

Detailed wt.% calculation:

Mass content estimation (additional data for table 1) – Calculation example for **PET tray** :

Area of cut film sample: 9 cm²

Mass of cut film sample: 0.285 g

PET proportion:

Thickness PET layer: 0.0189 cm

Volume of PET layer: 0.1701 cm³

Density of PET: 1.34 g/cm³

PET mass tray: 0.227 g → 80 wt.%

PE proportion:

Thickness PE layers: 0.004 cm

Volume of PE layers: 0.036 cm³

Density of PE: 0.93 g/cm³

PE mass tray: 0.0334 → 12 wt.%

EVOH proportion:

Thickness EVOH layer: 0.0005 cm

Volume of EVOH layer: 0.0045 cm³

Density of EVOH: 1.16 g/cm³

EVOH mass tray: 0.005 g → 2 wt.%

The remaining mass of 0.0196 g (6 wt.%) which refers to adhesives and measurement errors is split into the individual polymer sections (PET, PE, EVOH) according to their percentage for simplification which results in the overall polymer mass estimation of

PET: 85 wt.%

PE: 13 wt.%

EVOH: 2 wt.%

for the PET tray.

For further simplification, the samples were not weighed, but the mass fractions directly calculated from the layer thicknesses.

PET tray:

$$\text{PET proportion: } 0.0189 \text{ cm} * 1 \text{ cm}^3 * 1.34 \frac{\text{g}}{\text{cm}^3} = 0.0253 \text{ g}$$

$$\text{PE proportion: } 0.004 \text{ cm} * 1 \text{ cm}^3 * 0.93 \frac{\text{g}}{\text{cm}^3} = 0.00372 \text{ g}$$

$$\text{EVOH proportion: } 0.0005 \text{ cm} * 1 \text{ cm}^3 * 1.16 \frac{\text{g}}{\text{cm}^3} = 0.00058 \text{ g}$$

Total mass: 0.0296 g → **PET:** 85 wt.%, **PE:** 13 wt.%, **EVOH:** 2 wt.%

PET lid:

$$\text{PET proportion: } 0.0013 \text{ cm} * 1 \text{ cm}^3 * 1.34 \frac{\text{g}}{\text{cm}^3} = 0.001742 \text{ g}$$

$$\text{PE proportion: } 0.0054 \text{ cm} * 1 \text{ cm}^3 * 0.93 \frac{\text{g}}{\text{cm}^3} = 0.005022 \text{ g}$$

$$\text{EVOH proportion: } 0.0007 \text{ cm} * 1 \text{ cm}^3 * 1.16 \frac{\text{g}}{\text{cm}^3} = 0.000812 \text{ g}$$

Total mass: 0.007576 g → **PET:** 23 wt.%, **PE:** 66 wt.%, **EVOH:** 11 wt.%

PP tray:

$$\text{PP proportion: } 0.0305 \text{ cm} * 1 \text{ cm}^3 * 0.9 \frac{\text{g}}{\text{cm}^3} = 0.02745 \text{ g}$$

$$\text{EVOH proportion: } 0.0007 \text{ cm} * 1 \text{ cm}^3 * 1.16 \frac{\text{g}}{\text{cm}^3} = 0.000812 \text{ g}$$

Total mass: 0.028266 g → **PP:** 97 wt.%, **EVOH:** 3 wt.%

Estimation of PE content in PP tray through melt enthalpy difference of PP peak in lid and tray DSC curves:

Melt enthalpy PP lid: 78 J/g

Melt enthalpy PP tray: 74 J/g

PP lid:

$$\text{PP proportion: } 0.0092 \text{ cm} * 1 \text{ cm}^3 * 0.9 \frac{\text{g}}{\text{cm}^3} = 0.00828 \text{ g}$$

$$\text{EVOH proportion: } 0.0005 \text{ cm} * 1 \text{ cm}^3 * 1.16 \frac{\text{g}}{\text{cm}^3} = 0.00058 \text{ g}$$

Total mass: 0.00886 g → **PP:** 94 wt.%, **EVOH:** 6 wt.%

FT-IR and DSC PET-based tray (additional data for figure 2):

