

# Engineering the future.

The latest in biax innovation

Brueckner Group USA

2025 Customer Days





## Brückner R&D Center


From granulate to application – the future starts now!

# Packaging films on our pilot line

## BOPP



- Barrier
- Pearlized
- ILC
- Special (high seal strength, matt, low shrinkage, stone paper)

 Mono material  
„Ready for recycling“

## BOPET



- Barrier
- Yarn grade
- ILC
- Special (white, cavitated)
- sealable



## BOPE



- Heat sealable film
- Pearlized
- Metallizable
- For thermoforming



## BOPA



- ABC film
- Barrier
- For tropical blister
- For battery pouches

## Shrink



- Low, middle & high shrinkage films
- PO based sleeves
- PET based sleeves

## Biopolymers

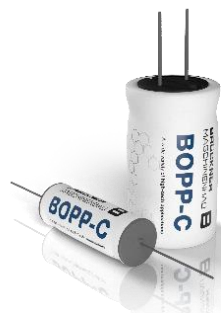


- BOBioPE film
- BOPEF film
- BOPLA film
- BOPHA/PLA film



# Technical films on our pilot line

## Technical BOPP



- BOPP-C
- S-BOPP-C
- COC-C
- Composite Current Collector

## Battery separator film



- Evapore process
- Wet process
- PP dry

## Technical BOPET



- Solar back sheet
- Current Collector
- TTR films
- Special (isolation, tapes, flexible, printed electronics)

## Special



- PTFE
- PVDF
- PEEK
- PMMA
- PPS

## High temperature film



## Optical BOPET



- Flat panel displays
- Diffuser base film DBEF
- Prism base film
- Multilayer Reflector film

# R&D on our pilot line



## Technical Film

- CCCF
- BSF



## BOPE

- Line concept
- Heat sealable film
- Pearlized
- Metallizable
- For thermoforming



## Biopolymers

- BOBio-film
- BOPHA/PLA film



## PCR material

- R-PP/ R-PE
- R-Cycle
- Print CYC
- Plastic Bond
- DecoWraps
- R-PET



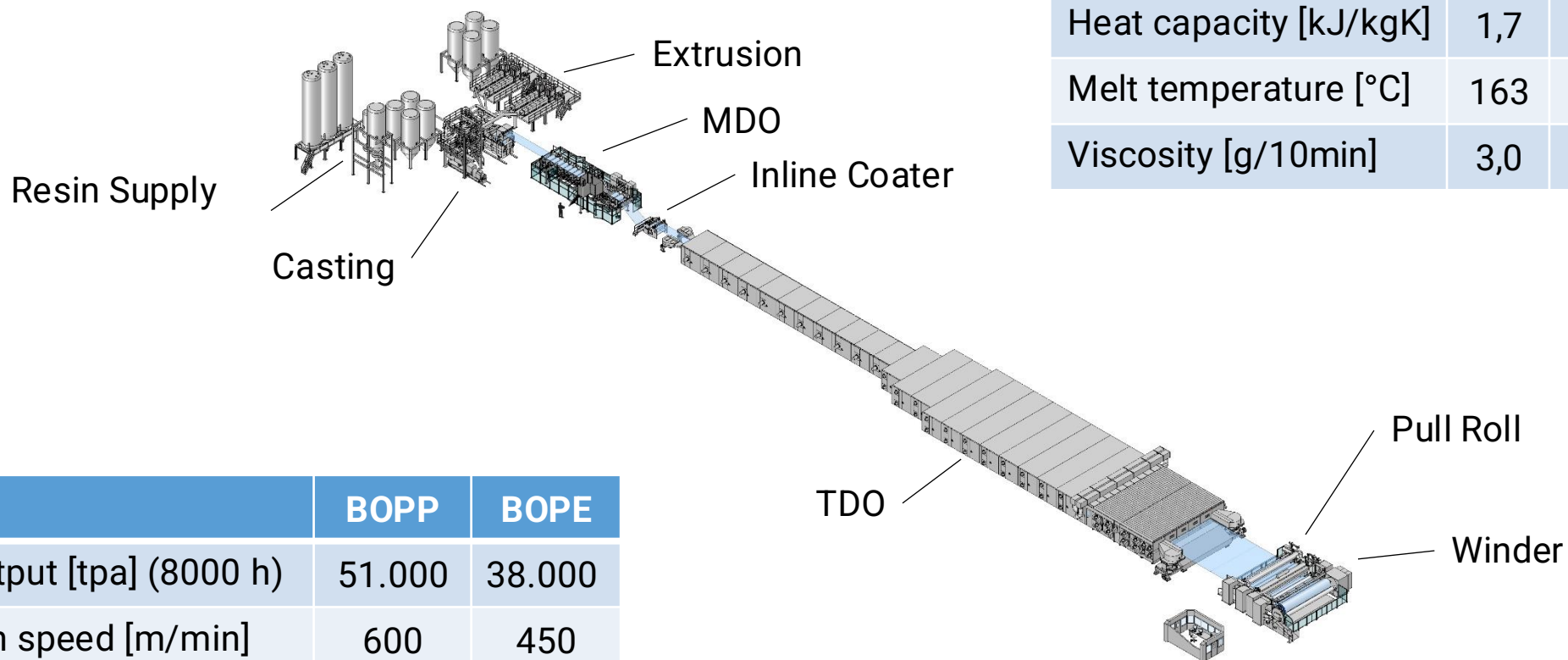
## ILC BOPP & BOPE

- Metallizable
- Barrier
- Ultra thin

01

BOPE Packaging Film

# Main differences between BOPE and BOPP line concepts



	PP	HDPE	LLDPE
Heat capacity [kJ/kgK]	1,7	1,9	2,1
Melt temperature [°C]	163	135	110
Viscosity [g/10min]	3,0	0,9	1,4

	BOPP	BOPE
Annual output [tpa] (8000 h)	51.000	38.000
Production speed [m/min]	600	450
Thickness range [μm]	8 - 60	8 - 60

