This specific size sorting potential test method provides a means of evaluating whether a plastic article will correctly pass over a lab scale average sized glass screen that performs similarly to that used in production facilities. Good results in this screening test indicate that a plastic article has the potential to be sorted well in production conditions. Poor results indicate that an improvement in plastic product design is desirable to promote recovery.

Hazards and safety statement: This test method involves handling, lifting and carrying plastic items.

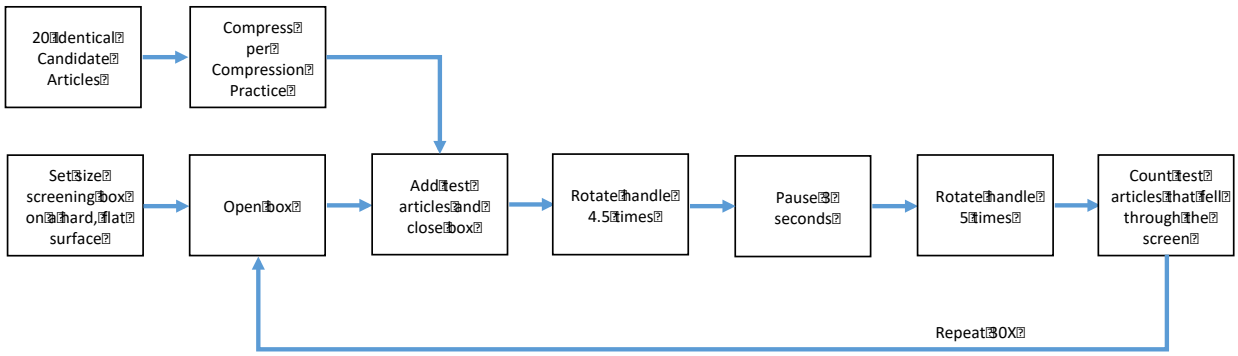
Reference Documents:

- Compression Practice
https://plasticsrecycling.org/images/pdf/design-guide/test-methods/Compression_Practice_for_Sorting.pdf

- APR Candidate Laboratories for Testing
https://plasticsrecycling.org/images/pdf/design-guide/Resources/Candidate_Test_Labs.pdf

Test/Method Summary and Flow Diagram

The flow diagram below outlines the test process. 20 test articles are compressed using the APR compression device, then placed into the screening box. The operator then rotates the box handle 5 times, pauses, then another 5 times. He then counts the articles that fell through the screen. This is repeated 30 times with the same test articles to establish repeatable results.



Equipment required:

- Bottle compression device built per the instructions found at https://plasticsrecycling.org/images/pdf/design-guide/test-methods/Compression_Practice_for_Sorting.pdf
- Size screening box built per the instructions found in annex 1.

Materials and reagents required:

20 identical candidate test articles provided by the test applicant. These articles should be fully decorated ie with label, closures, etc as if they were placed in a curbside bin after consumer use. Note that these articles are empty, whereas some residual product may remain in the articles found in the actual recycling stream.