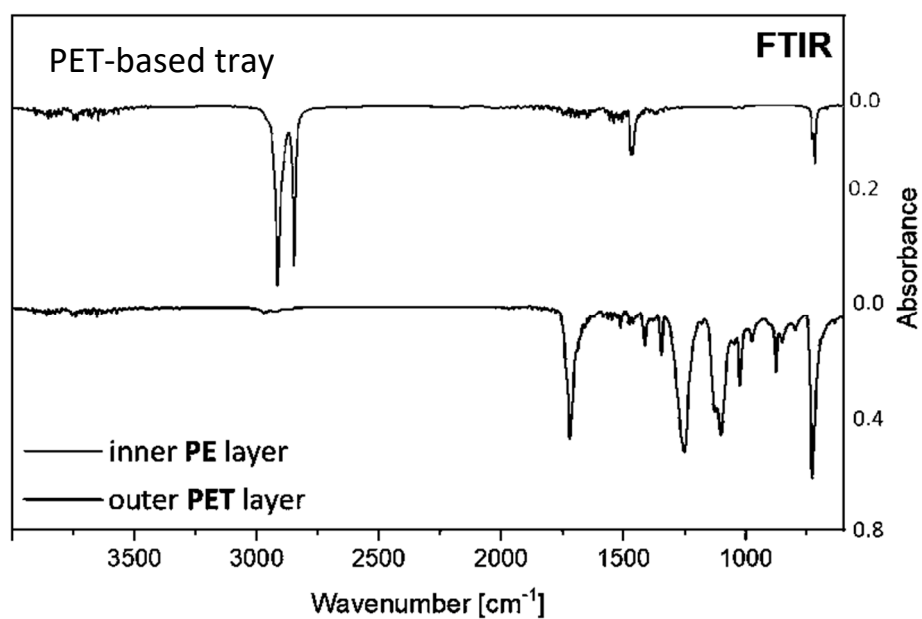


Figure S1. FT-IR spectra of inner and outer PET tray layers.

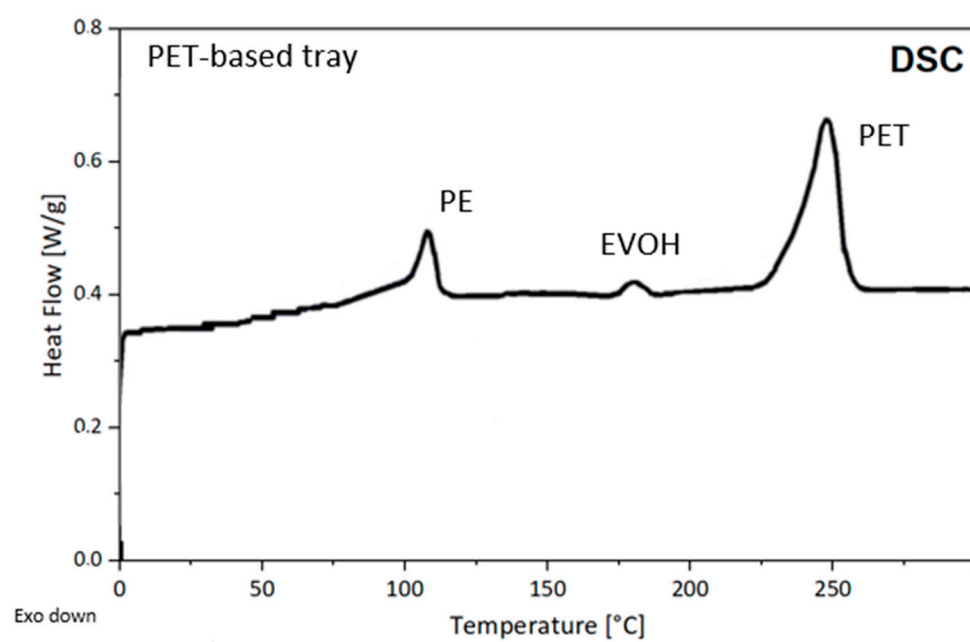


Figure S2. DSC melt region of PET tray.