# Development topics



## Optimizing properties of BOPE-HD

- Improved haze and clarity
- Enhanced thermal stability



## Barrier

- BOPE-ILC
- BOPE-EVOH



## New film types

- BOPE white opaque
- BOPE for thermoforming



## Sealability of BOPE-LLD:

- Lower sealing temperature
- Increased sealing strength



# Possibilities to achieve improved BOPE-HD film properties

Blend with MDPE  
in skins

Optimized HDPE  
grades or  
PE blends with COC

PP, PA, EVOH  
Copolymer skins



Biaxial stretchability  
&  
Optical/mech. performance



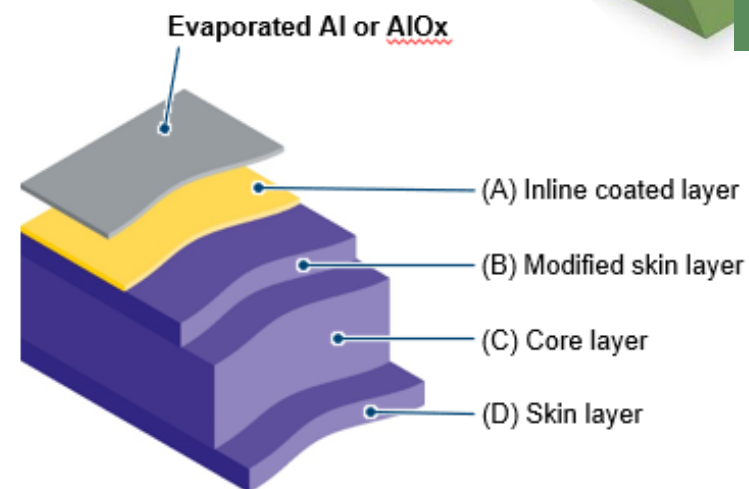
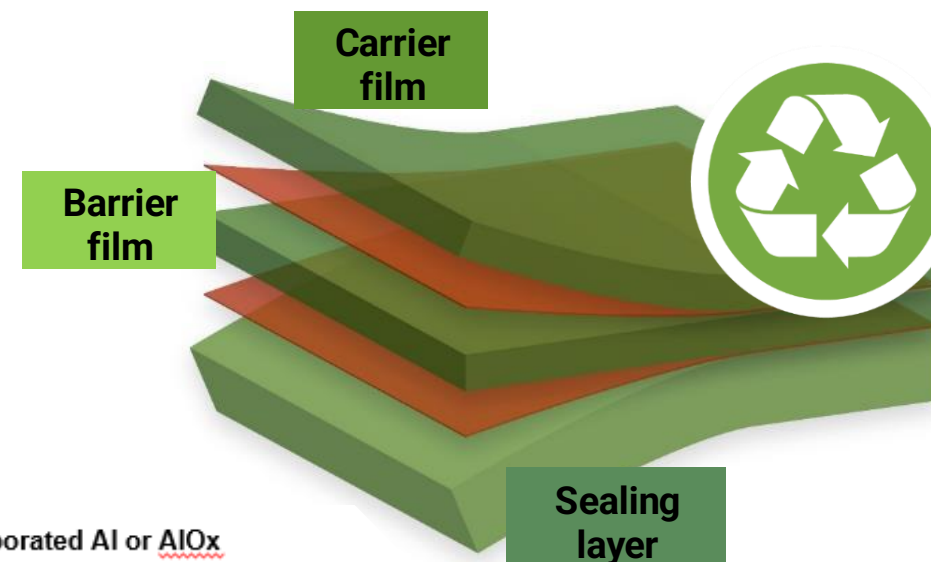
# Fully PE-based barrier film with ILC

## Highlights

- < 0,5% not PE based material
- High, permanent surface tension > 58 dyne
- High barrier after Al metallization:
  - OTR < 0.9 cm<sup>3</sup>/m<sup>2</sup> day
  - WVTR < 0.1 g/m<sup>2</sup> day
- Outstanding metal adhesion > 5 N/15mm

## Applications

- Fully PE-based barrier film
- Base film for metallization and barrier coating
- AlOx-coated transparent laminates



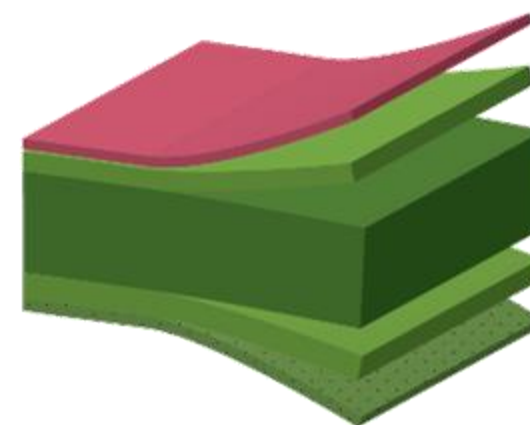
# Fully PE-based barrier film with EVOH

## Highlights

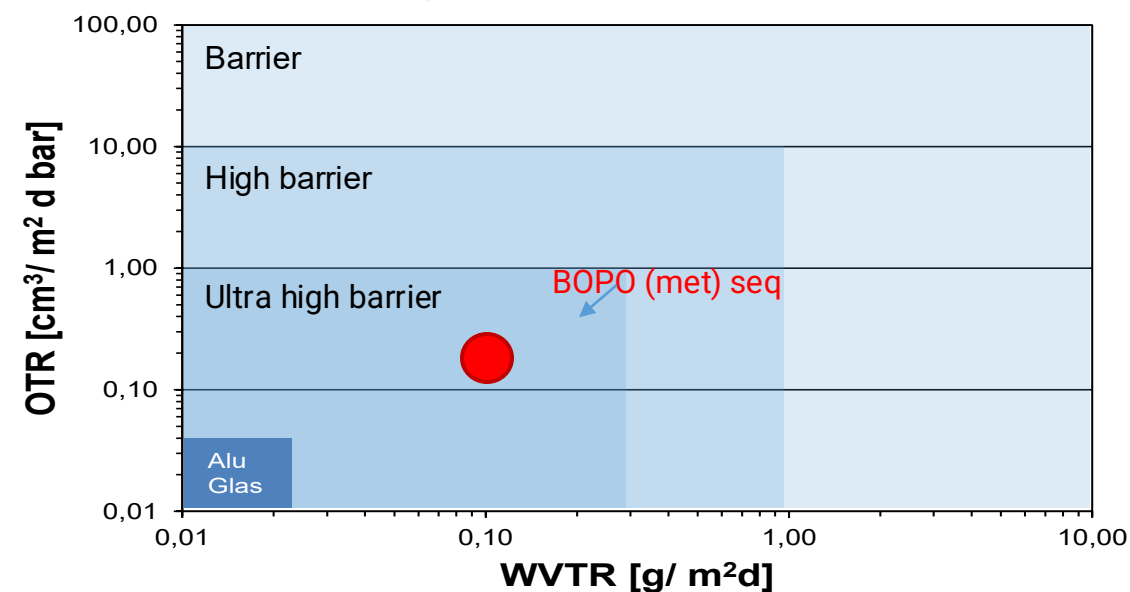
- < 5% not PE based material
- Good optical properties: clarity 95%
- Barrier after Al metallization
  - OTR < 0.2 cm<sup>3</sup>/m<sup>2</sup> day
  - WVTR < 0.1 g/m<sup>2</sup> day
- High metal adhesion > 2.5 N/15mm

## Applications

- PE-based barrier film
- Base film for metallization and barrier coating
- Base film for other skin materials (e.g. PA)



- (A) 1,3 μm **EVOH**
- (B) 1,2 μm Adhesive layer
- (C) 16,0 μm HDPE
- (D) 1,2 μm Adhesive layer
- (E) 0,8 μm HDPE + LDPE blend  
AB + Slip MB

