

## Optimisation Technology and Design for Niche Bioplastic Applications

**CASE STUDY** 

WORLD BIOPOLYMERS AND BIOPLASTICS INNOVATION FORUM

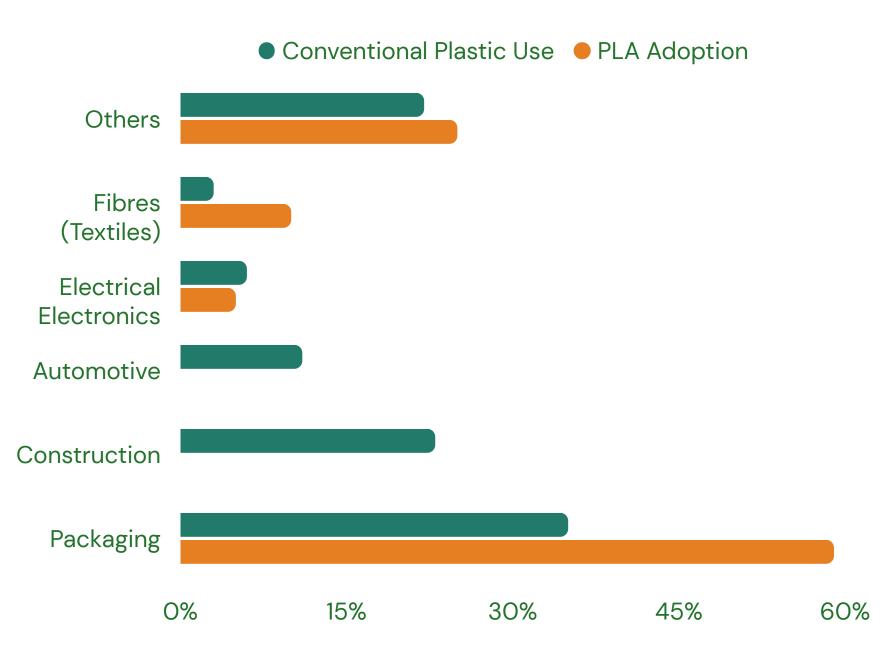
1ST - 2ND MARCH 2023 BERLIN, GERMANY



### Objective: Accelerate Transition to Bioplastics

Enhance adoption of sustainable materials in new, hard-to-recycle areas

#### PLA SEGMENTATION VS. CONVENTIONAL PLASTICS



#### COMPARISON OF KEY CHARACTERISTICS

	PLA	PBAT	PBS	РНА	LDPE HDPE	PP	ABS
Renewable	<b>/</b>	X	<b>✓</b>	<b>/</b>	X	X	X
Compostable	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>~</b>	<b>~</b>	X	X	X
Flexural Strength							
Tensile Strength							
Impact Strength							
Melt Flow Rate							

