Thompsons Packaging Ltd
Unit 9/10, Drumhead Rd, Chorley North Business Park, Chorley, PR6 7BX

Product Specification Sheet

Product Code: **REF005**

Name of Customer:

Customer Address:

Description of Product:	Refuse Sacks	
Size (mm):	**450 x 725 x 975**	
Flat Bag	**Side Gusset Bag**	**Bottom Gusset Bag**
Width:	**Closed Width: 450mm**	Width:
Length:	**Open Width: 725mm**	Length:
	Length: 975mm	Gusset:

Approx. Weight Per 200
7 Kg

Film Properties	
Material:	HDPE/LDPE (Blend)
Colour / Tint	Black
Country of Origin:	Far East
Food Contact	No
BRC Approved?	No

Thickness	
Micron:	30
Gauge:	120

Packing Information
Packed loose in 200s

Additional Information

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1. PRODUCT

Natural and pigmented film and bags produced from polyethylene.

The term Polyethylene covers both ETHYLENE HOMOPOLYMERS and COPOLYMERS of ETHYLENE with other OLEFINS and COPOLYMERS of ETHYLENE with VINYL ACETATE (EVA).

Density Range - 915 Kg/m³ to 965 Kg/m³

2. POTENTIAL HAZARDS

(i) Toxicity

Polyethylene is chemically unreactive and is generally regarded as being biologically inert.

(ii) Inhalation (Fume Evolution)

There is no release of obnoxious fumes from polythene at ambient Temperatures.

(iii) Ingestion

Although polythene is inert and regarded as harmless, ingestion of film should be avoided.

(iv) Skin Contact

Polyethylene is not considered to be a skin irritant although there have been very occasional reports of dermatitic symptoms. Molten polyethylene will adhere strongly to the skin and is hot enough to cause severe burns.

(v) Eye Contact

Polyethylene film may give rise to mechanical/frictional irritation on contact with eyes but is not known to be chemically injurious to eye tissue.

(vi) Effect of Heat and Fire

When polyethylene is heated in air, melting will occur between 105°C and 135°C depending on polymer density. Decomposition will commence at about 300ºC above which oxidisation pyrolysis will occur producing carbon monoxide and water. Small amounts of various hydrocarbons and aldehydes will also be **produced.** EVA films will decompose at about 230°C and will produce irritant acid fumes also.

Burning polyethylene may produce carbon as soot which *may* be accompanied by the release of flaming, molten droplets of polymer which could ignite adjacent flammable materials.

Polyethylene self-ignition temperature is **> 300°C** (ASTM D1929 - 77).

Use of Film

Polyethylene film is likely to produce electrostatic charts, particularly on moving machinery, these occurring more readily at low humidity. There are obvious risks from Static discharges which can ignite solvent vapours or cause electric shock to personnel.

The fitting of anti-static devices to conversion machinery is recommended.

Where film is heated, e.g. shrink-wrapping, heat sealing, etc the risks from the molten film on the skin and from the fumes should be recognised. Adequate and local ventilation should be provided.

Film Storage and Handling

Polyethylene Films will deteriorate in sunlight (black pigment will slow down this process) and it is therefore recommended that film be stored indoors at a temperature below 30°C.

Film stocks should be rotated.

Polyethylene bags constitute a suffocation hazard, particularly to small children.

Reels of film should be carefully handled, particularly where there is a risk of reels on their side rolling off raised areas, e.g. on pallets in storage racks etc.

3. RECOMMENDED FIRST AID TREATMENT

(i) Eye Contact

Immediately flood the eye with copious amounts of water. Obtain medical attention if soreness occurs and persists.

(ii) Skin Contact

(a) Film – Personnel who have a history of skin disease or allergy may find problems can be eliminated by the use of barrier creams or protective gloves;

(b) Molten Polymer - any molten materials on the skin should be cooled as quickly as possible e.g. by plunging into cold water. DO NOT attempt to remove molten or solidified material from the skin. Obtain immediate medical attention.

(iii) Product Ingestion

Obtain medical advice.

(iv) Inhalation of Fumes from Very Hot or Burning Polymer

Remove from exposure into fresh air. Keep warm and at rest. If there is respiratory distress give oxygen. If breathing stops, or shows signs of failure, apply artificial respiration. Obtain medical attention.

(v) Likely thermal decomposition products:

(a) Carbon Monoxide TLV 50 PPM
(b) Formaldehyde TLV I PPM
(c) Acrolein TLV O.I PPM
(d) Irritant Acid Vapours (EVA copolymer)

NOTE:

The irritancy of the aldehydes, which is noticeable even at TLV levels, provides a good warning of excessive exposure.

Medical staff involved should be advised of the likely nature of the decomposition products.

4. FIRE FIGHTING PROCEDURES

Fires involving polyethylene can be tackled using any commonly available fire extinguisher. It may however be inadvisable to use certain extinguishers in particular circumstances, e.g. water extinguishers next to electrical installations.

It is recommended that advice should be sought from the local Fire Authority on fire fitting equipment and procedures-

Polyethylene is unlikely to be the only factor in a total fire situation and other materials may constitute a greater risk or hazard. Care must be taken to avoid inhalation of combustion fumes and fire fighters should wear self-contained breathing apparatus.

5. WASTE DISPOSAL

Scrap polyethylene may be disposed of at official landfill tips or by incineration under approved conditions. Correct incineration of polyethylene does not result in the emission of dangerous gasses, it is not a 'Notifiable Waste' – Advice on disposal should be sought from Local Authorities-

Wherever possible the re-use of Polythene scrap should be considered. Viable quantities of scrap film may be purchased by film producers for recycling into low-grade products.

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POLYETHYLENE in CONTACT with FOOD

Regulatory Information – Not classified as dangerous under EC criteria.

Food Contact Approval – U.K. Statutory instruments:

No 1523-Food-The materials and articles in contact with food regulation 1987.

No 3145-Food-The plastic materials and articles in contact with food regulations 1992,2002/72/EC.

The BPF-BIBRA code of practice 1986 and subsequent amendments
(Provisions for Food Contact Regulations).

USA Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). Title 21, parts 170-199

Germany Bundesgesundheits Amt (BGA)-Empfehlung 3

EEC Directive 90/128 EEc, Annex 2- Section A-List of authorised monomers, and its amendments 92/39EEC and 93/9/EEC. All polyethylene monomers are in Section A. Polyethylene does not contain monomers from list B.

In accordance with EEC guidelines Global Migration Data must be obtained by testing the final product and there is therefore the responsibility of the end user.

EEC Directive 94/62 – The level of heavy metals (Cadmium,Chromium(V1)….hexavalent, Mercury and Lead) is less than 100ppm and can therefore be recycled accordingly.

Disclaimer – The above is based on current knowledge and is to be used for Health, Safety and Environmental requirements only. It should not, therefore be construed as guaranteeing any specific property of the product. It is the responsibility of the end user to ensure the suitability of the product for any particular application.

Prepared By: Richard Thompson **Date: 26/02/2026**