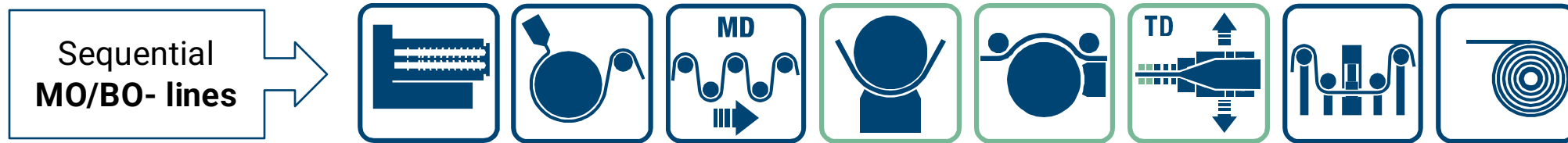


# 02

## Inline coating technology

One step towards sustainability

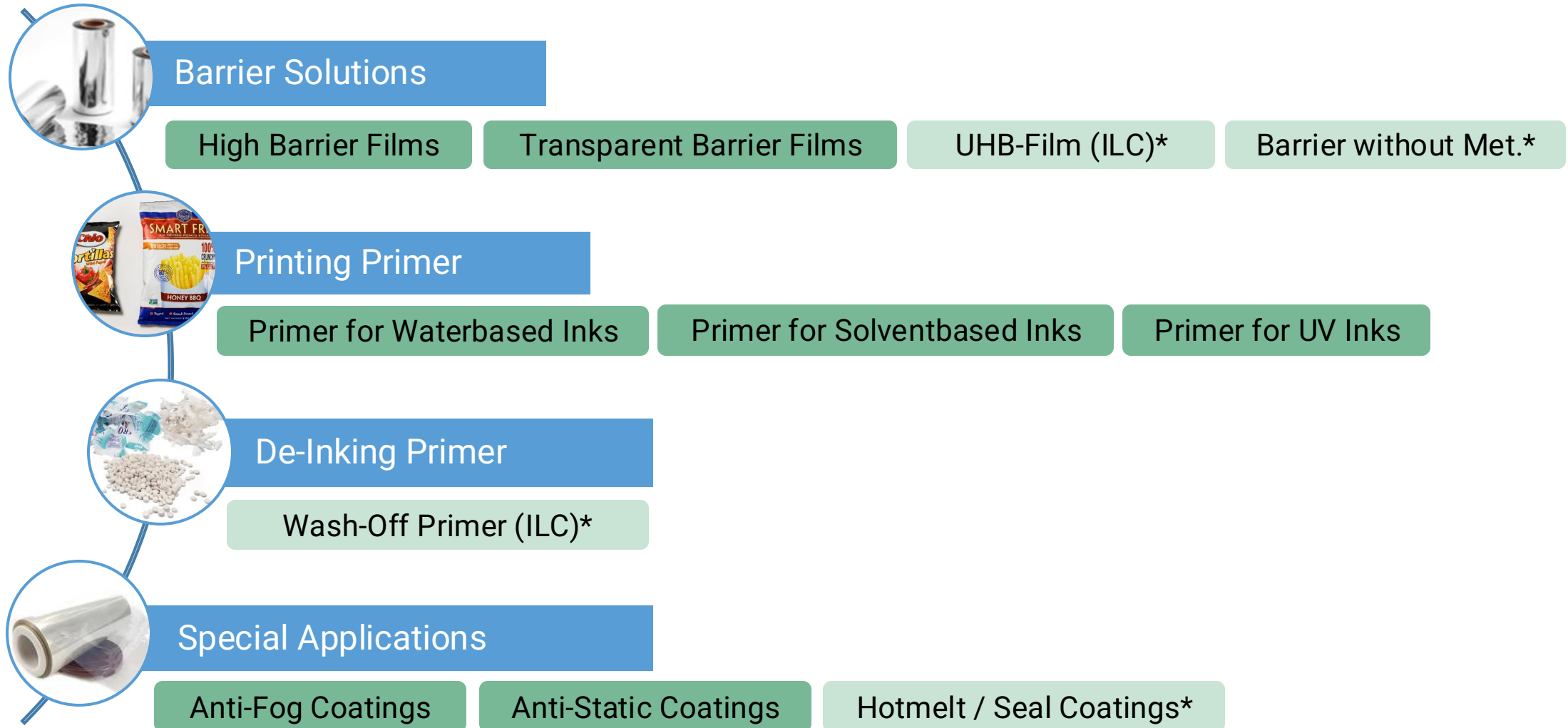
# Inline coating process layout



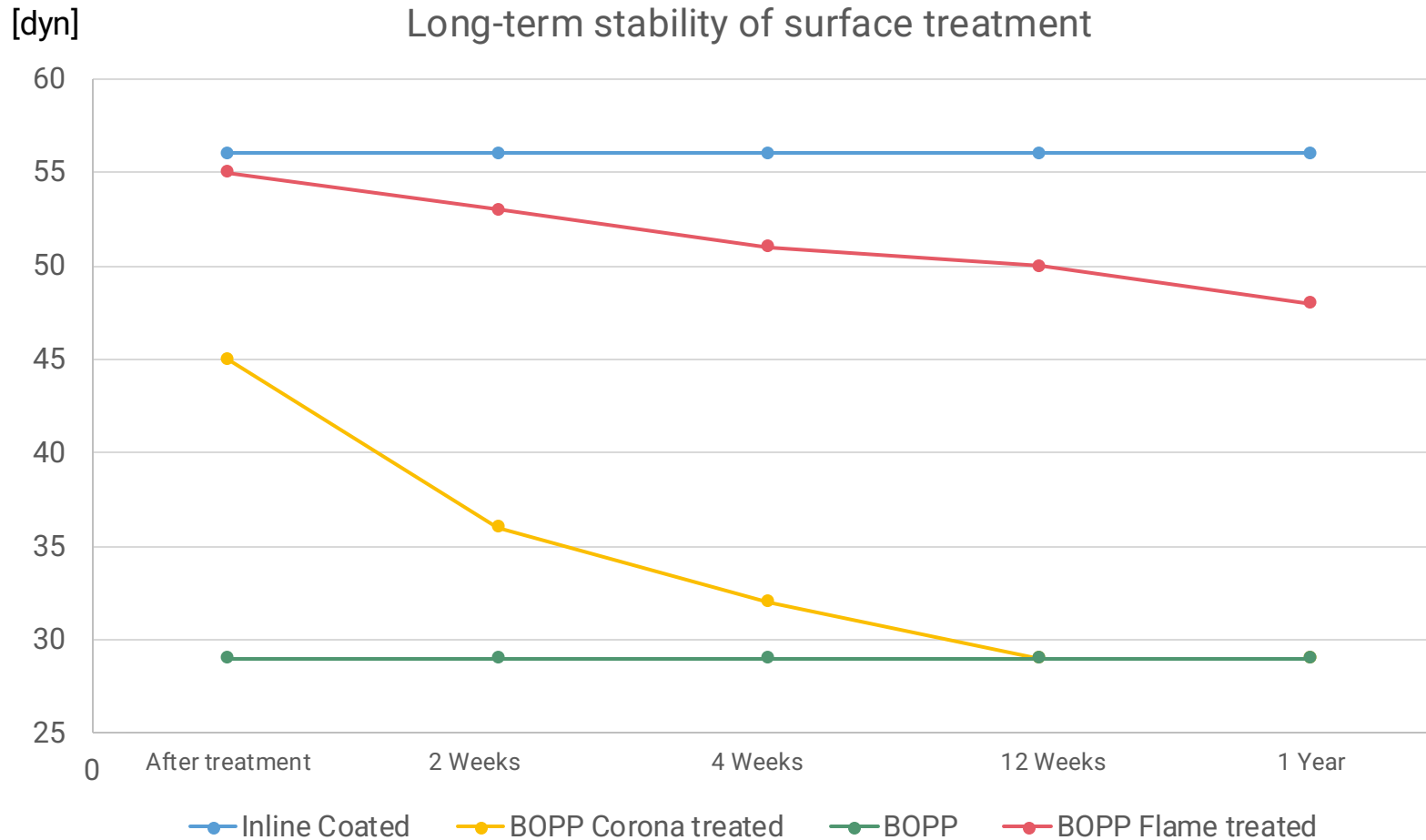
## Inline coating delivers many advantages for the film and the converting:

- Wet chemical coating (water based) on polymeric films (PET, PP, PE, ...)
- Coating process before film TD-orientation (drying & crosslinking in preheating zone)
- Primer (nm-scale) for further converting steps (metallizing, printing, laminating)
- ILC process fully integrated in production line

# Overview: ILC highlights and R&D projects



# Chemical treatment for printing applications



Coating formulations for different printing methods:

- Water-/solvent based
- UV-curable inks



# Barrier improvement coatings

## Metallized 5 $\mu$ BOPP-ILC films for lamination against paper

- Ultra-thin BOPP-ILC films can strongly improve the H<sub>2</sub>O barrier
- High barrier improvement (OTR and WVTR close to UHB films)
- Outstanding grease barrier (e.g. PET food packaging)

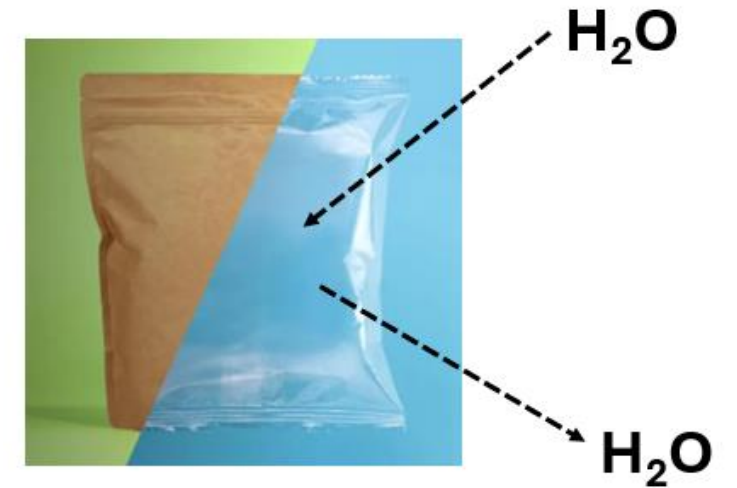
### New packaging solutions possible:



Ultra-thin BOPP-ILC film covers all required barrier functions



Paper thickness can be reduced significantly without missing the <5% foreign material target



# 03

## Implementation of PCR material in biax films

# Influence of PCR (printed / unprinted packaging waste)

**Film with 30% PCR - household waste, printed**



**Film with 30% PCR - high purity, unprinted**



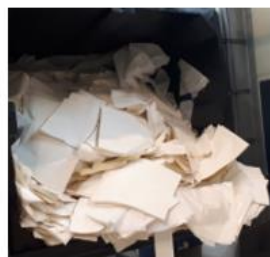
- Even lightly printed waste results in a hazy and not transparent film, no matter of the ink system
- Big influence of the waste stream on properties of the film, e.g. mechanical and optical properties

# rPP quality: influence of printing ink-systems

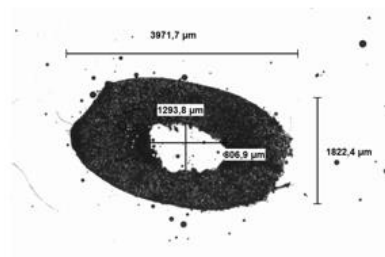
## BOPP with NC-based printing inks



outgassing during recycling



white film → brown rPP



pellets with gas cavities



not suitable for BOPP-production

## BOPP with PU-based printing inks



easy recycling without outgassing



Stable colour („white stays white“)



good stretchability



suitable for BOPP-production,  
good film quality

# Production of rBOPP with up to 90% rPP

Successful joint project with leading floral packaging supplier Decowraps:

- pre-tests in Brueckner laboratory, laboratory extrusion, stretching frame
- successful pre-test at pilot line
- stable mass production of rBOPP film with up to 90% rPP content on Brueckner production line

Precondition for high-quality rBOPP:  
high quality PCR-rPP

- very defined input waste stream
- only unprinted monomaterial PP-packaging
- low content of impurities