SOURCE: BIOPLASTICS EUROPE, PLASTICSEUROPE

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### Key Challenges



Suitable replacement materials, broad requirements



Recognise that
each use case has
a different set of
priorities

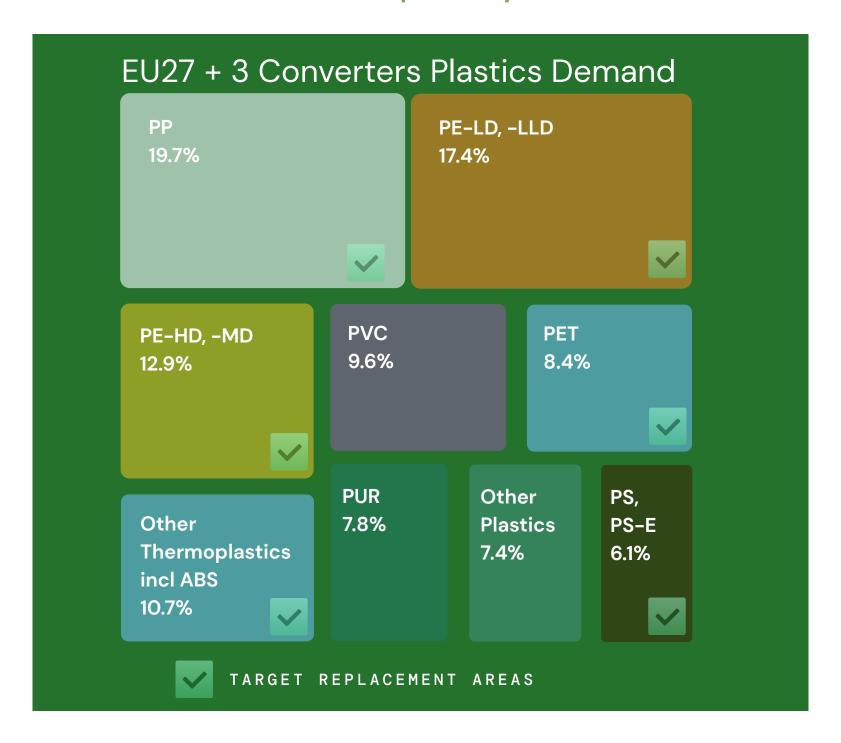


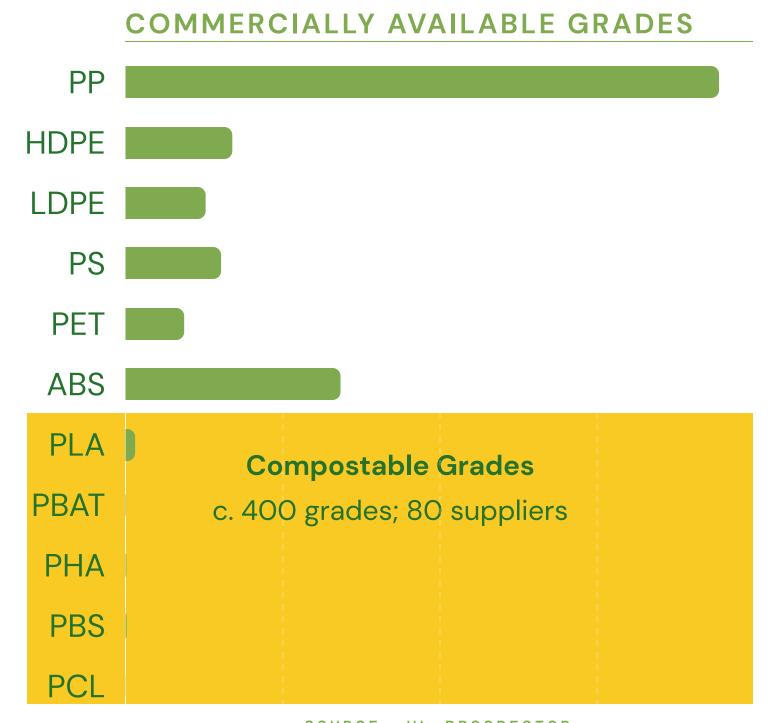
Comparison of both performance and sustainability attributes



### Material Mapping

Relative maturity of conventional plastics vs. compostable creates considerable potential but introduces complexity

