

Recycled Products

Product:
Bikes for kids

Company:
Wishbone Design Studio
Wellington, New Zealand
shopwishbonedesign.com

Recycle Content:
80 percent recycled nylon

Market:
Parents of young children

When young children move beyond crawling on the carpet, they can try riding with it. Yep, riding with it, not on it.

A new bicycle from Wishbone Design Studios is made from post-consumer carpet. It's a balance bike meant for younger children who haven't yet learned how to ride on two wheels. The adjustable frame will accommodate children from 18 months to six years of age, and a feature called Rotafix lets parents re-size the bike in seconds.

The bike's frame is made with used carpets collected from homeowners in the U.S. The carpet is shaved to remove the backing and then shredded, and the manufacturer adds glass fiber to increase strength. The small resin pellets are then ready for molding into a bike frame.

Wishbone also sells decals for the bikes, available in camo, paisley, woodie and zebra themes.



Product:
Clothing from reclaimed materials

Company:
Ungalli Clothing Co.
Thunder Bay, Ontario
ungalli.com

Recycle Content:
100 percent recycled polyester and cotton

Market:
Wide range of consumers

This is where wearing your beer is a good thing.

A lightweight zip-up hoodie from Ungalli Clothing uses roughly 10 recycled plastic from beer or root beer bottles to make a polyester resin, which is then mixed with cotton scraps recovered from factories or old cotton clothing. The garment's color is derived from the color of the bottles, because no dyes are used.

To make the polyester, discarded PET bottles are picked up at community recycling centers, cleaned, stripped of labels, separated by color, shaved into flakes, melted into small pellets and then reduced again and put through a shower-head-like nozzle to produce yarn.

The Beer Bottle Zip Up, for example, is made with 65 percent recycled polyester and 35 percent recycled cotton.

But it's not just bottles that are used to make the polyester. The company also sells a recycled X-Ray Film Zip Up made with polyester derived from about 10 sheets of used X-ray films. In addition, its Food Tray Zip Up is made from just that: about 10 recycled black food trays.



Product:
Plastic posts

Company:
Poly-Pacific, Inc./Target Technologies
Hong Kong, China/Burnaby, B.C.
ttiionline.com

Recycle Content:
100 percent recycled plastics

Market:
Construction industry

The turf below the end zone today could end up in a white picket fence tomorrow.

Hong Kong-based Poly-Pacific will recycle used athletic fields turf into a variety of building products, including posts and planks. After removing the spongy material known as the "infill," the company uses the entirety of the artificial grass blades to create the plastic posts.

According to Thomas Lam of Poly-Pacific, the company uses a grinding, heating and forming process to make the posts, which are available in round or square shapes of various diameters and lengths.

Marketing and sales are done through Burnaby, B.C.-based company Target Technologies.

About 1,000 new synthetic turf fields are installed annually, according to a Target Technologies press release. The companies' synthetic turf recycling program documents the chain of custody from the time the containers of turf arrive on site until it is recycled into a product ready for sale. When the process is complete, a certificate of compliance is issued so the company disposing of the turf knows it didn't end up in a landfill or languish in storage for years while slowly disintegrating, according to the press release.

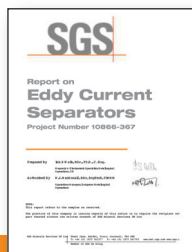
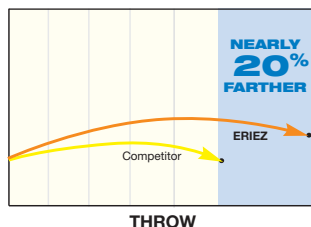


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