



THE SINGLE-USE PLASTICS DIRECTIVE – EFFECTS FOR PRODUCERS

On November 3, the Swedish government adopted changes to existing and new ordinances that will affect obligated packaging producers in Sweden. The changes have been introduced to bring Swedish legislation into line with the EU's Single-use Plastics Directive. The changes will be introduced gradually between January 1, 2022 and January 1, 2030.

Changes to existing ordinances

The government's decision entails changes to the following existing ordinances: *Ordinance on Producer Responsibility for Packaging (SFS 2018:1462)* and *Ordinance on Deposit-Return Schemes for Plastic Bottles and Metal Cans (SFS 2005:220)*.

New ordinances

Of the new ordinances, two affect packaging producers: *Ordinance on Single-use Products (SFS 2021:996)* and *Ordinance on Littering Penalties (SFS 2021:1002)*.

Impact on producers

In short, packaging producers will already be affected by January 2022, when it will be prohibited to place certain single-use plastic items on the Swedish market.

The packaging covered by the ban is:

- beverage containers made from expanded polystyrene,
- single-use coffee cups and takeaway containers made from expanded polystyrene,
- corks and lids made from expanded polystyrene that are used for
 - a) takeaway containers,
 - b) beverage containers, or
 - c) single-use mugs

On January 1, 2022, labeling requirements will also come into effect for certain single-use plastic products (such as packaging for hygiene products and wet wipes) and mugs.

Pictogram that will be used to label this packaging

Changes from 2023

Further changes will come into effect from 2023 and onwards. The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will introduce a littering penalty. The penalty will apply to certain single-use plastic products and be based on the weight (kg) placed on the Swedish market. For producers, in addition to a higher cost, this will also entail additional reporting to the EPA, as of 2023 volumes.

Other changes that will take effect in 2023 are that the producer definition will be broadened (and thereby the company covered by producer responsibility) to also include sales to an end user in Sweden, and that a single-use mug will be classified as packaging even when it is sold unfilled.



Complete information from the EPA

For complete information about the changes, visit the websites of the EPA and the Swedish government.

[Single-use plastics \(naturvardsverket.se\)](https://naturvardsverket.se)

[Start | Svensk författningssamling \(svenskförfattningssamling.se\)](https://svenskförfattningssamling.se)

Companies with producer responsibility should already be registered

As of 2021, companies that are obligated packaging producers must be registered and report their volumes for 2021 to the EPA – [refer to our previous information and webinar about this.](#)

We will keep you up-to-date with how these changes affect FTI-affiliated producers. Please don't hesitate to contact your FTI Account Manager if you have any questions.