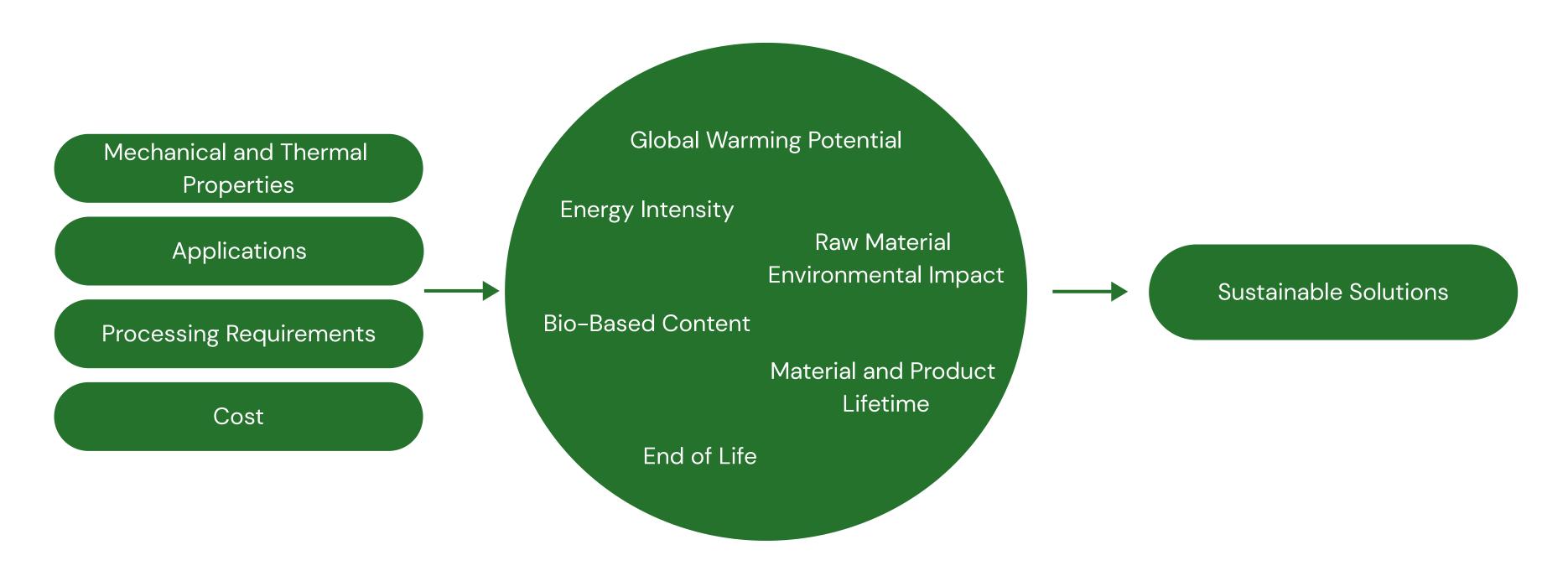






### Sustainability: Material and Design Optimisation

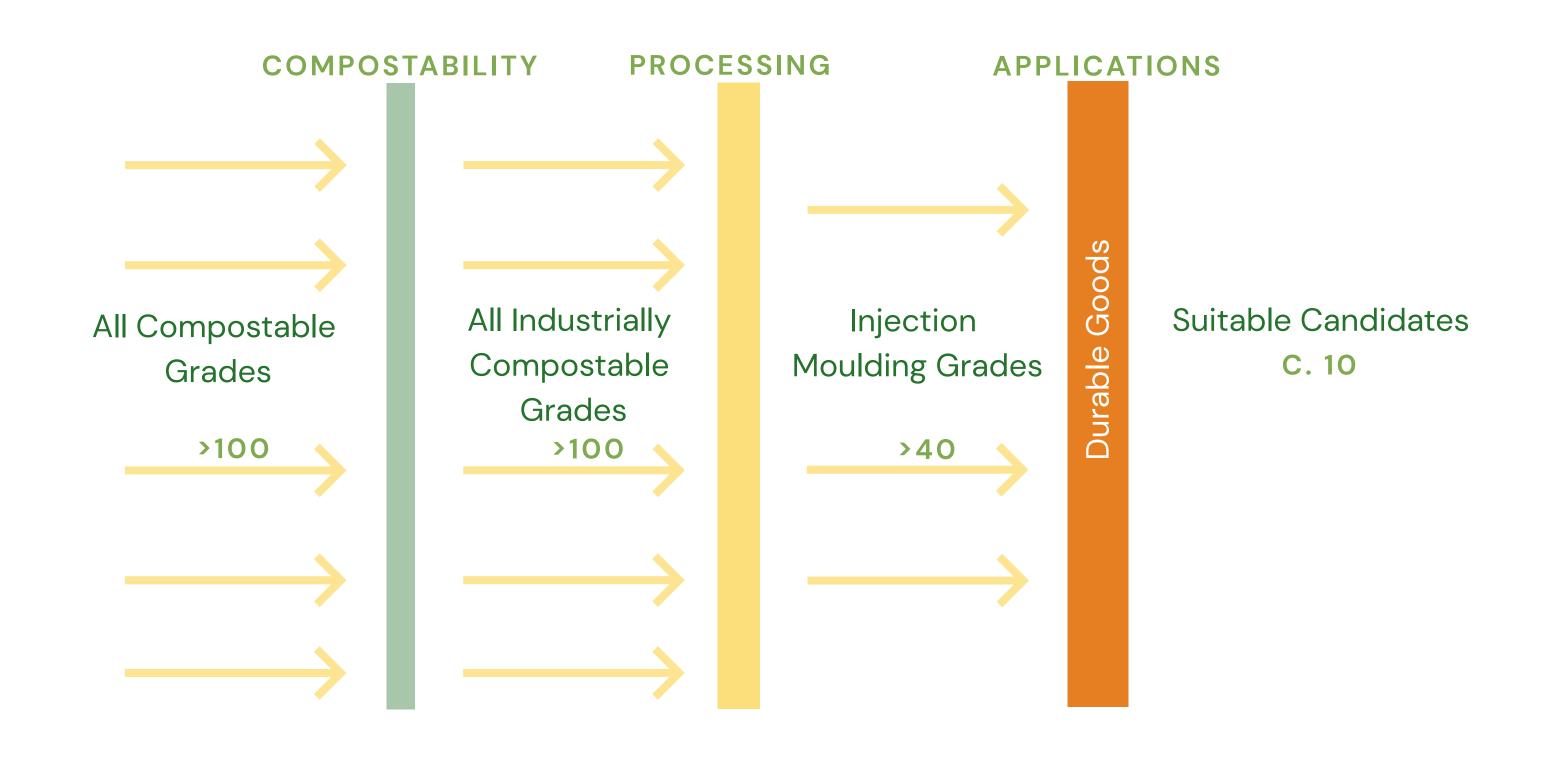
Using our proprietary technology, material selection and design is based on the full product's lifecycle with sustainability and circularity at its core





