



HEALTH & PHARMACEUTICAL APPLICATIONS



UPM RAFLATAC FOREST FILM: RENEWABLE ALTERNATIVE TO FOSSIL PLASTIC IN PHARMACEUTICAL LABELING



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Even where plastic performance is still required in pharmaceutical labeling, for example on PP or PE bottles, where monomaterial recyclability makes plastic labels the preferred choice over paper, UPM Adhesive Materials offers a renewable alternative to fossil-based plastic. UPM Raflatac Forest Film is a wood-based label film made from wood-based bio-naphtha through an ISCC-certified mass-balance value chain, developed in partnership with UPM Biofuels using residues from the wood pulping process. Its healthcare-specific grade, Forest PP Clear TC 50 RPMD HDS-FSC, is engineered for low-leachable performance on small-diameter containers and curved surfaces, suited to vials, syringes, bottles, and drug-delivery devices, packaging where migration-safe labeling is critical and few sustainable alternatives have historically been available. In a 2025 collaborative study with Corning Pharmaceutical Technologies,

Forest Film labels were tested on Corning's Viridian glass vials across room-temperature, dry-heat, tropical, and cryogenic storage conditions, demonstrating reliable adhesion across the full range of conditions used in pharmaceutical packaging, while providing up to a 42% reduction in CO₂ emissions compared to conventional fossil-based plastics. The material is also already used commercially: Ego Pharmaceuticals has adopted Forest Film as part of its climate action strategy, estimating a 48% CO₂ reduction for its application. Forest Film shows that even in the applications where plastic remains the right technical choice, that plastic no longer has to come from fossil sources.

