

Compostable Thermoplastic Starch/Biodegradable Polyester Polymer Blends



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Outlines

- Starch and Thermoplastic Starch (TPS)
- TPS Process Technology
- Teknor Apex Terraloy[™] vs Other Commercial Grades
 - Terraloy[™] vs LDPE
 - Terraloy[™] vs LLDPE
 - Terraloy[™] vs PBAT
- ASTM D-6400
- Life Cycle Analysis
- Teknor Apex Terraloy Technology Value Proposition
- Typical Markets & Applications
- Summary









Starch is a polymer of repeating glucose units which is polar in nature.

The structure may be in two physical forms. Amylose the crystalline form, and Amylopectin the amorphous form.



Source: http://academic.brooklyn.cuny.edu



Starch





The granules are coarse and have filler like properties when blended with a polymer

Starch may be converted to a thermoplastic polymer by plasticizing with glycerol and water. On removal of the water, the resulting TPS may be added to polymers without significant change in physical properties.

Non-polar polymer blends require a compatibilizer for optimal performance.

Source: Text from Keelina (©1998)



Thermoplastic Starch (TPS) Defined

- TPS: Starch which has been transformed from a coarse granule to a fluid similar to other thermoplastics using melt extrusion
- This is achieved with heat in the presence of water and/or plasticizer
- TPS on it's own, is susceptible to moisture uptake and has low mechanical properties. These failings may be overcome by blending polymers and/or additives with TPS
- The successful transformation into a plasticized starch/polymer blend is a complex operation requiring a balance of residence time and temperature in melt extrusion

Source: Li Gang et. al.



Producing a Useful TPS/Polymer Blend



A slurry of starch, water, and glycerol are fed to a twin screw extruder.

A polymer melt is introduced after the starch is plasticized and the water drivenoff.

The resulting compound is a cocontinuous mixture of TPS & polymer.





Versatility of Terraloy TPS Technology

	Fossil-based	Bio-based = Renewable
Non- biodegradable	Commodity (PP, PE, PS)	Biobased-PE Biobased-PVC Polytrimethyl terephthalate (PPT) Polyurethane (PU) Polyamide (PA 11) TPS- PE, PP or PS PLA- Engr Plastics
Biodegradable	PolycaproLactone (PCL) Polyvinyl Alcohol (PVA) Polyethylene Succinate (PES) Polybutylene Succinate (PBS) Polybutylene Succinate –co- Adipate (PBSA) Polybutylene adipate-co- terephthalate (PBAT)	Cellulose Acetate (CA) TPS-PLA Polylactic acid (PLA) Polybutylene Succinate-co-L- lactate (PBSL) Polyhydroxyalkanoates (PHA: PHB, PHBV)



Bioplastisc and Commodity Plastics







Terraloy[™] BP-20001K vs. LDPE

Tensile Strength and Elongation





Terraloy[™] BP-20001K vs. LDPE

Tear Strength or Dart Resistance





Terraloy[™] BP-20001K vs. LLDPE

Tensile Strength and Elongation





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ASTM D6400 Test for Compostability

BIODEGRADABLE vs. COMPOSTABLE

BIODEGRADABLE

Plastics break down via the action of naturally occurring microorganisms such as bacteria and fungi

COMPOSTABLE

Plastics break down into CO2, H2O and biomass at the same rate as paper without leaving toxic residues.

Three Criteria for ASTM D6400

- 1. Biodegrades to CO2, H2O and biomass at the same rate as paper
- 2. Disintegrates, leaving no visible pieces
- Eco-Toxicity degradation does not product toxic materials and the compost can still support plant growth



COMPOSTABLE Biodegradable





ASTM D6400- TPS





Environmental Benefit: Compostability





ASTM D6400- TPS



Environmental Benefit: Complete disintegration



9070253-



ASTM D6400: TPS Compostability



Environmental Benefit: Support plant growth







BPI Listed that meets ASTM D-6400

Teknor Apex Company Terraloy Bioplastics Compound BP-20001 meets ASTM D-6400 and listed at BPI



promoting biodegradable products throughout the world





Biodegradable | US COMPOSTING Products Institute | US COUNCIL





Life Cycle Analysis

Determines product's environmental performance from cradle to gate or cradle to grave, including: • Natural resource depletion

- Release of harmful substances and impact
- Local and global scale

Measured by total Greenhouse Gas Emissions, GHG.

Note:

GHG emissions are significantly lower with TPS versus petroleum-based resins and other bioplastics.





Green House Gas Reduction for HDPE





85 YEARS OF COMPOUNDING EXPERTISE

The ability to customize formulations to fit your end-use requirements.





Potential Applications of TPS/Blends

- Trash Bags
- Packaging
- Foam packaging
- Mulch Film
- Shopping Bags (a.k.a. T-Shirt bags)
- Disposable Cups and Utensils
- Horticulture (potting trays)

Disclaimer: pictures are for illustration only, they are not necessary made out of Teknor Apex Terraloy bioplastics Grades





Summary

- Thermoplastic Starch blend (TPS) is a versatile resin that be compounded with commodity thermoplastics such as LLDPE, LDPE, MDPE, HDPE, GPPS and HIPS
- TPS can also be compounded with other bioplastics such as PLA, PBAT and PHA
- TA's patented technology has better mechanical properties than other commercial TPS grades due to process technology and formulation optimization
- Terraloy™BP-20001 has excellent film properties such as tear strength and dart impact





Summary

- Terraloy BP-20001meets ASTM D-6400 and currently listed by BPI
- TPS has much lower GHG than petroleum resins
- Markets and applications are quite broad for TPS blends
 - Film
 - Packaging
 - Consumer products
 - Food services
 - Others





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Questions and Comments

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Footnotes:

Terraloy[™] trademark of Teknor Apex Company www.teknorapex.com

