



Brussels, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017

The Technical Committee of the European PET Bottle Platform (EPBP) was requested to evaluate the effect of NMP Systems and KHS Nature Multipack solution for PET bottle secondary packaging on the quality of recycled PET. The Nature Multipack solution uses a specifically designed machine and glue dots to stick together PET bottles in multiple packs.

Data supplied from tests carried out conforming to the EPBP testing protocol demonstrated minimal impact on the colour and properties of the resulting rPET. Glue dots sticking bottles together are designed to be removed during friction washing and to separate from PET flakes by flotation. However, it has not been possible to assess the long-term effect of the released glue particles in the recyclers' wash lines and consequently on rPET quality.

Based on the assessment's outcome but taking into account the variable performance of European recyclers, the novelty of this packaging solution and its potential market penetration, **EPBP has awarded interim approval to the Nature Multipack PET bottle secondary packaging process in combination with the specific glue developed and supplied by NMP Systems and KHS** in a test market (up to five industrial machines) and for an interim period, expiring 30 June 2019.

The interim approval is awarded under the following conditions:

- A maximum allowed market penetration of 2%
- EPBP to be informed in advance about the installation of each of the five machines
- Only the specific glue developed and supplied by NMP Systems and KHS to be used in the Nature Multipack machine(s) in Europe
- Users of the KHS Nature Multipack machine(s) must strictly follow the operating instructions and conditions laid down by NMP Systems and KHS
- NMP Systems and KHS will continue to cooperate with EPBP in order to carry out additional tests that will allow long-term effects assessment, to be conclusive to decide if the approval can become permanent
- **The word "interim" is quoted in any reference to the EPBP approval**

The interim period will be used to run trials that will allow recyclers to be given recommendations on how PET bottles brought on the market with Nature Multipack secondary packaging should be handled.