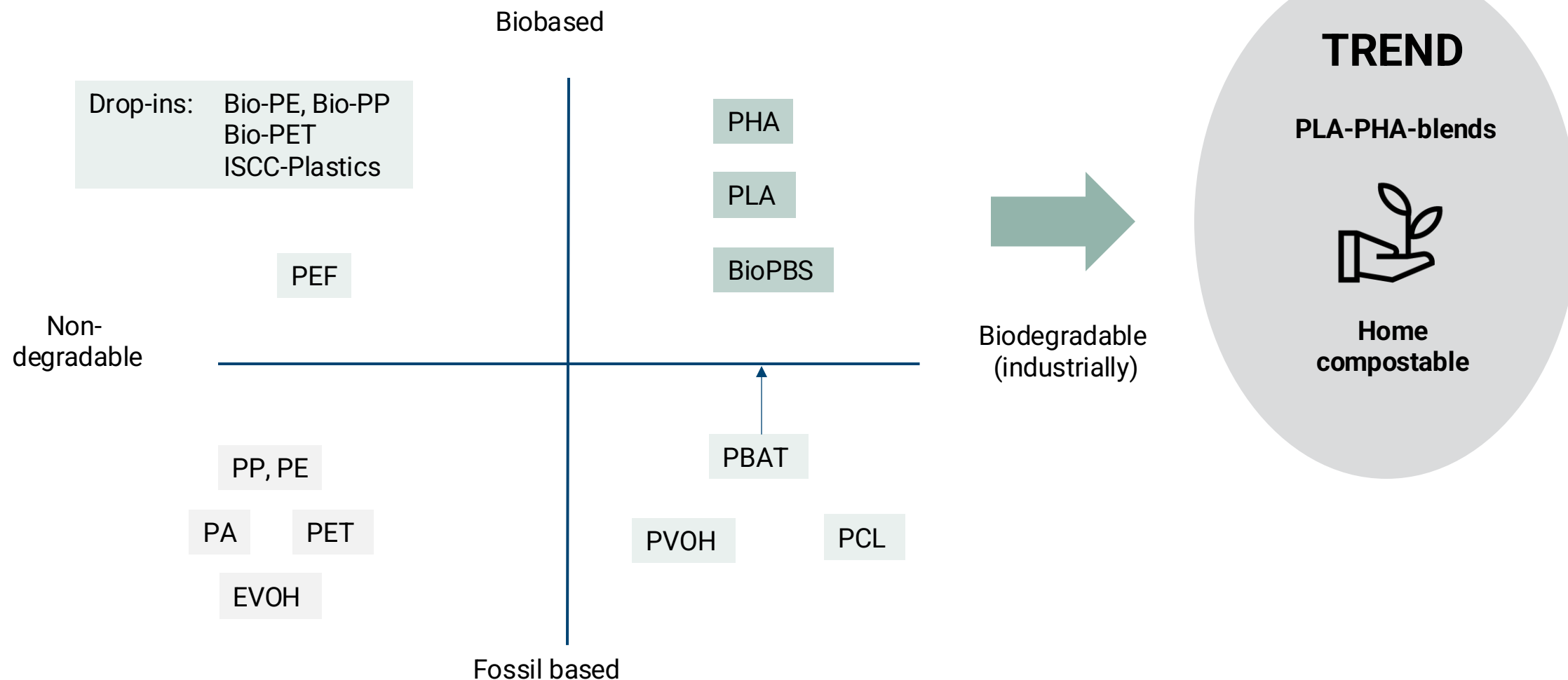
© Decowraps

rBOPP with high mechanical properties and  
good optical appearance

# 04

## Biopolymers for biax films

# From renewable resources / biodegradable



## We have a plan to get to 100% biodegradable packaging

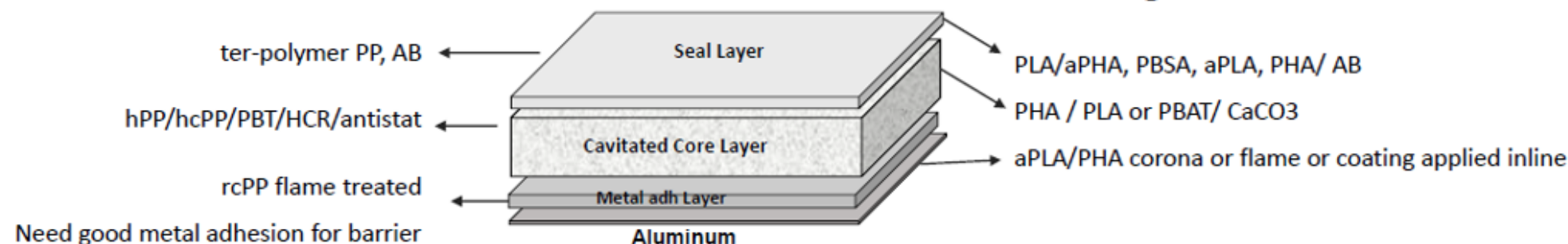


Cooperation along the entire value chain  
@ Brückner Technology Center

# Project PepsiCo: home compostable & biodegradable

## Oriented Polypropylene (OPP)

## Biodegradable film



Polymers needed	Worldwide suppliers
hPP - Homopolymer PP	10
rcPP -Random copolymer	8
hcPP High Crystalline PP	4
Slip/Antiblock master batch	6
Commercial film suppliers	>100



Polymers needed	Worldwide suppliers
PHA	3
PLA	2
PBSA/PBAT	2
Slip/Antiblock master batch	2
Commercial film suppliers of PLA	4

Biopolymers must be versatile to match existing product specifications

# Project PepsiCo: typical film properties

## Heat sealable packaging film BOPP 20µm (met.)

For typical 20µm BOPP packaging film

Modulus	MD: ~2000 N/mm <sup>2</sup> TD: ~3600 N/mm <sup>2</sup>
Tensile strength	MD: ~150 MPa TD: ~275 MPa
<b>Thermal shrinkage 130°C, 5min</b>	<b>MD &lt;4 % TD &lt;1 %</b>
<b>Haze</b>	<b>1-2 %</b>
Clarity	~98 %
Puncture resistance*	220-700 N/15mm
Seal initiation temperature	90°C-110°C
Heat seal strength	3.0 N/15 mm
Oxygen transmission rate	15-20 cc/m <sup>2</sup> /day
<b>Water vapour transmission rate</b>	<b>~0.1 g/m<sup>2</sup>/day</b>

## BOPHA/PLA barrier + heat sealable film 20µm (met.)

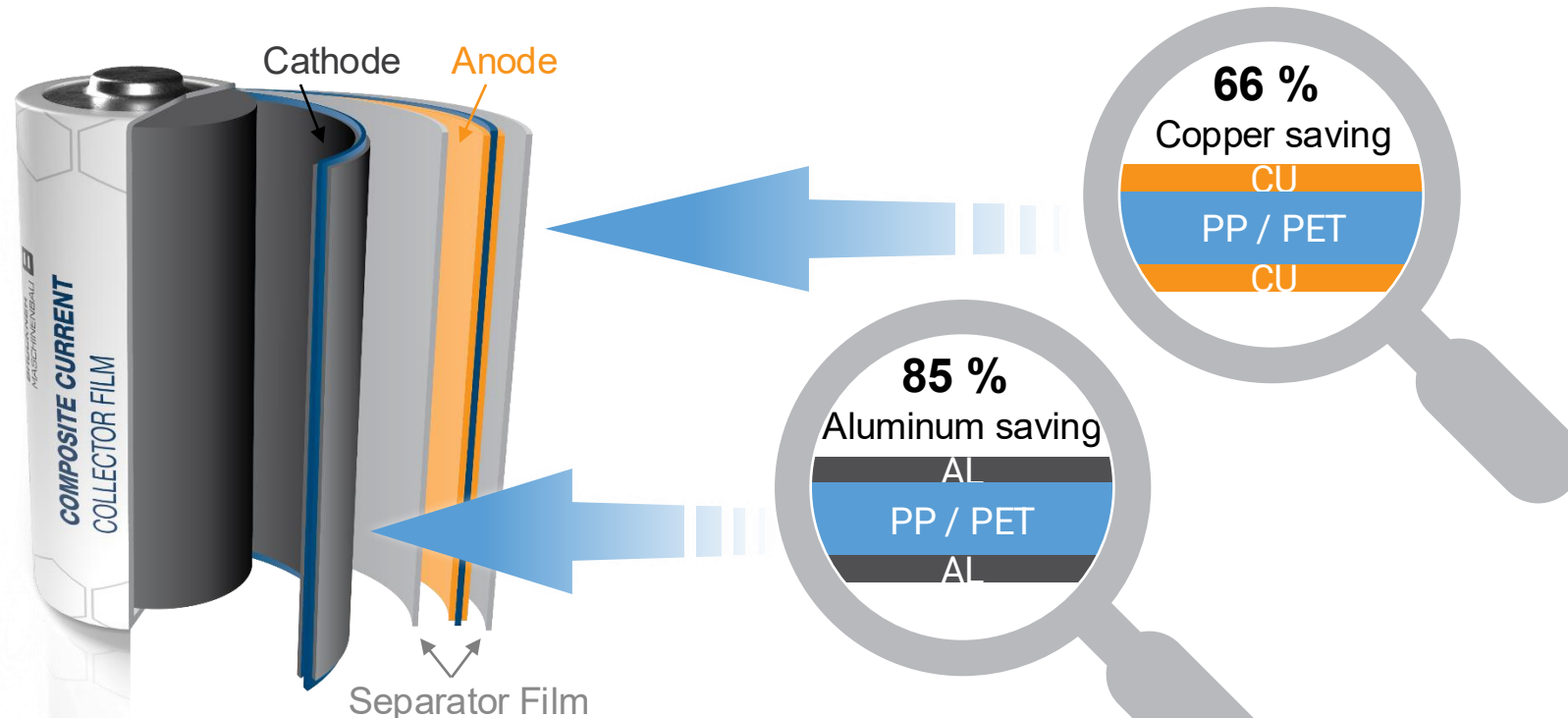
For BOPHA/ PLA (70% PHA in total structure)

Modulus	MD: ~2600 N/mm <sup>2</sup> TD: ~2500 N/mm <sup>2</sup>
Tensile strength	MD: ~50 MPa TD: ~75 MPa
<b>Thermal shrinkage 120°C, 5min</b>	<b>MD 3-7% TD &lt;2.6-10,0 %</b>
<b>Haze</b>	<b>20-30 %</b>
Clarity	82-85 %
Puncture resistance*	175 N/mm
Seal initiation temperature	90°C
Heat seal strength	12 N/15mm (Thick skin)
<b>Oxygen transmission rate</b>	<b>&lt;1 cc/m<sup>2</sup>/day</b>
<b>Water vapour transmission rate</b>	<b>0.6-1.2 g/m<sup>2</sup>/day</b>

