

ENVIRONMENTAL FACT SHEET

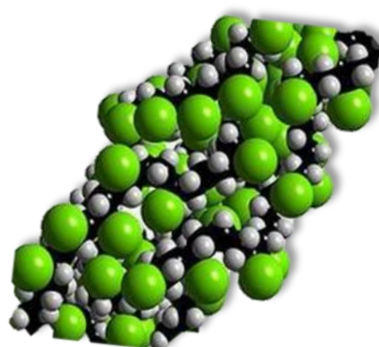
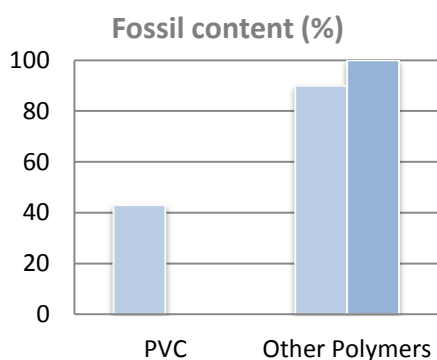
PVC is often said to have poor environmental properties. However, this is an old rumor which is not true. If looking into it in a scientific way, one will find that PVC actually has among the best environmental properties of all polymers. This is especially true when it comes to

- Dependency on fossil raw material
- Energy consumption
- Greenhouse gases, Global Warming Potential (GWP)
- Recyclability

This is further explained in this fact sheet. All figures apply to PVC from European producers.

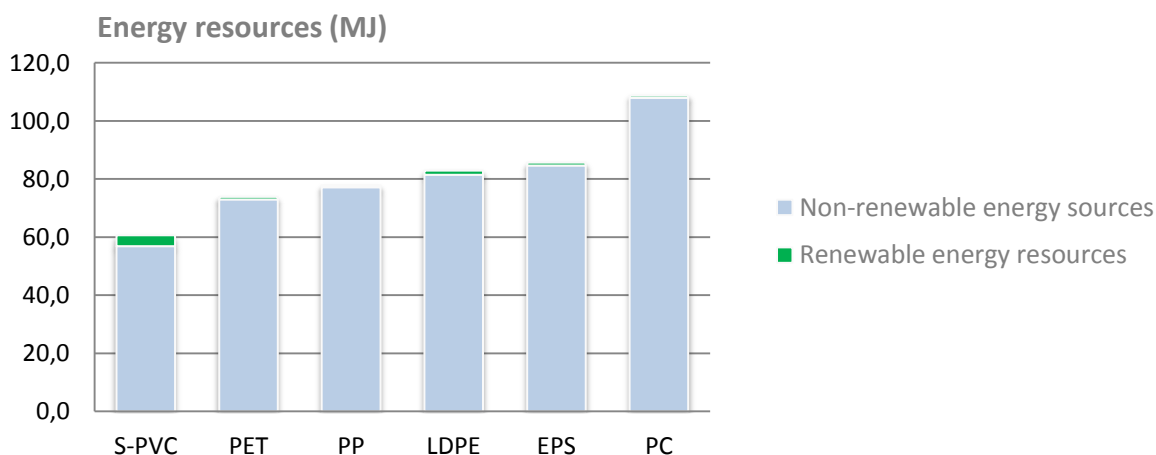
Resources

PVC (polyvinylchloride) is produced from 43% crude oil and 57% salt (unlike most other thermoplastics which are more or less entirely derived from fossil sources). As such PVC uses less fossil raw material than all other commodity plastics and therefore conserves our crude oil resources.



Energy Consumption

The energy consumption during production of PVC is 60,6 MJ, of this 56,9 MJ are non-renewable sources and 3,7 MJ are renewable. As can be seen in the below graph, production of PVC consumes much less energy than any other polymer, and about 6% of the energy is from renewable sources, while virtually zero for other polymers:



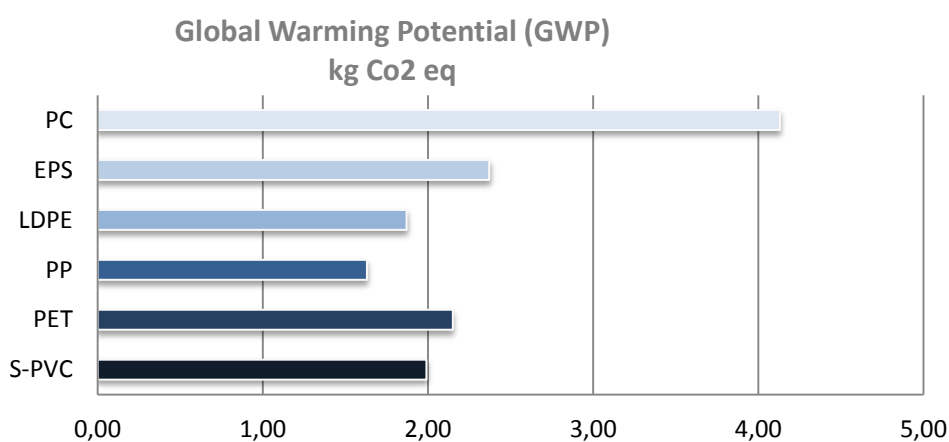
Source: PlasticsEurope

Also at Draka Polymer Films we work to decrease our environmental impact when converting the PVC to polymer films: in addition to producing good, durable long lasting materials, we do everything possible to save energy. A multiyear agreement is made with the government to reduce energy consumption each year, so also Draka Polymer Films contributes to reducing CO₂ emissions.

Emissions

Also in terms of Global Warming Potential (GWP), PVC comes out as one of the best polymers, so it's impact on the environment is also here lower than most plastics.

Global warming potential of PVC compared to other plastics:



Source: PlasticsEurope

Recycling

Our PVC is fully recyclable and can be “up-cycled” into new products at end-of-life, meaning that PVC waste out of short term applications (life expectancy a few weeks or months) can be recycled in products with a life expectancy of 30 to 100 years or more.

PVC in action for a Circular Economy


500,000 TONNES
of recycled PVC
per year create



1,000
NEW JOBS

FOR EACH KILO
OF RECYCLED PVC

2 kilos of



CAN BE
SAVED

PVC CAN
BE RECYCLED

up to



7
TIMES

Source: VinylPlus

On average about 15% of our foil is recycled material. In total about 75% of the waste material is recycled internally and the other 25% is recycled externally.

See further fact sheet on recyclability.