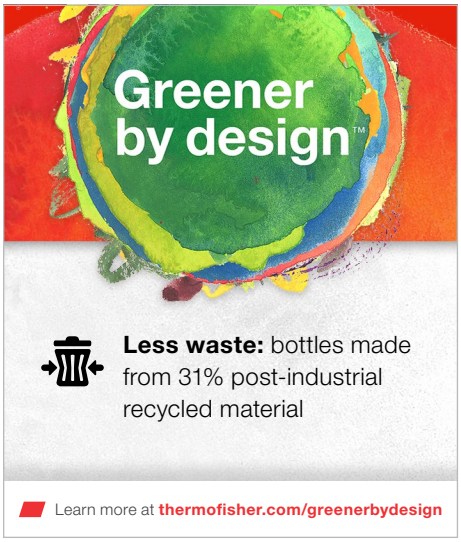
Samco UrineGUARD Specimen Collection Containers



Introduction

Thermo Fisher Scientific is committed to designing our products with the environment in mind. This fact sheet provides the rationale behind the environmental claim that the 24-hour Thermo Scientific™ Samco™ UrineGUARD™ Specimen Collection Containers (2,500 mL, 3,000 mL, and 3,500 mL) are made from 31% post-industrial recycled material.

Product description

Samco 24-hour UrineGUARD Specimen Collection products help alleviate mess and exposure when handling urine collection and sampling. The containers also have a custom spout that allows for accurate pouring into test tubes, centrifuge tubes, and aliquot bottles (Figure 1). The accurate scale on each container allows for proper measurement, eliminating the need to transfer samples into a graduated cylinder.

Green feature

Less waste

The 2,500 mL, 3,000 mL, and 3,500 mL 24-hour UrineGUARD Specimen Collection Containers comprise 31% post-industrial recycled plastic material (Table 1). All manufacturing container waste from the product series is collected, processed at a recycling facility, and returned for use within the same manufacturing process. Instead of sending the waste product into landfill, it is sent to a recycler that grinds the plastic

Figure 1. The 24-hour UrineGUARD Specimen Collection Containers—2,500 mL, 3,000 mL, and 3,500 mL.

waste and produces recycled plastic resin pellets. The pellets are added back during the formulation of resin to create new products. The recycler documents the manufacturing scrap that is received and the resulting recycled material that is returned. Thermo Fisher assigns a unique part number for the recycled resin, which is used to identify the recycled material and is part of the products' bill of materials for manufacturing the product.

Incorporating recycled material reduces the need for petroleum feedstock and generates fewer greenhouse gas emissions. For the total number of UrineGUARD Specimen Collection Containers typically manufactured in one year, this reduces the amount of virgin plastic resin used by approximately 600 kg. This reduction represents approximately 1.8 metric tons of CO_2 equivalents, about the same greenhouse gas emissions produced by driving 4,400 miles in an average passenger car [1,2]. It also demonstrates to what extent the plastic waste from our manufacturing facilities is being diverted from landfill and given a longer useful life through recycling and incorporating into a new product.

Designing our products to include recycled plastic resin—and therefore use and waste less virgin plastic resin—is a win for our customers, our company, and the planet.

Table 1. Percent post-industrial recycled plastic content for 24-hour UrineGUARD Specimen Collection Containers.

Product	Mass of product (g)	Mass of post-industrial recycled content (g)	Percent post-industrial recycled content (%)
Samco 2,500 mL 24-hour UrineGUARD Specimen Collection Container	112	35	31
Samco 3,000 mL 24-hour UrineGUARD Specimen Collection Container	105	33	31
Samco 3,500 mL 24-hour UrineGUARD Specimen Collection Container	105	33	31

References

1. United States Environmental Protection Agency, Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator - Calculations and References: Tons of waste recycled instead of landfilled, 2020, http://www.epa.gov/energy/ghg-equivalencies-calculator-calculations-and-references#recycle.
2. United States Environmental Protection Agency, Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator. http://www.epa.gov/energy/greenhouse-gas-equivalencies-calculator, accessed September 27, 2022.

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