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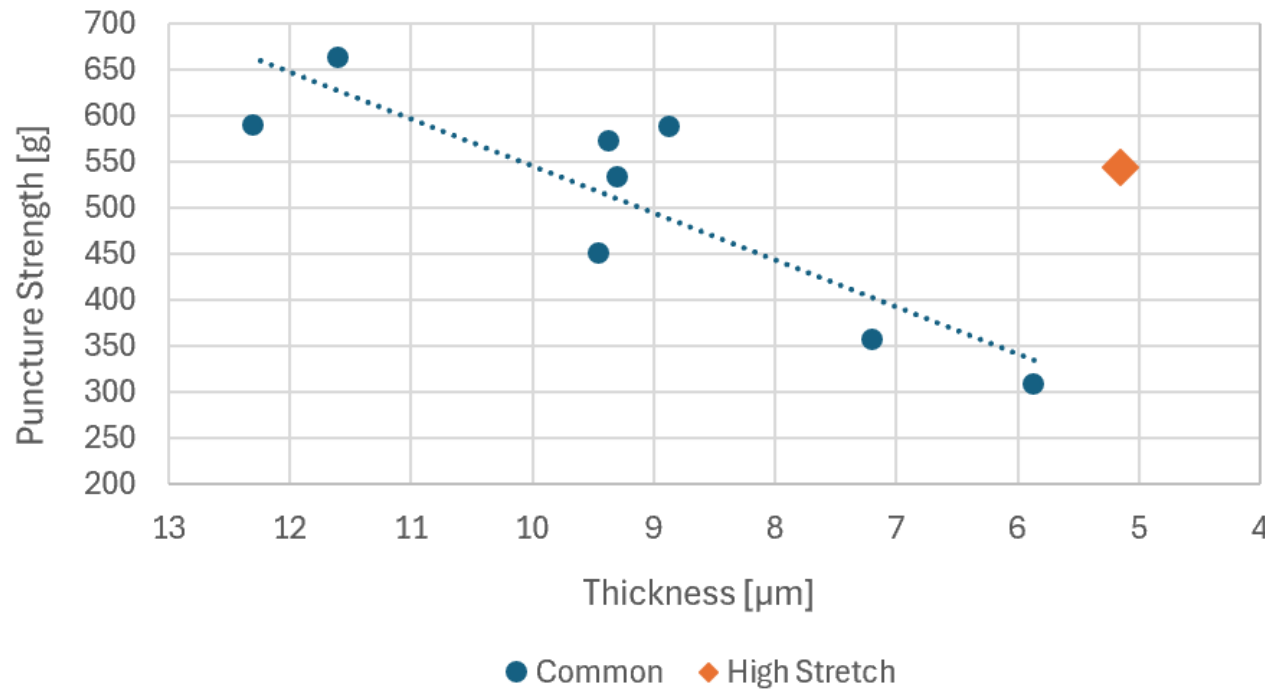
Technical films for batteries

# Concept of Composite Current Collector Film



- Even adding polymers makes LI-Cells lighter, safer and more efficient
- Improvement of metal adhesion of BOPP films is subject to current development activities

# BSF evolution of Thickness and Puncture Strength



Thickness		μm	x	
Thickness Tolerance (2-Sigma Value)	MD	%	< 3,5	3.1)
	TD	%	< 3,5	3.1)
Tensile Strength	MD	N/mm <sup>2</sup>	>180*	ASTM D 882
	TD	N/mm <sup>2</sup>	>180*	ASTM D 882
Elongation at Break	MD	%	< 250	ASTM D 882
	TD	%	< 250	ASTM D 882
Puncture Strength		g	> 400*	ASTM D 3763
Porosity		%	40 ± 6	BMS TT 2.2
Gurley		s	160 ± 50	ASTM D 726
Thermal Shrinkage	MD	%	< 3.5*	BMS TT 2.1
	TD	%	< 1*	BMS TT 2.1

- To increase the energy density of the batteries, the separator films must also become thinner and thinner.
- Alongside lifetime and fast charging, battery safety has become an important issue for car manufacturers.



World's best environment  
for the development of new film types

**BRÜCKNER**  
MASCHINENBAU

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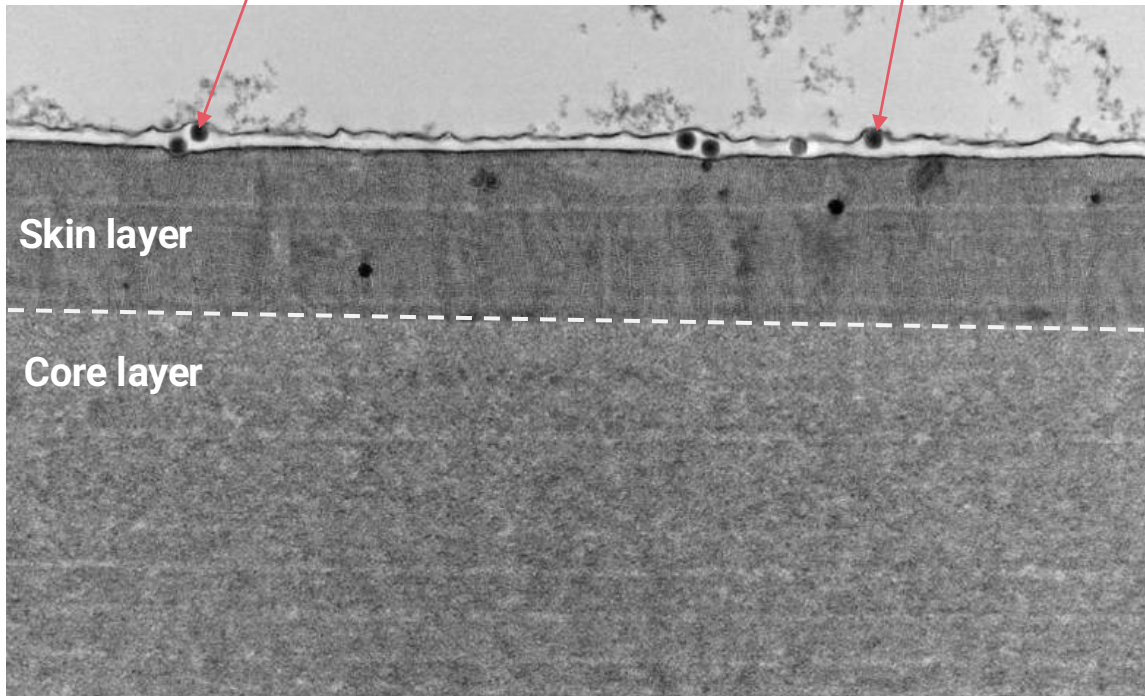