### Stage 1: Determine Non-Negotiable Criteria

First set of products are filtered based on essential requirements





### Stage 2: Determine & Prioritise Optimisable Criteria

Variables of interest are assigned a weighting which will inform the ranking of materials

#### PERFORMANCE & COST VARIABLES

Property	Tolerance	Weighting	
Tensile Modulus & Strength	25%	3	
Flexural Modulus & Strength	25%	3	
Impact Strength	25%	5	
Melt Temperature	25%	1	
Cost	50%	3	

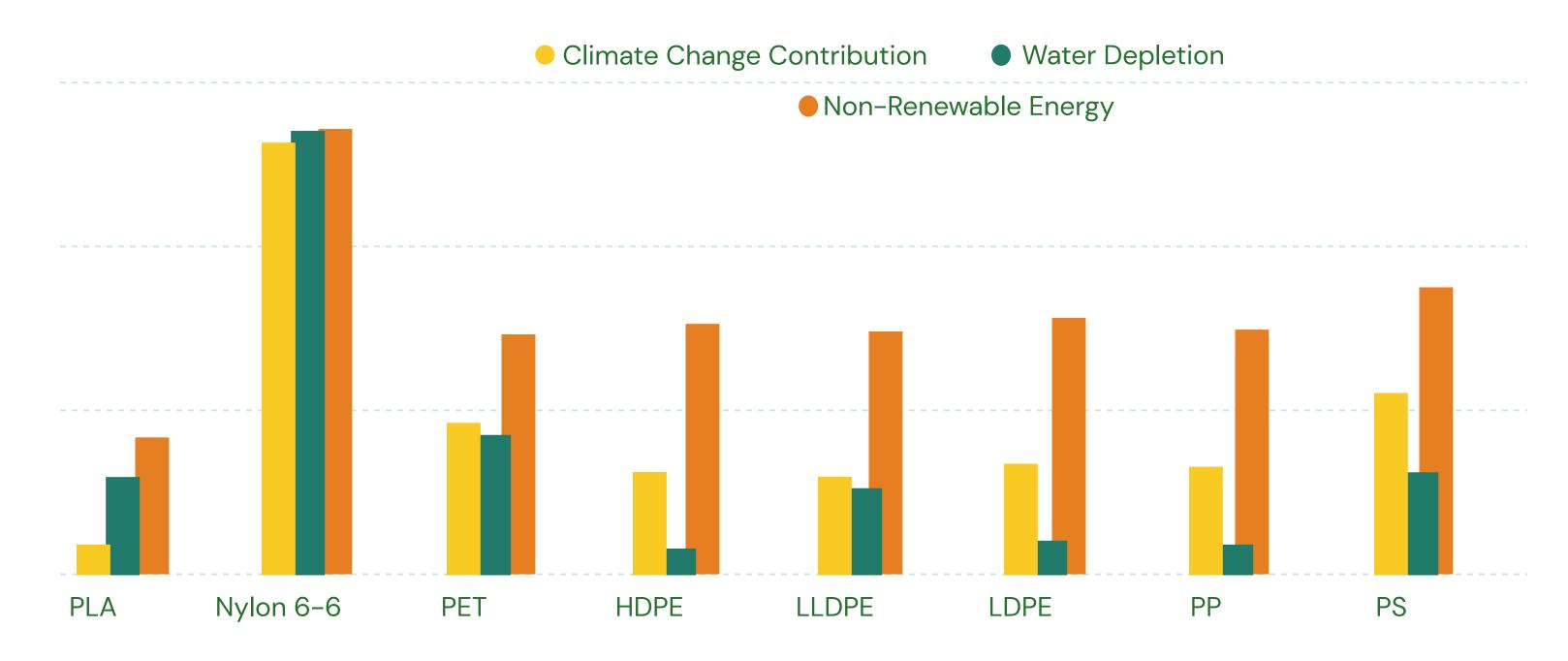
#### SUSTAINABILITY VARIABLES

Property	Targets	Weighting
Bio-Based Content	Maximise	2
GWP: Material Manufacturing & Processing	Minimise	5
Energy Intensity (Material Manufacturing & Processing)	Minimise	3
Manufacturing Environmental Impact	Minimise	2
End of Life Environmental Impact	Minimise	5
Product Lifetime	Optimise	1



