



STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Bid Specification

7302-1555

“Green” Disposable Food Service Supplies

1.0 SCOPE

This bid specification defines requirements for environmentally friendly “green” disposable food service supplies for use by the State of California Institutions and agencies.

2.0 STANDARDS

ASTM D6400-04 - Standard Specification for Compostable Plastics.

ASTM D6868-03 - Standard Specification for Biodegradable Plastics Used as Coatings on Paper and Other Compostable Substrates.

3.0 DEFINITIONS

Bio-based

Bio-based materials are defined as renewable agricultural and forestry resources (i.e. cellulose, fiber crops such as hemp and flax, bamboo and other grasses, agricultural waste such as sugarcane (bagasse) and rice straw, and materials derived from agricultural products such as starch and lactic acid.

Biodegradable

Degradable in which the degradation results from the action of naturally occurring microorganisms such as bacteria, fungi, and algae (no set time scale).

Bioplastic

Plastics derived from renewable bio-based sources, such as vegetable oil, corn starch, potato starch, or pea starch rather than traditional plastics which are derived from petroleum. Suitable for cutlery/utensils.

Compostable

Capable of undergoing biological decomposition in a compost site as part of an available program, such that the material is not visually distinguishable and breaks down into carbon dioxide, water, inorganic compounds, and biomass suitable for use as a soil amendment, leaving no toxic residue (within a period of 180 days).

Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP)

EPP promotes the acquisition of goods and services that have a lesser or reduced effect on human health and the environment when compared with competing goods and services that serve the same purpose. The CA EPP program promotes the procurement of products that include post-consumer recycled content, are durable and recyclable, conserve energy and water, use renewable bio-based materials including wood from sustainability harvested forests, reduce toxic volatile organic compounds (VOC) emissions, reduce greenhouse gas and ozone-depleting emissions, use unbleached or process chlorine-free manufacturing processes, and are lead-free and mercury-free.

4.0 EPP REQUIREMENTS

Plastic food and beverage container products shall comply with the CA Public Resources Code Division 30, Chapter 5. 42359.6.(a) A person shall not sell a plastic food or beverage container in this state that is labeled with the term “compostable,” “biodegradable,” “degradable,” or any form of those terms, or in anyway imply that the container will break down in a landfill, composting, marine, or other natural terrestrial environment, unless, at the time of the sale, the plastic food or beverage container meets the ASTM standard specification for the term used on the label.

Bio-based products shall meet or exceed the bio-based content required for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to certify the product bio-based as published in Section 9002 of the Federal Register on January 2011.

Compostable products made from bioplastic material shall meet the requirements of ASTM D6400-04 Standard Specification for Compostable Plastics and labeled as Compostable.

Compostable products with biodegradable plastic coating shall meet the requirements of ASTM D6868-03 Standard Specification for Biodegradable Plastics Used as Coatings on Paper and Other Compostable Substrates and shall be marked “Compostable”.

Printing and graphics shall use inks that emit low or zero volatile organic compounds (VOCs) such as solvent-free, bio-based, or UV curable inks. The ink shall not render recyclable products un-recyclable.

4.1 Cups, Lids, & Containers

4.1.1 Cold cups and cold containers shall be bio-based and compostable.

4.1.2 Hot cups and hot/cold containers shall meet at least one of the following:

- bio-based and compostable
- bio-based material with a plastic coating
- manufactured from recyclable polymeric material(s) with a minimum of 30% post-consumer recycled content.

4.1.3 Lids (hot & cold) shall meet at least one of the following:

- bio-based and compostable
- 10% minimum post consumer recycled content.

4.2 Plates & Bowls

The plates and bowls shall be bio-based and compostable.

4.3 Food Trays & Hinged Containers

The trays and containers shall be bio-based and compostable.

4.4 Spoons, Forks, Knives & Straws

The utensils and straws shall be bio-based and compostable.

4.5 Napkins

The napkin products shall be bio-based and compostable and meet two of the following:

- minimum 40% post-consumer recycled content material(s).
- processed chlorine free. “Natural” unbleached color is acceptable.
- at least one of the following certification:
 - “Environmental Choice” - CCD 084 for Table napkins (Ecologo)
 - “Green Seal™” - Environmental Standard for Paper Towels and Paper Napkins GS 9
 - “Chlorine Free Products Association” (CFPA) Totally Chlorine Free (TCF) or Processed Chlorine Free (PCF)