# Substitution of conventional AB-solutions

## Layer Crosscut (ILC BOPP)

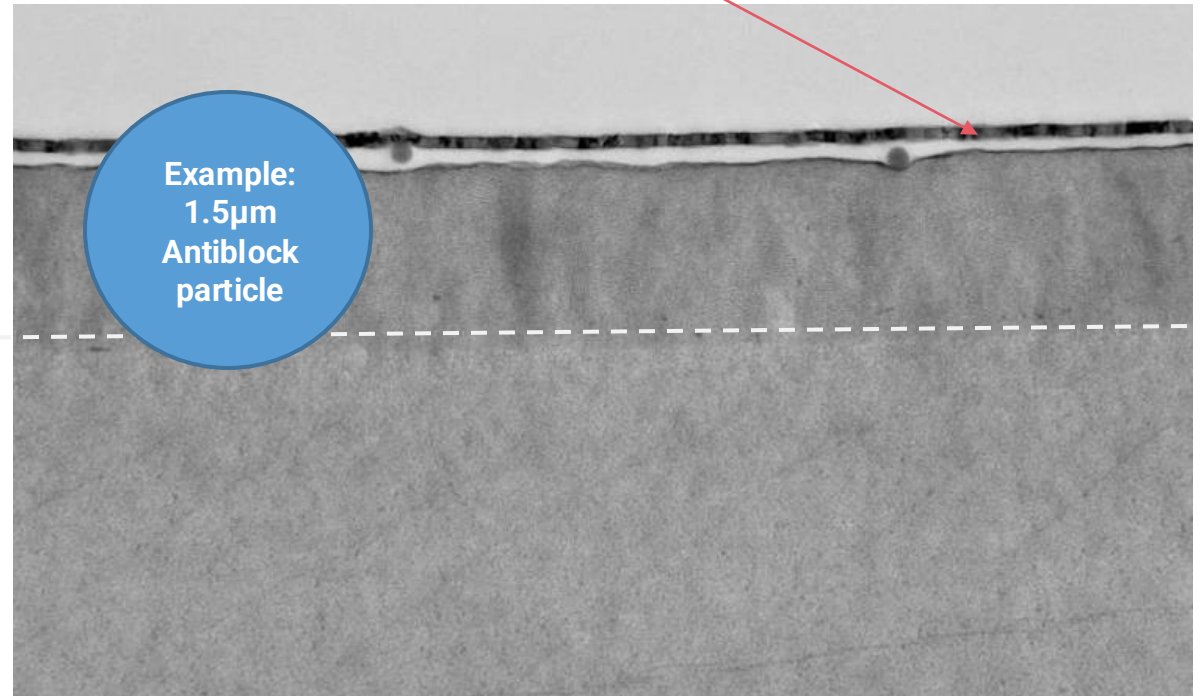
Coated layer with Nanoparticles

Nanoparticles



250nm X40,000

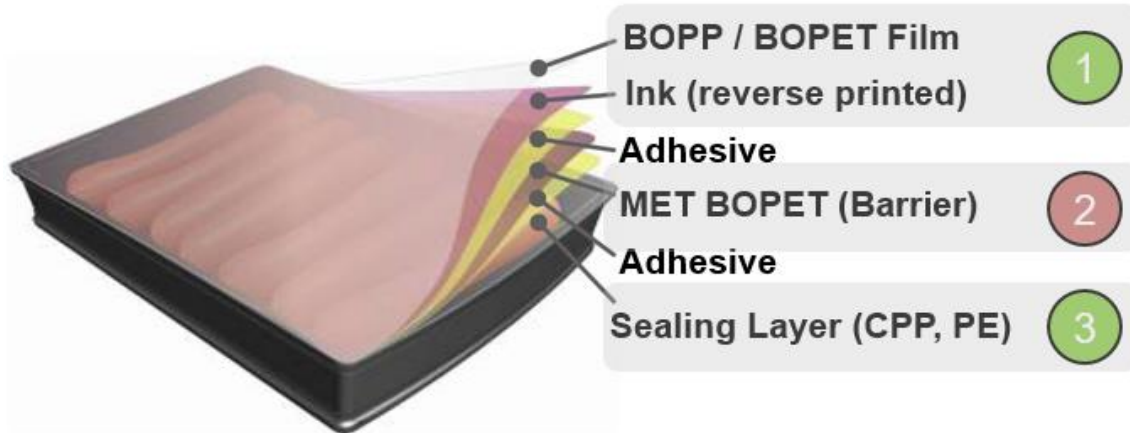
Vacuum metallisation



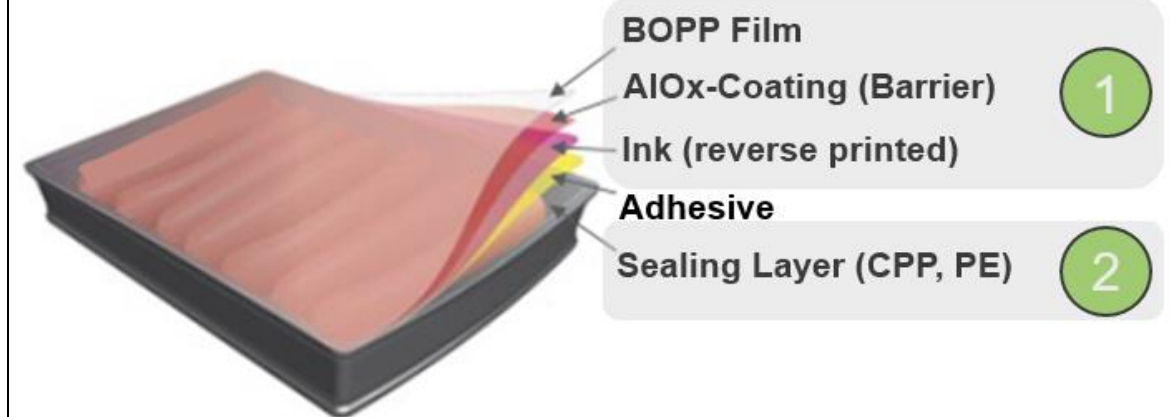
250nm X40,000

# Sustainable structures: monomaterial packaging

Commercial 3-Ply Laminate



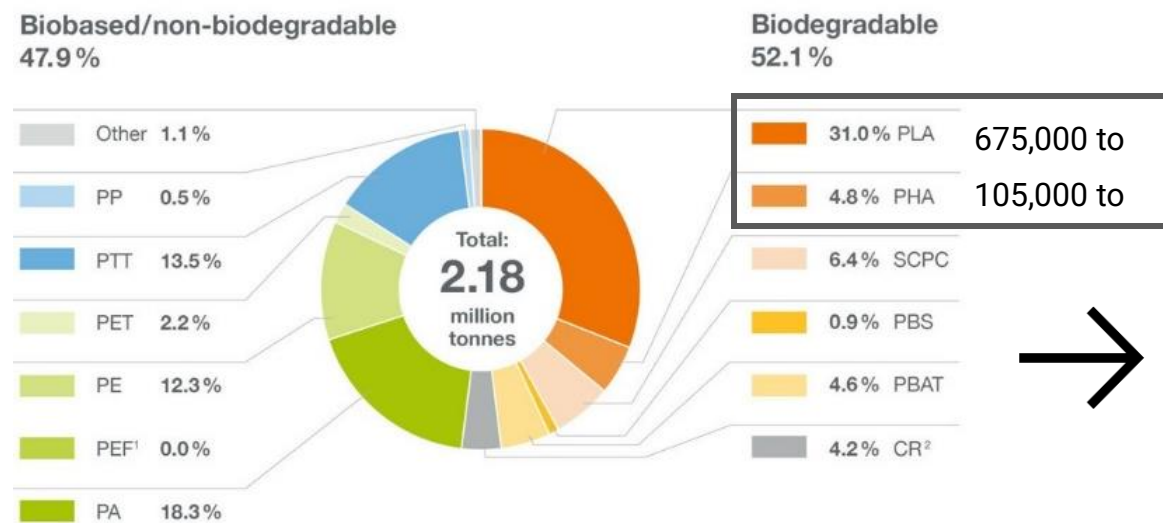
2-Ply Laminate – consists of PO



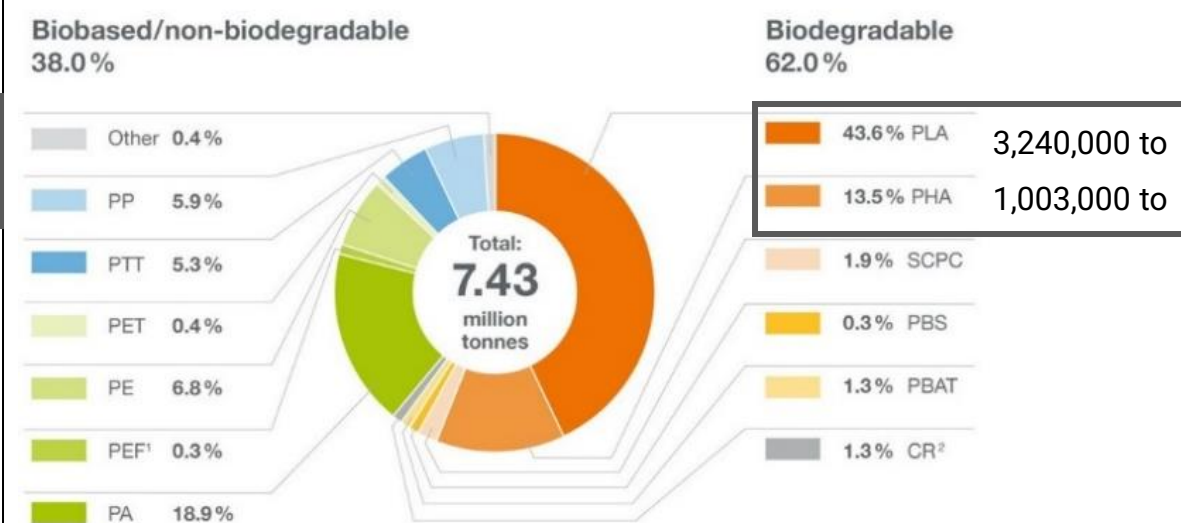
Improved barrier values of BOPP ILC films enable new packaging structures (monomaterial)

# Production capacities

Global production capacities bioplastics (2023)



Global production capacities bioplastics (2028)



- Demand for biobased polymers will rise by **17% every year** until 2028
- By 2023, PLA-capacities rose by 50%
- **But: Biopolymer capacities ca. 1% of global plastics production**

# Project PepsiCo – main findings

## Achieved



- Homecompostability certification for single BOPHA-PLA with  $\geq 70\%$  PHA-content achieved
- BOPHA-PLA film formulations for print-, barrier- and sealing webs available
- First printed BOPHA-PLA-based laminates for packaging trials available at Pepsico
- LISIM process offers additional possibilities regarding biax processing & film properties
- ILC is feasible!
