OnColor™ IR Sortable Black
Infrared Sortable Black for Recyclable Packaging

OnColor™ Infrared Sortable Black for Recyclable Packaging is a black colorant created without the addition of carbon black pigment. It permits black polymers to be detected by near infrared (NIR) automatic sorting equipment, enabling recycling. OnColor IR Sortable Black is available in a range of blacks, and can also be customized to support the needs of brand owners, allowing black packaging to remain an option for current products.

Detection and sorting of black products in material recovery facilities is a known issue which affects the packaging and recycling industries. Automatic sorting equipment relies on the reflectance of NIR wavelengths to identify polymers and properly sort packaging waste by plastic material. In the presence of carbon black, currently used to color most black packaging, all the wavelengths are absorbed and black polymers can't be identified, inevitably keeping black packaging out of recycling streams at considerable cost to our environment.

By using OnColor IR Sortable Black, black polymers will be detectable by NIR sorting equipment, allowing packaging to be sorted and sent for recycling instead of landfill or incineration, which is a key requirement in the circular economy system.

KEY CHARACTERISTICS
- Infrared sortable black color palette available
- Customized sortable black upon request
- Solid or liquid form
- Resins: PET & polyolefins
- Processes: extrusion, injection, thermoforming

APPLICATIONS
OnColor IR Sortable Black can benefit the following stakeholders operating within the food and beverage packaging industry:
- Retailers
- Brand Owners
- Converters
- Recycling Facilities
- Packaging Recovery Organizations