### Sustainability: Material and Design Optimisation

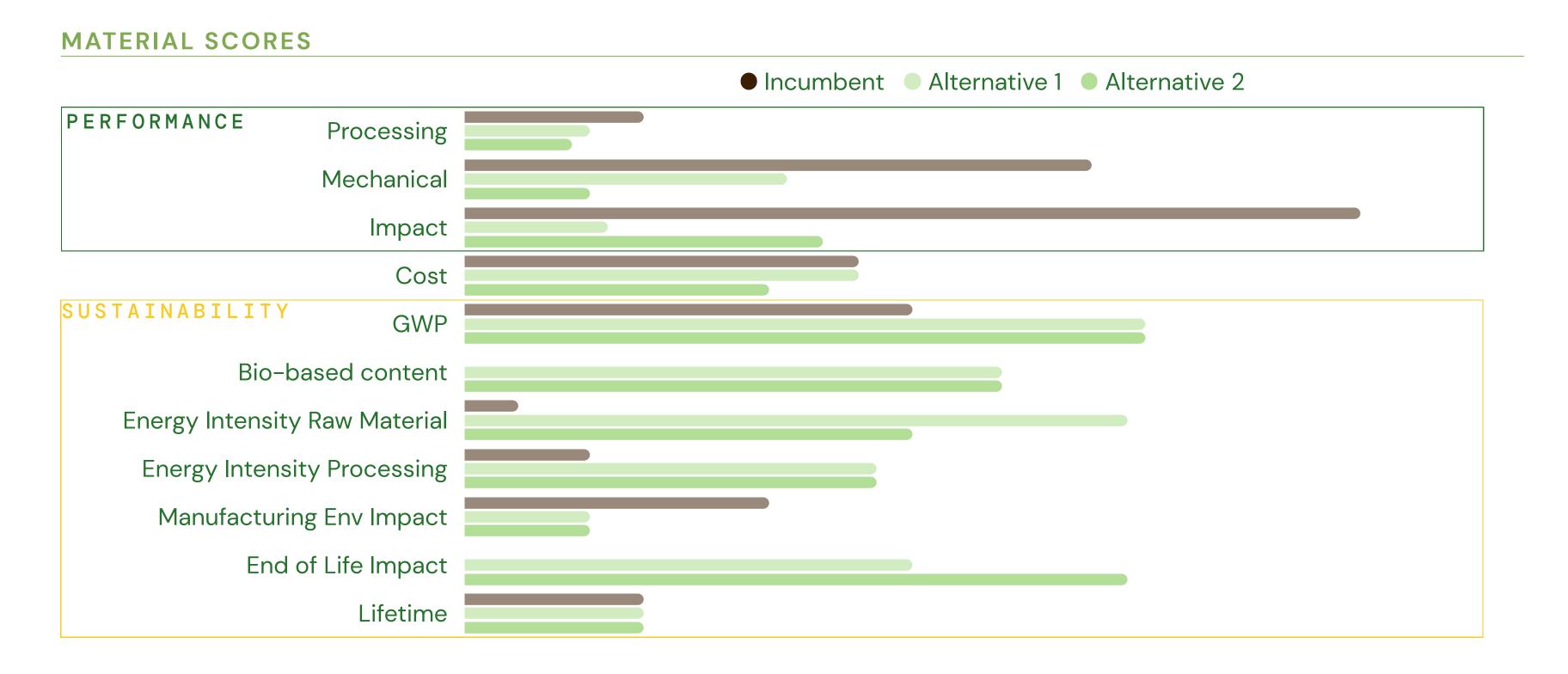
Illustrative Sustainability Metrics