- Next to pilot line trials @ Brueckner several successful semi-industrial production line trials
- PepsiCo's vision is supported by several BO-film producers

## Challenges



- Homecompostability certification for printed BOPLA-PHA high barrier laminates in progress
- WVTR is close to requirements, but needs to be improved further
- All parameters from extrusion to winder need to be newly evaluated, also converting steps
- Acceptance of new home-compostable BOPHA-PLA packaging structures by endusers

# Commitment of Brückner to circular economy

Active participation in various projects with partners from full supply chain, e.g.

## **R-Cycle:**

Is a Joint project for collection and sensor-readable markings of recycling-relevant data along the entire supply chain



## **PrintCYC:**

Is a joint project to analyze the influence of printing ink systems on quality of recyclates



## **PlasticBOND:**

Is a joint project to increase recyclability of plastic products and reuse of PCR-material



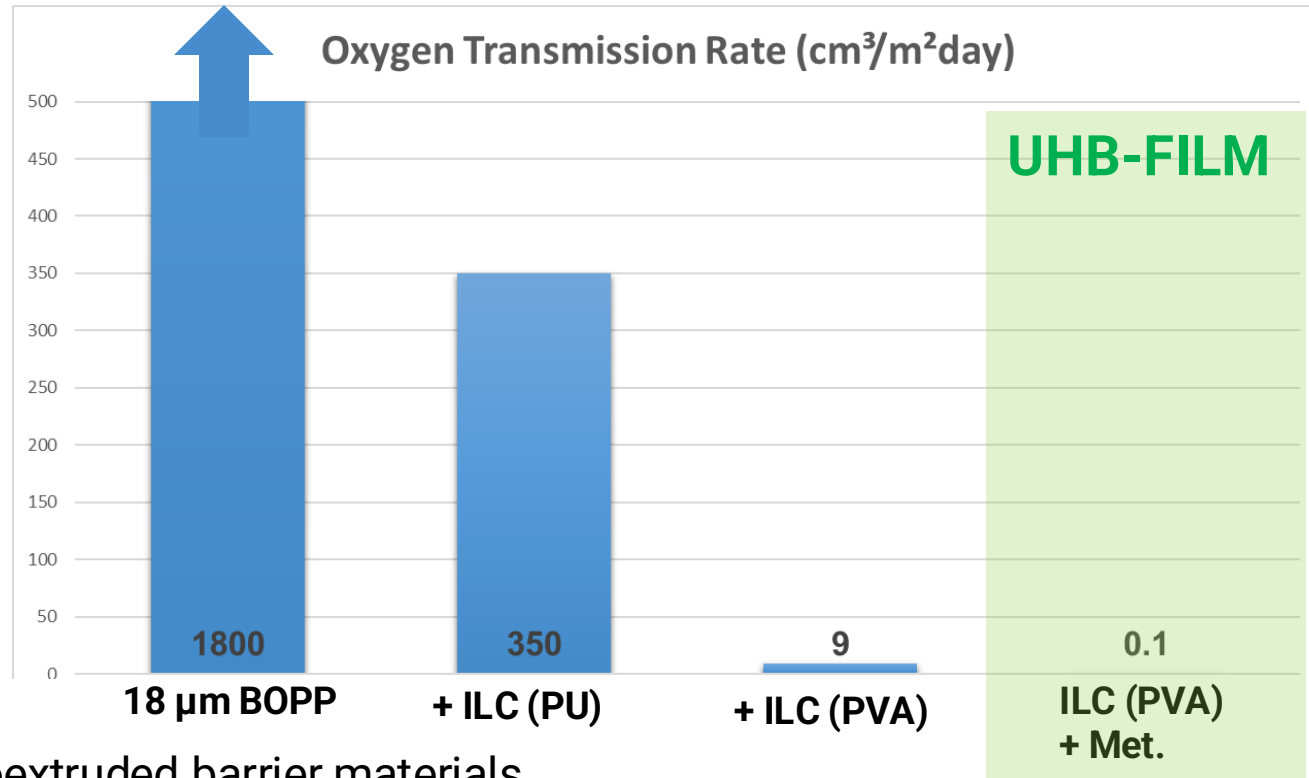
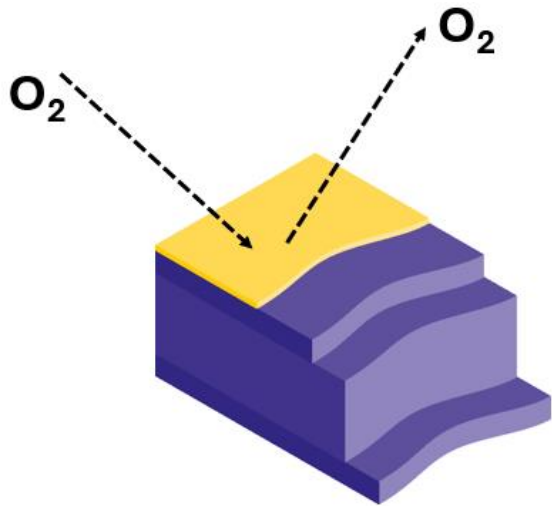
**Cooperation projects** with film producers and producers of PCR-PP and PCR-PE-material on suitability for BOPP- / BOPE-production

# Inline Coating Technology



## R&D: Latest Developments

- Significant Improvement of Oxygen Barrier



- Ultra High Barrier Films without coextruded barrier materials