

# DEFINITIONS, CERTIFICATIONS AND LOGOS

Classification	Definition	Logo
Recyclable	Which can be transformed to be reintroduced into a production cycle for the manufacture of new products. <sup>1</sup>	
Recyclable and made from recycled material (pre or post-consumer)	Pre-consumer recycled contents are materials that are redirected from the disposal stream during the manufacturing process and introduced for use in a different industrial manufacturing process.  Post-consumer recycled contents are materials that are generated by homes or commercial, industrial or institutional installations (in their role as end-users of a product), which can no longer be used for their original purpose. <sup>2</sup>	
Biodegradable (according to OECD)	A biodegradable product is likely to be fully decomposed by living organisms. <sup>3</sup> The most recognized standard is OECD Standard 301D (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development). If a product bears the logo of this standard, it means that at least 60% of the residues left by the product will decompose naturally in less than 28 days.	
EcoLogo Certified	ECOLOGO Certified products are certified for reduced environmental impact. ECOLOGO Certifications are voluntary, multi-attribute, lifecycle based environmental certifications that indicate a product has undergone rigorous scientific testing, exhaustive auditing, or both, to prove its compliance with stringent, third-party, environmental performance standards. <sup>4</sup>	
Compostable	Said of that which is capable of undergoing biological decomposition in a compost site such that the material is not visually distinguishable and breaks down into carbon dioxide, water, inorganic compounds and biomass at a rate consistent with known compostable materials. Composting is managed process of bio-oxidation of a solid heterogeneous organic substrate including a thermophilic phase. <sup>5</sup>	
Compostable plastic certified by BNQ	Products certified "compostable" can be composted industrially—that is, at centralized composting sites. They are not necessarily compostable in a domestic composter. Nevertheless, certified compostable products will eventually biodegrade in a home composter, but at a relatively slow pace, depending on the conditions. <sup>6</sup>	
Compostable and certified by BPI (Biodegradable Products Institute, USA)	See BNQ certification	
Compostable and ASTM - D6400 certified	This specification covers plastics and products made from plastics that are designed to be composted in municipal and industrial aerobic composting facilities. <sup>7</sup>	
Compostable and ASTM - D6868 certified	This specification covers biodegradable plastics and products (including packaging), where plastic film or sheet is attached (either through lamination or extrusion directly onto the paper) to substrates and the entire product or package is designed to be composted in municipal and industrial aerobic composting facilities. <sup>8</sup>	

## Sources :

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.recyc-quebec.gouv.qc.ca/haut-de-page/lexique> (free translation)

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.optimeco.ca/en/ecodesign-initiative/strategy-1>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.recyc-quebec.gouv.qc.ca/haut-de-page/lexique> (free translation)

<sup>4</sup> <https://industries.ul.com/environment/certificationvalidation-marks/ecologo-product-certification>

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.compostable.info/compostable.htm>

<sup>6</sup> <http://espacepouurlavie.ca/blogue/en/compostable-or-biodegradable>

<sup>7</sup> <https://bpiworld.org/page-190422>

<sup>8</sup> <https://bpiworld.org/page-190424>