



PRODUCT DESIGN & PACKAGING WORKING GROUP

DESIGNING FOR COMPOSTABILITY IN CANADA

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SCOPE OF WORK IN 2015

Answering the question “Can I Compost That?” through:

- **A definitions package**
- **Two webinars**
- **Two complementary reports**



Waste prevention starts when design begins

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Pre-Use Definitions

Biobased

Made with some percentage of natural, non fossil-fuel materials.

Bioplastic

A plastic that is at least partly biobased.

**These definitions do Not affect whether a
material
can be composted.**

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Post-Use Definitions

Biodegradable

Can break down by microbes, eventually.

Compostable

Can break down by microbes, in an aerobic composting environment, within a set time period, and produce no toxic residues.

Biodegradable-only products do not have an end-of-life solution in Canada.

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WEBINARS

See free on the NZWC

1. Visit nzwc.ca
2. Navigate to the PDP Working Group page
3. Scroll down and select!

Projects and Events

Compostable Products and Packaging Demystified - Webinar 1: *Can I Compost That? Products and Materials Demystified*, October 6, 2015

Compostable Products and Packaging Demystified - Webinar 2: *Design for Compostability: Success Stories within the Value Chain*, December 8, 2015

 Design Portfolio

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REPORTS & GRAPHICS

Two Reports on a Canadian context for compostables:

- Can I Compost That? Materials Acceptance Guide
- Certification and Acceptance

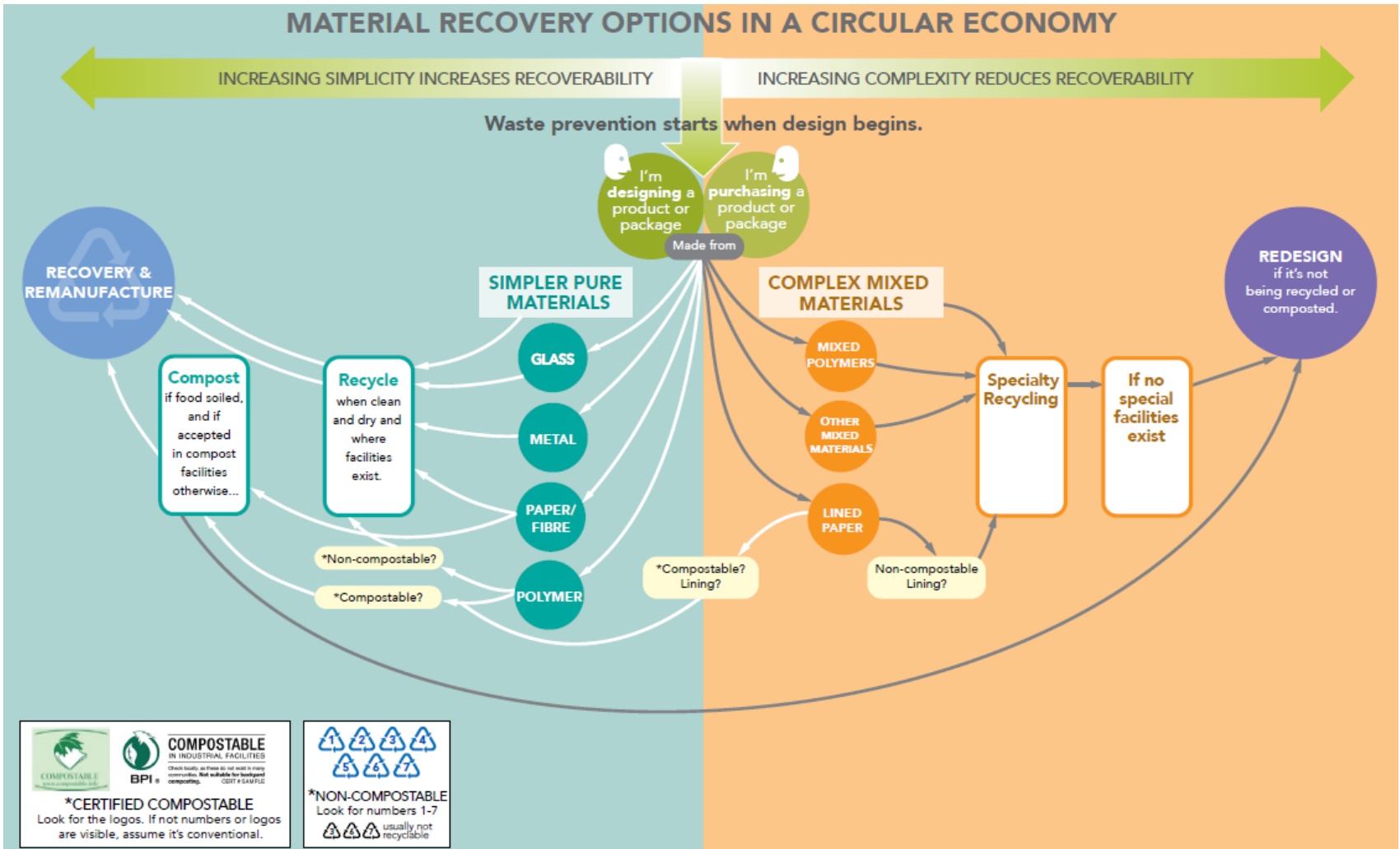
If a product is not intended to be in contact with food, it is better to design for recyclability.