## Stage 3: Optimisation & Results - Existing Materials

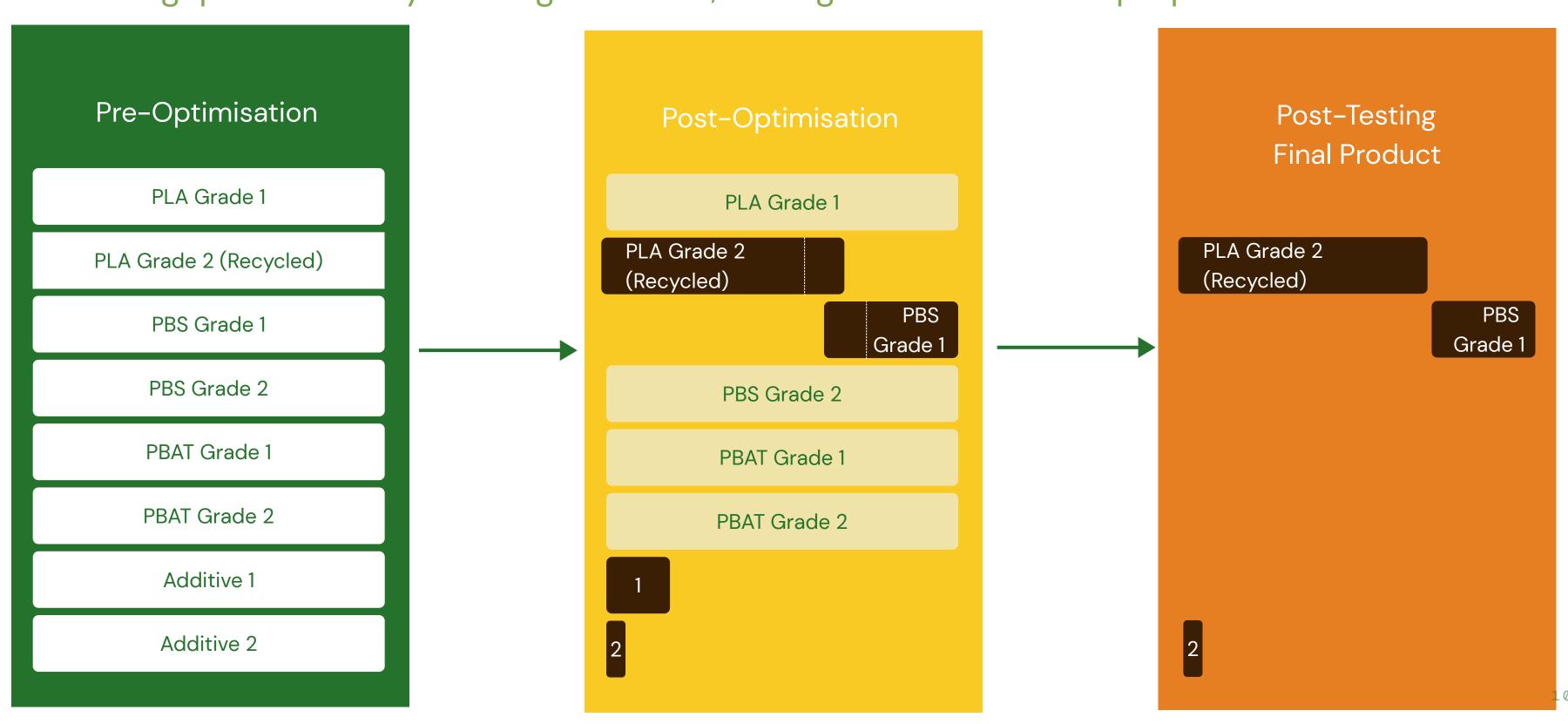
Based on the criteria, existing materials are determined and ranked





