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## Supplementary Information

# Deposition and retention of differently shaped micro-particles on textiles during laundry processing. 

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## S1. Characterisation of particle size and aspect ratio

A Malvern Panalytical Morphologi G3 was used to analyse the particle size and aspect ratio distributions of both powders (Polyethylene and Polypropylene particles). $5 \mathrm{~mm}^{3}$ of each powder was placed into the dispersion capsule and the high-pressure ( 5 bar ) with pressure pulse injection time of 20 ms was used to disperse the powders evenly over a glass plate. Optical micrographs using a magnification of $5 \mathrm{x}(6.5-420 \mu \mathrm{~m})$ was then used to image and analyse the particles. The projected scan area covered was around $10-100 \mathrm{~K}$ particles.

Polyethylene (PE) microspheres

- Particle size distribution



## - Aspect ratio distribution



| HS Circularity Minimum: 0.411 | HS Circularity Maximum: 1.000 | HS Circularity Mean: 0.990 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| HS Circularity D[n, 0.1]: 0.986 | HS Circularity D[n, 0.5 ]: 0.993 | HS Circularity D[n, 0.9]: 0.997 |
| Particles Counted: 10423 | HS Circularity STDV: 0.024 | HS Circularity RSD (\%): 2.420 |

## Polypropylene (PP) particles

## - Particle size distribution



CE Diameter D[v, 0.1]: 36.96
CE Diameter D[4,3] ( $\mu \mathrm{m}$ ): 74.74

CE Diameter D[v, 0.5]: 74.61
CE Diameter $\mathrm{D}[3,2](\mu \mathrm{m}): 60.15$

CE Diameter D[v, 0.9]: 108.1
CE Diameter RSD (\%): 109.76

## Aspect ratio distribution



## Aspect Ratio Minimum: 0.055

Aspect Ratio D[n, 0.1]: 0.415

## Particles Counted: 47834

Aspect Ratio Maximum: 1.000

Aspect Ratio D[n, 0.5]: 0.652
Aspect Ratio STDV: 0.169

Aspect Ratio Mean: 0.644
Aspect Ratio D[n, 0.9]: 0.861
Aspect Ratio RSD (\%): 26.20

## S2. Zeta-potential measurements

Measurements were performed using a Zetasizer Nano ZS (Malvern, U.K.) equipped with a helium-neon laser with a wavelength of 633 nm .

- Polyethylene (PE) microspheres

- Polpropylene (PP) particles



## S3. Contact angle measurements

Contact angle measurements were performed using the sessile drop method using a KSV CAM 200 tensiometer. A drop of either pure water or a Tween 20 solution was deposited onto a pressed powder pellet and image were taken for analysis. Three to 5 contact angle measurements were made.

Table S3. Average contact angle made by a droplet of the aqueous solutions on the surface of a pellet of each powder.

|  | Contact angle, $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
|  | Polyethylene | Polypropylene |
| Water | $95 \pm 2$ | $102 \pm 3$ |
| Water + 0.5wt\% Tween 20 | $21 \pm 3$ | $25 \pm 3$ |

## S4. Surface Roughness measurements

Tapping mode AFM (Bruker) over a range of scan sizes at scan rates between $0.15 \mathrm{~Hz}(20$ $\mu \mathrm{m}$ scans) and 0.4 Hz ( $<2 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ scans), using a $40 \mathrm{Nm}^{-1}$ RTESPA- 300 silicon cantilever from Bruker. Images were first flattened to remove curvature from the particles and/or the AFM scanner, then the standard roughness software in Nanoscope Analysis (Bruker) was applied to the entire image. For each powder $\sim 20$ particles were measured and averaged to gauge the average surface roughness.

Table S4. Average surface roughness values of the 2 particle systems

|  | Spherical Polyethylene | Irregular Polypropylene |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{Rq}(\mathrm{nm})$ | $245( \pm 95)$ | $60( \pm 33)$ |
| $\mathrm{Ra}(\mathrm{nm})$ | $159( \pm 70)$ | $47( \pm 27)$ |
| $\mathrm{Rz}(\mathrm{nm})$ | $2923( \pm 787)$ | $452(274)$ |



Figure S4. Example of Atomic Force Micrographs for the 2 different particle systems.

