

Test Program Review

The JCIBPC granted four test programs for the 2016 - 2017 marketing year during its annual meeting and the subsequent conference call. A summary of committee actions follow. The summary contains information about the type of test program granted, a short description of the material or system being tested, the name of the company sponsoring the program, the number of years in a test program, the size of the test program, any special requirements for the test program and some key physical properties of the material or the nature of the system being tested. All tests are to be conducted in all four regions of the cotton belt unless an exception to this provision is noted.

Experimental Test Programs – Consumables

100% Woven Cotton Bag (L. P. Brown Co.)

Test program year granted – 12

Size – 200,000 B/C³

Physical properties of bag:

-) Construction, spiral sewn;
-) Yarn count, 36x32 (warp x weft (fill));
-) Yarn size, 9.34x9.57 Ne⁴;
-) Fabric weight, 4.87 oz/sqyd;
-) Tare per bag, 1.9 lb.

Special conditions – to only be tested in the West.

The Committee determined that bales in this experimental test program should be deliverable on the ICE No. 2[®] and World Cotton Contracts.⁵

100% woven cotton bag (Langston Companies)

Test program year granted – 9

Size – 75,000 B/C

Physical properties of bag:

-) Construction, 97 in spiral sewn;
-) Yarn count, 37x33 (warp x weft (fill) fabric);
-) Yarn size, 10x10;
-) Fabric weight, 5.5 oz/sqyd;
-) Tare per bag, 2.2 lb.

Special conditions – to only be tested in the West.

The Committee determined that bales in this experimental test program should be deliverable on the ICE No. 2[®] and World Cotton Contracts.⁶

Experimental Test Programs – Large Capital Expenditures

Woven PET plastic bale bags and the GinFast™ Equipment (Signode Corporation)

Test program year granted – 4

Size – up to 250,000 B/C at the four 2015 locations.⁶

Physical properties of bag:

-) Construction, circular woven (no spiral or side sewn seams) polyethylene terephthalate (PET) gusseted plastic bags with a circumference not greater than 93.75 in;
-) Yarn (tape) count, 8x10 (warp x weft (fill));
-) Yarn (tape) size (gauge), 14x34 mil (warp x weft (fill));
-) Tensile strength, warp 135 lb, weft 400 lb;
-) Elongation, 10 - 14% (warp and weft);
-) UV Stability, > 70% @ 500 hours;
-) Coefficient of friction (outside/outside), <0.5;
-) Coated fabric thickness, 0.9 mil average;
-) Burst Strength, 39,960 lb;
-) Tare per bag (bale), 3 lb.⁷

Special conditions (Test Program Guidelines for 2016/17 GinFast Test Program) offered by Signode and agreed to by the JCIBPC on June 14, 2016):

-) Signode will increase bag strength by upgrading to the 3600 Denier equivalent bags compared to the 3100 Denier bags used in 2015 and the previously approved 3400 Denier bags for the 2016 season.⁷
-) Prior to selling any additional systems, Signode will consult with the JCIBPC, including ACSA, before proceeding.⁷
-) Signode will meet with ACSA on a monthly basis to discuss performance related issues and solutions going forward.
-) Signode will offer the same monthly reviews for the JCIBPC staff and other national Interest Organizations represented on the JCIBPC.
-) Signode will continue to pursue our EWR ID to facilitate compensation for any failed bales.
-) Signode will continue to update ACSA on our certificated test program with Noble and offer additional testing at a mutually agreed location if required.
-) Signode will agree to any additional special requirements as required by the JCIBPC.

³ Bales of cotton

⁴ English cotton number, number of 840 yd strands per lb

⁵ A "JCIBPC Determination" is based on the Intercontinental Exchange (ICE) Cotton No. 2[®] and World Cotton Rules that went into effect on June 1, 2016 requiring an explicit

determination by the JCIBPC for bales in experimental test programs for delivery on the contract. Note that no delivery determination for first year test programs is allowed.

⁶ As amended by JCIBPC Executive Committee on July 7, 2016

Special conditions (mandated by the JCIBPC on June 14, 2016 and agreed to by Signode on June 15, 2016):

- J A “master table” will be developed by Signode, in consultation with JCIBPC staff, that documents damaged bales beginning with the first year of the PET bag test program through to and including all subsequent years of testing. The “master table” at a minimum, will include the following:
 - o PBI number for each damaged bale.
 - o Date and location damaged bale was reported and by whom.
 - o Remedial action taken and where taken (gin, warehouse, mill, etc.).
 - o Changes to the PET bag or GinFast™ system that is associated with or results from a damage report.
- J Prior to making changes to the bag specifications found on pages two and three of the official request form submitted to JCIBPC staff, Signode will consult with staff and, if necessary, the JCIBPC executive committee.
- J No changes of any kind to the bag design or application equipment may be made by Signode or any third party without first receiving approval via JCIBPC staff.
- J When bag performance is evaluated by Signode or on behalf of Signode by third parties at gins, warehouses, certification warehouses, textile mills or at other locations, NCC staff will be informed prior to the scheduled evaluation.
- J When foreign mills report PET bale bag performance issues or have questions about any PET bags, Signode will work with NCC and CCI staff to address the report, including making direct contact with the foreign mill when directed and invited to do so at Signode’s expense.
- J Any reports as required above must be made to JCIBPC staff in a timely manner (24-72 hours if not sooner).
- J Maintain all 2015 program requirements, including 19” press shut height, in the 2016 program.

The Committee determined that bales in this experimental test program should be deliverable on the ICE No. 2® and World Cotton Contracts.⁶

Experimental (Compatibility) Test Programs – PET Strap

¾ x .055 in PET strap for patented z-weld friction technology® systems (PAC Strapping Products)

Test program year granted – 1

Size – 100,000 B/C

Physical properties of strap:

- J Dimensions: gauge (thickness), 0.055 in; gauge tolerance, 0.053 – 0.057 in;
- J Width, 0.750 in; width tolerance, 0.735 – 0.765 in;
- J Strap breaking strength, 2500 lb (average), 2300 lb (minimum);
- J Strap joint strength, 2200 lb (average), 2000 lb (minimum);
- J Percent elongation, 12% - 16% (at break), <4% (at 1000 lb tension);
- J Tare per six straps, 1.05 lb.

Special conditions – test and monitor PET strap joint strength at all locations.

Bales in this first year program are not eligible for delivery on the ICE No. 2® and World cotton Contracts.⁶