

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

the new 24L sharps container made with healthcare waste

Daniels Healthcare is proud to introduce its most sustainable sharps container yet. The new SHARPSGUARD® eco 24L container is made using post-consumer recycled (PCR) material, including plastic from hospital waste. This innovation supports Daniels Healthcare's sustainability goals, meets clinical safety standards, and offers practical benefits to NHS Trusts. Here's everything you need to know.

Product transition: why move from 22L to the 24L SHARPSGUARD® eco container?

The new 24L SHARPSGUARD® eco container offers all the trusted performance of the 22L but with a key sustainability upgrade. It has a larger usable internal capacity, yet is available at the same price point. This makes it not only more environmentally responsible, but more practical and cost-effective for everyday use in healthcare settings.

The 24L SHARPSGUARD® eco container is made from up to 80% post-consumer recycled plastic, with up to 40% of that coming directly from NHS clinical waste. This is a world-first for a regulated sharps container.



SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE

Are recycled sharps containers safe to use?

Yes. Daniels Healthcare's recycled-content sharps containers are certified to the UN Standard (UN3291) for clinical waste containers. The materials used are subject to rigorous controls to ensure they are fully compliant, safe, and suitable for healthcare use.

Is there a risk of contamination from recycled healthcare waste?

No. All NHS-supplied materials are pre-treated to remove biological risk. The recycling process uses a water-based mechanical system that separates out all non-plastic elements and ensures any remaining pharmaceutical traces are safely filtered. The final recycled plastic meets official End-of-Waste standards, confirming it is safe for use.

QUALITY AND PERFORMANCE

Will the 24L SHARPSGUARD® eco container perform the same as the 22L?

Yes. Through the use of a specialist additive technology, the recycled plastic is engineered to match virgin material in durability, appearance, and reliability. The container is fully compliant with all regulatory standards for sharps waste.

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

What are the environmental advantages of this new process?

By using plastic from NHS clinical waste that would otherwise be discarded, Daniels Healthcare supports significant carbon savings. Studies show that the patented 'BOSS' mechanical recycling process used by its partner has the lowest carbon footprint of all plastic waste management options, at just 0.33 tCO₂e per tonne. This helps reduce reliance on new plastic production and supports NHS ambitions to lower Scope 3 emissions across the supply chain.

How does this support NHS sustainability goals?

This innovation helps Trusts meet government and NHS targets for carbon reduction and use of recycled materials. It also provides an opportunity to make environmental impact part of clinical procurement decisions.

COST EFFICIENCY

Does this change reduce costs?

Yes. The switch to recycled-content containers reduces the long-term need for raw material imports, and supports local jobs and manufacturing. By keeping more materials in use within the UK, it reduces pressure on resources and helps deliver better value from NHS budgets.

Are customers financially better off?

The SHARPSGUARD® eco 24L sharps container offers greater internal capacity and sustainability benefits at the same price point as the SHARPSGUARD® eco 22L. It also demonstrates environmental responsibility that can support compliance and procurement reporting.

THE PROCESS

How does recycled healthcare waste become a Daniels Healthcare sharps container?

Here's how the process works:

- Clinical waste, including used sharps containers, is collected from NHS hospitals.
- The waste is sterilised and shredded at site before being sent for disposal.
- Daniels Healthcare's recycling partner intercepts this material before it is disposed of, and sorts it by density using patented water-based BOSS technology.
- Non-plastic elements are removed and the plastic is cleaned, dried and reprocessed into pellets.
- A special additive controls melt flow and colour to match the performance of virgin plastic.
- The resulting pellets are used to manufacture new Daniels Healthcare sharps containers.

This closed-loop process is designed to be scalable, safe, and fully compliant with environmental and clinical regulations.

If you have questions or need further information, please contact your local Area Manager or our Customer Service Team on +44 (0)1865 371841 or info.healthcareuk@mauserpackaging.com and visit our website www.daniels.co.uk.



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