy packaging industry | Recycled plastic | | | Degy |
| | | | Incineration or landfill | Greenhouse gases | Toxic |
| PVC | Salt and petroleum | Petroleum based | Z100 | | Deg |
| | | | Fully recyclable | Greenhouse gases | Toxic |
| PET | Petroleum | Petroleum based | | | D |
| | | | Recyclable once retaining original properties | Greenhouse gases | Toxic |
| PETG | Petroleum | Petroleum based | | | Das |
| | | | Recyclable once retaining original properties | Greenhouse gases | Toxic |

Plastics and the Sustainable **Development Goals (SDGs)**

The United Nations have identified goals in 17 key areas, called the Sustainable Development Goals, that are designed to enable worldwide improvements in quality of life, in all areas, all across the planet. Adopted by all member states in 2015, the goals "provide a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future."5

Giesecke+Devrient (G+D) believe that business plays a crucial role in supporting these goals. We are proud that, by offering cards made from eco-friendly, sustainable sources, we are helping to deliver on these aims, particularly those relation to action on climate change and preserving life, both on land and in the oceans.



Summary

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts, by reducing emissions of CO₂ and greenhouse gases.

Conserve and sustainably use the oceans and coastal resources.

Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss.

The impact of sustainable plastics

PLA production is booming – by 2023 analysts predict that 831000 metric tonnes will be produced every year.⁶

Recycled Ocean plastic cards contributes to reducing the 8 Million tonnes of plastic entering our Ocean every year.⁷

For every 1 kilo of PVC plastic recycled, 2 kilos of PVC are saved.8

Our card selection for an environmentally conscious lifestyle





Convego[®] Recycled

Benefits of card body material*

- 100% made of PVC recycled out of post-industrial goods
- 100% recyclable to avoid incineration

Purpose

The next industry standard to reduce CO₂ emissions

Convego[®] Natural

Benefits of card body material*

- PLA is sourced from plants
- The material is industrially compostable

Purpose

Re-imagined, re-designed – it's not plastic



*Card body only; excluding chip and antenna

Convego[®] Parley Ocean

Benefits of card body material*

- A sustainable source of plastic whilst cleaning up the environment
- 100% recyclable to avoid incineration

Purpose

Protect vital marine and coastal ecosystems from pollution

Build a sustainable card solution for your customer

Whether it's sustainable, recycled petroleum-based plastic, reused sources gleaned from the ocean, or innovative new biodegradable plant-based plastics, G+D can help banks to build a sustainable foundation for their card production, with the materials that make sense for their business, and their sustainability policy.

Why not get in touch today?

Sources

- 1 http://www.plastic-resource-center.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Global-Plastic-Production-RisesRecycling-Lags.pdf
- 2 https://www.nationalgeographic.org/article/whopping-91-percent-plastic-isnt-recycled/
- 3 https://oceana.org/our-campaigns/plastics#:~:text=The%20Problem,into%20the%20oceans%20every%20minute
- 4 https://www.weforum.org/reports/the-global-risks-report-2020
- 5 https://sdgs.un.org/goals
- 6 https://www.marketreportsworld.com/global-polylactic-acid-pla-market-12344166

7&8 G+D Supplier data

About Giesecke+Devrient

Giesecke+Devrient (G+D) is a global security technology provider headquartered in Munich, Germany. Founded in 1852, the company has a workforce of 12,600 employees and generated sales of EUR 2.53 billion in the 2022 fiscal year. A total of 103 subsidiaries and joint ventures across 33 countries ensure customer proximity worldwide.

Engineering trust through technology is G+D's core area of expertise. As a trusted partner to customers with the highest demands, G+D secures the essential values of the world. We develop customized technology in four major playing fields: payment, connectivity, identities and digital infrastructures.



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