### Stage 4: Bespoke Blend

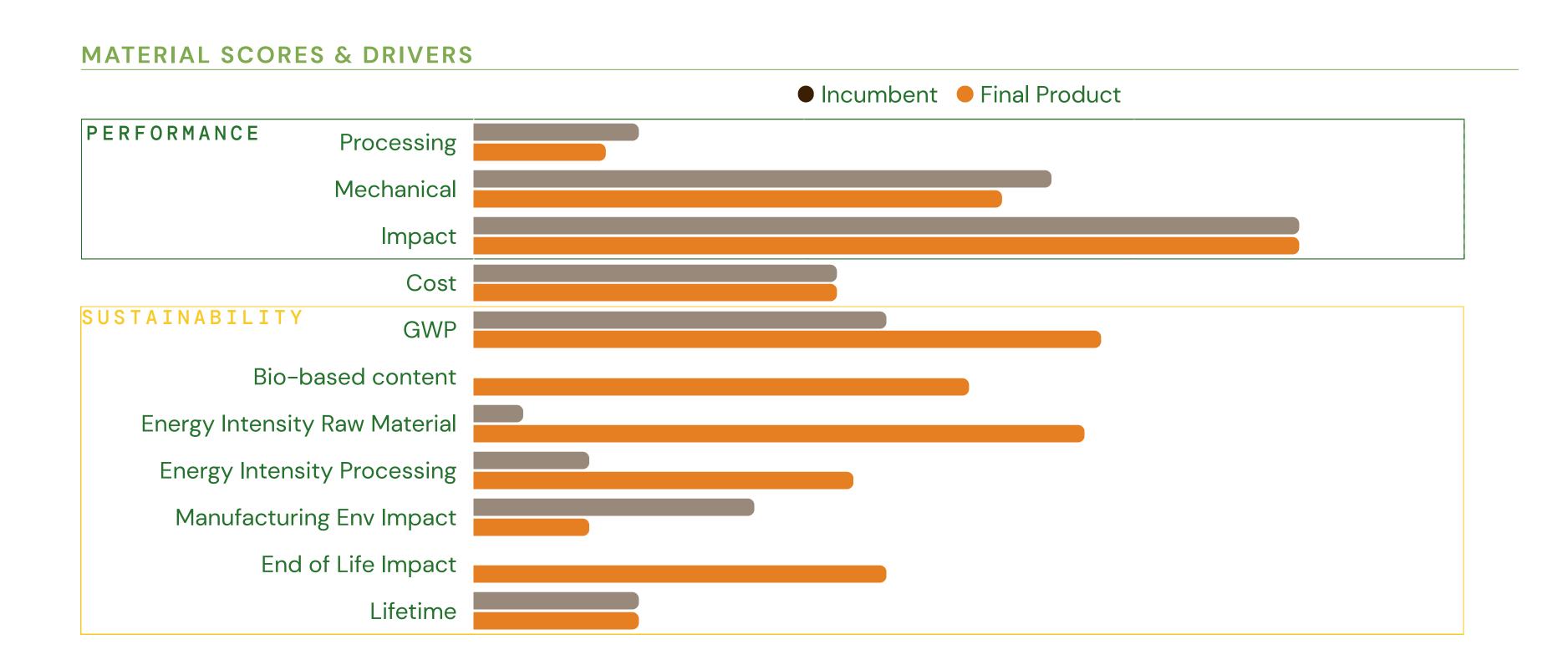
To meet gaps not met by existing materials, the algorithm is used to propose a blend





