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Plastics — Industrial compostable plastic shopping bags

*Plastiques — Sacs à provisions en plastique compostables en
compostage industriel*





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Foreword

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The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 61, *Plastics*, Subcommittee SC 14, *Environmental aspects*.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

Increased use of plastic shopping bags can cause several environmental problems, such as terrestrial pollution and contamination of soil, water and marine environment pollution. These pose a severe risk to ecosystems, biodiversity and human health. Recently, many countries, regions, and cities have enacted legislation to ban or severely reduce the use of plastic shopping bags to help tackle these issues.

This document does not aim to bypass this legislation; it aims to specifically address the following aspects where plastic shopping bags suitable for industrial composting can be appropriate for specific uses:

- a) offering methods for testing industrial compostability, followed by demonstrating the impact of industrial compostable shopping bags on the ecological environment;
- b) providing a reference for the evaluation of industrial compostable plastic shopping bags for industrial composting.

Development of this document is expected to improve the quality control of plastic shopping bags suitable for industrial composting, in countries, regions, and cities where industrial composting is available. Furthermore, this document ensures provision of industrial compostable shopping bags to be stronger.