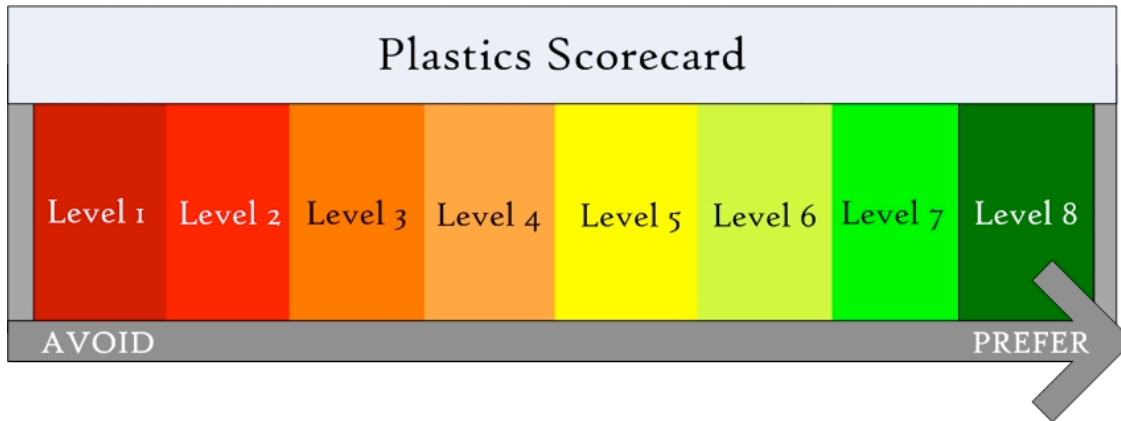


PLASTICS SCORECARD (V. 1.0): DEFINING A PATH TO SUSTAINABLE PLASTICS



Introduction

The Plastics Scorecard is a tool for evaluating the environmental and human health performance of plastic materials across their life cycle. Plastics are now essential materials for many products. Light weight, strong, flexible, durable - they provide properties valued by product designers and engineers. We come into contact with plastics everyday: in the clothes we wear, in our homes (from toothbrushes to carpets to soda bottles), in our cars (from seats to dashboards to floor mats), and in our workplaces (from keyboards to telephones to copiers).

Plastics, however, pose numerous environmental and human health problems across their life cycle. Non-renewable fossil fuels are their source of raw materials. Toxic chemicals are typically present in manufacturing and the final product, and during use they can release into homes, offices and cars. Recycled content is seldom found in plastic products. Dioxins and other toxic pollutants may be emitted from their incineration. Plastic waste is a significant problem across the globe -- in the oceans as well as on land.

The Plastics Scorecard is designed to help specifiers and buyers of plastic parts and products to identify more environmentally preferable materials and avoid materials of high concern. The Plastics Scorecard is about making selection choices to improve the design of plastic products.

The Scorecard's design is guided by three core principles: Sustainable Feedstocks, Green Chemistry, and Closed Loop Systems. The most environmentally preferred plastic products are safer to humans and the environment across their entire life cycle: from the growing or extracting of raw materials to manufacturing the plastics to using the plastic products to managing them at the end of their useful life.

The Plastics Scorecard (v.1.0) assigns plastic products to different levels on that path deep green. The criteria for moving from Level 1 – Deep Red to each more preferred level are calibrated to progressively increase the sustainability of a plastic in terms of feedstock

production, manufacturing, use and end of life management (each of the four major life cycle stages of a plastics product). Levels 1 and 2 are the Red Zone. Levels 3-6 are the Transition Zone: use but search for more preferable alternatives. And Levels 7 and 8 are the preferred zone.

Red Zone	Transition Zone	Green Zone
Level 1: Deep Red Level 2: Light Red	Level 3: Orange Level 4: Tan Level 5: Yellow Level 6: Yellow-Green	Level 7: Light Green Level 8: Deep Green

Coming Soon - Complete Plastics Scorecard Details!