

Biodegradable Cards

You can now order 0.30mm white cards in a *biodegradable material* – they could be used for any of the following... and more:

- ✓ Name badges
- ✓ Photo ID cards
- ✓ Security cards
- ✓ Loyalty cards

The cards are a rigid PVC product made from normal PVC resin with an added formulation - the plastic area is 100% bio-degradable. The Patent Pending Ingredients are added to the base formula to make the PVC and film biodegradable. There are no adverse effects to the physical properties of the PVC products offered.

Performance of the biodegradable card is the same as standard PVC. Under normal every day usage of the card, the material maintains its integrity and can get wet, be left on the shelf or in a wallet, stored, printed, die-cut etc, without breaking down.

The biodegradation process only begins when the card is introduced into a fertile environment (compost, land fill, trash dump, the ground, rivers the ocean etc). This allows microorganisms, which break down matter, to come into constant contact. Once that happens, the "special ingredients" attract the microorganisms that begin to break the hydrogen-carbon chain that exists in PVC. Once the chain is broken it allows oxygen to enter which attaches itself to the hydrogen and carbon, creating H₂O (water) and CO₂ (carbon dioxide). The lone chlorine atom bonds to a hydrogen atom, creating a weak salt that has no adverse effect on the ecosystem.

Is this considered a petroleum-based product?

Yes, this has always been the case for PVC which is derived from ethylene and obtained from either oil or natural gas. PVC, like other petroleum-based plastics (Polyethylene, polypropylene and the like), has been notorious for going into landfills and staying indefinitely intact. It simply will not break down but with the introduction of the special intergradient, that is no longer true. It takes between 9 months to 5 years for the card to break down and all that is left behind is matter that is easily worked into the soil or water that has no toxic effect. Eco-toxicological tests were performed according to ASTM and CE standards and found to pass, as there were no ecologically damaging toxic elements remaining during or after the card biodegraded.

Recognition green is based in Mont Albert in Victoria and you can contact them on **03 9898 8809** or send an email to martin@recognitionid.com.au where Martin or the team would be pleased to assist.