

# Nunc conical sterile centrifuge tubes



**Green benefits**

- Sustainable packaging: replaces EPS rack with reusable plastic; waste volume is reduced by 75–77%
- Sustainable disposal: packaging and plastic rack are recyclable<sup>1</sup>

## Introduction

Thermo Fisher Scientific is committed to designing our products with the environment in mind—it's part of how we enable our customers to make the world healthier, cleaner, and safer. This fact sheet provides the rationale behind the environmental claims that this product has more sustainable packaging and sustainable disposal than traditionally packaged centrifuge tubes. Thermo Scientific™ Nunc™ polypropylene conical tubes are packaged in a compact, recyclable rack that eliminates the EPS (expanded polystyrene) rack typically used by other manufacturers. This generates up to 77% less volume of packaging waste than traditionally packaged tubes, and eliminates

the need to dispose of expanded polystyrene racks in landfill after use. With the elimination of EPS, the shipping and packaging material for the Nunc conical tubes is now 100% recyclable, where facilities exist.\*

## Product description

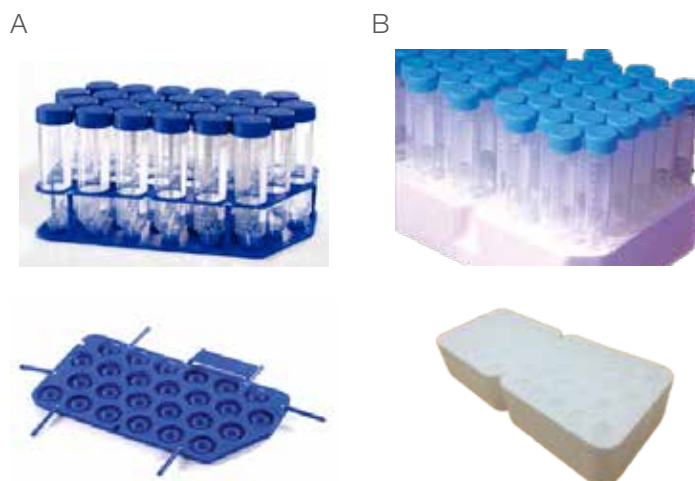
Made from high-purity resins and molded using state-of-the-art processes, Nunc polypropylene conical tubes are designed to be a safe alternative to glass tubes without sacrificing accuracy. Increase traceability of samples with one of the largest writing areas on the market. These premium, high-quality conical tubes use less packaging and offer a reduction in waste generation, with a reusable and recyclable plastic rack.

## Green features

### Sustainable packaging/disposal

The packaging for these tubes has been redesigned to incorporate a collapsible, recyclable plastic rack rather than the EPS racks traditionally used (Figure 1). Using plastic means not only that there is reduced risk of contamination from EPS particles, but also that the high waste volume associated with the EPS rack is substantially reduced. The new plastic rack is 75–77% smaller than the alternative EPS rack, which translates to lower waste volumes (Table 1). The new plastic racks are also sturdy enough to reuse, even in controlled environments where particulates are a concern. In the lab, this means less total waste to be managed—and the packaging waste can be diverted from landfill to recycling, supporting local sustainability programs such as zero waste.

1. The plastic bubble wrap packaging component may not be recyclable in your area.
2. Representative data.



**Figure 1. Comparison of packaging for (A) Nunc centrifuge tubes and (B) traditionally packaged tubes.**

**Table 1. Comparison of packaging waste generated from Nunc centrifuge tubes and traditionally packaged tubes.**

| Product                           | Outer volume (cu. in.)* |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 15 mL Nunc (Cat. No. 339651 (x2)) | 17.7                    |
| 15 mL Falcon (Cat. No. 352097)    | 76.5                    |
| <b>Reduction: 77%</b>             |                         |
| 50 mL Nunc (339653)               | 19.3                    |
| 50 mL Falcon (352098)             | 77.4                    |
| <b>Reduction: 75%</b>             |                         |

\* Racks for Nunc tubes were measured in collapsed configuration, and the measurements for the 15 mL Nunc tubes were doubled for comparison with the equivalent number of traditionally packaged tubes.

Find out more at [thermofisher.com/conicals](https://thermofisher.com/conicals)