### Outcome

A material that met the mechanical properties with superior sustainability results

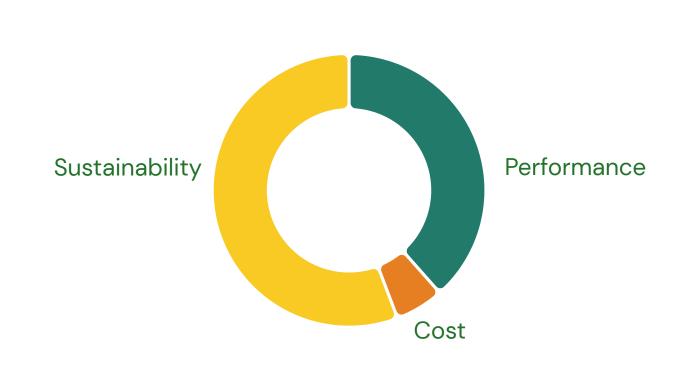


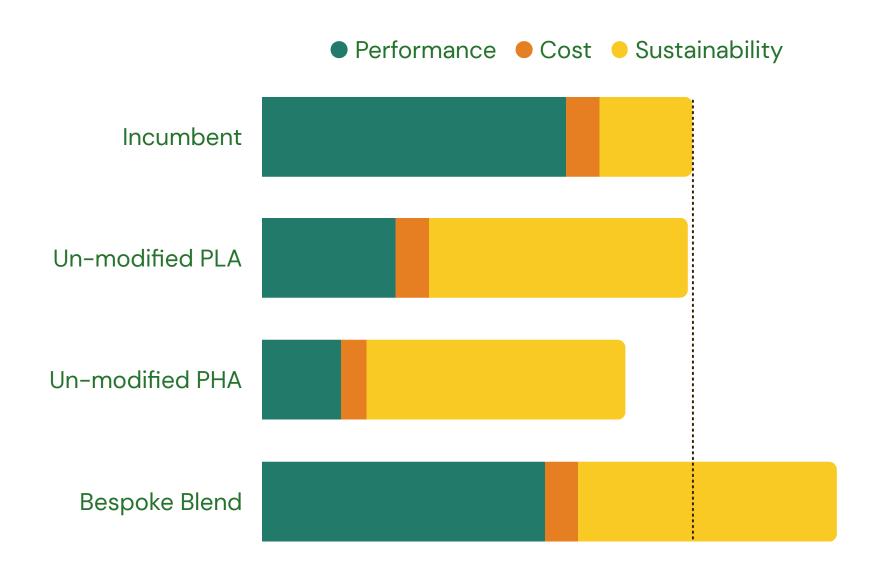


### Summary

The outcome was a material which met performance requirements and exceeded sustainability criteria

WEIGHTINGS COMPARISON







### In Conclusion: Enhancing Adoption of Bioplastics

Benefits of design optimised for performance and sustainability



Draws on expertise of multiple producers



Tailored identification of replacement options



Transparent and comprehensive sustainability metrics



Limits redundant testing and time to market

# THANKYOU

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