TABLE 2.
COMPOSTABLE MATERIAL & PRODUCT GLOSSARY FOR GREEN BIN ACCEPTANCE

Material Type / Product	Raw material	Found In	Can I Compost That?	
Compostable plastics				
Poly-lactic acid (PLA)	vegetable starch	deli containers cold cups lining of hot cups	Backyard	Commercial
			No	Maybe**
Crystallized PLA (cPLA)	vegetable starch minerals	utensils hot cup lids	No	Maybe**

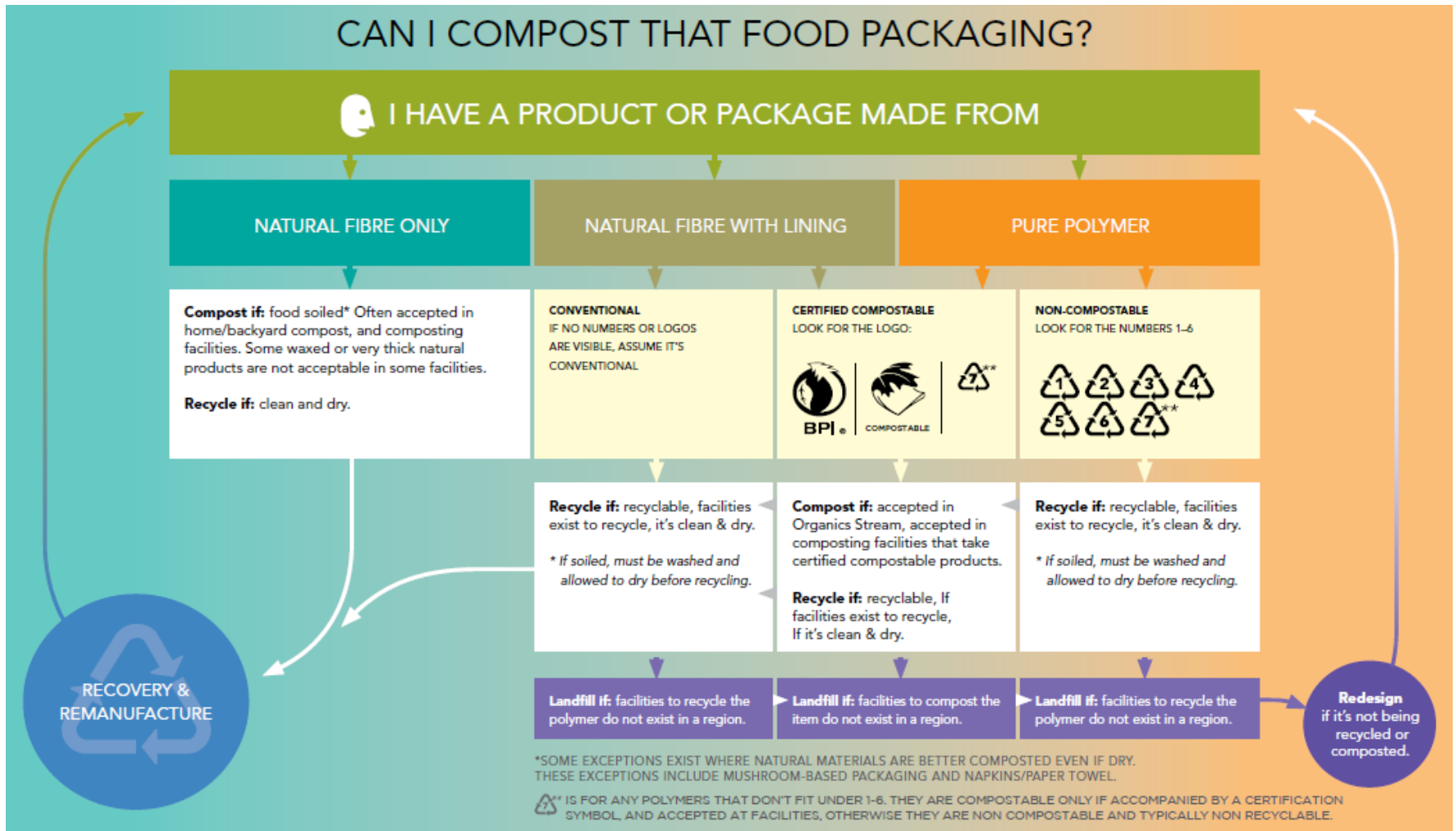
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THANK YOU



*Canada united in the achievement of zero waste,
now and for future generations*

www.nzwc.ca