FT-IR and DSC PP-based tray (additional data for figure 2):

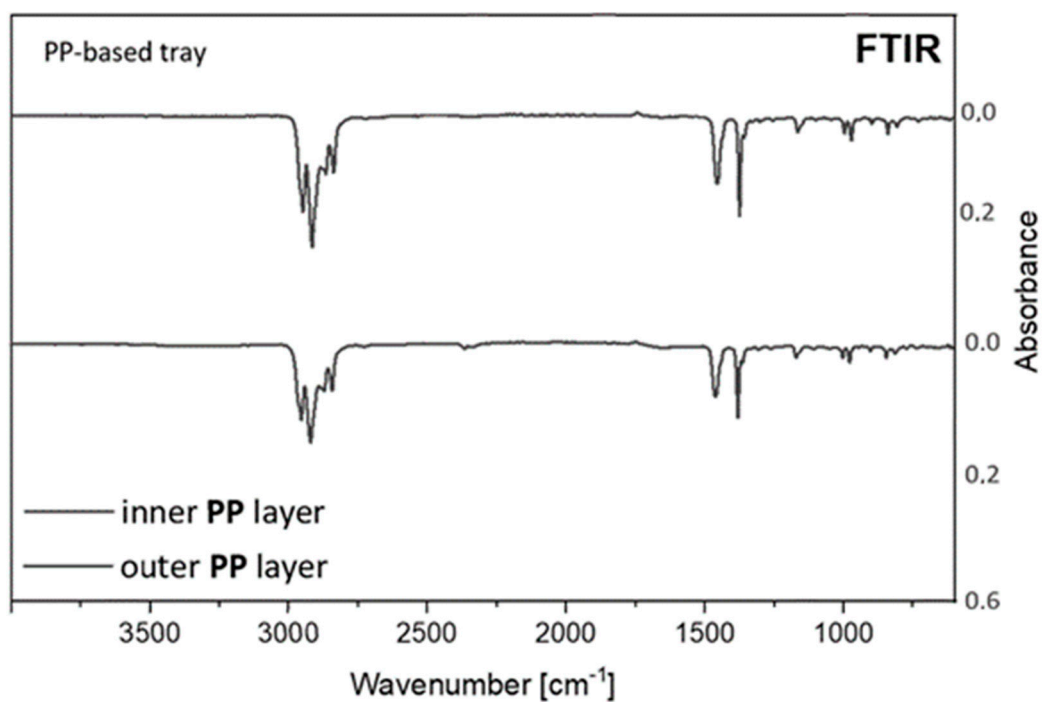


Figure S3. FT-IR spectra of inner and outer PP tray layers.

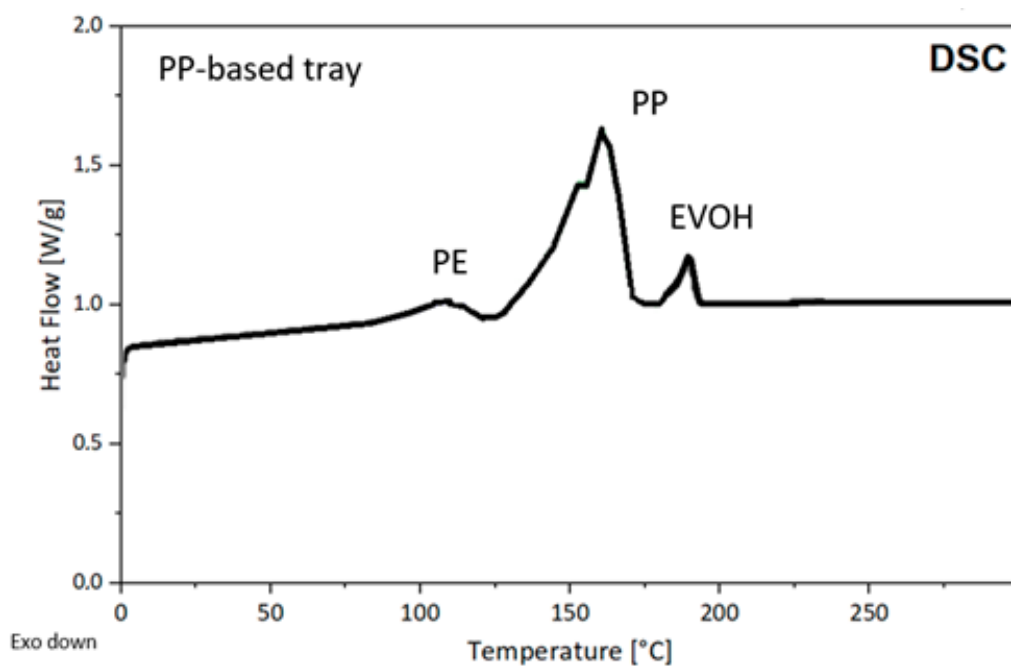


Figure S4. DSC melt region of PP tray.