REPORTING PACKAGING VOLUMES

WHAT IS CONSIDERED PACKAGING?

All packaging materials, whether consumer, group or transport packaging, are covered by producer responsibility. Packaging material also includes cushioning material and components, such as lids and bottle caps.

Household and commercial packaging

Packaging materials to be sorted for recycling by households are reported as household packaging. Packaging materials to be sorted for recycling by companies, industries or other organizations are reported as commercial packaging. In both cases there is an exception for service packaging, refer to Service packaging section. If the end customer is unclear (either household or business), the packaging is classified as household packaging.

Service packaging

Special terms and conditions apply to manufacturer's packaging, refer to FTI's Instructions and the "Service Packaging" factsheet.

Service packaging refers to packaging materials that are mainly filled in stores, restaurants and similar. Examples are carrier bags, plastic and paper bags (for fruit, vegetables, bread, candy, etc.), gift boxes, pizza boxes and other take away packaging, as well as grower packaging.

Grower packaging refers to packaging materials that are mainly used for unprocessed products from agriculture, horticulture and similar, such as the plastic film around cucumbers and lettuces, plastic bags for carrots, egg cartons/trays, etc. One exception is 30-egg trays, which are reported as either household or commercial packaging.

YOU MUST REPORT THE FOLLOWING

Imports (including products from other EU countries)

Report all packaging material around the goods you import. This also applies to the packaging materials that you dispose of.

Own packing

Report all packing/packaging materials that you purchase for your own packing, filling or repackaging purposes. Service packaging is exempted, since this is reported by the packaging importer (including EU manufacturers/importers).

DO NOT REPORT

- Exports
- Production waste
- Packaging material for which the fee has already been paid
- Service packaging for which the manufacturer/importer has already reported the packaging quantities and paid the fee
- Packaging materials made from wood or glass, or packaging with a deposit refund. These packaging materials are covered by other systems

For more examples, refer to FTI's Instructions.

PACKAGING MATERIALS

All packaging materials made from paper, plastic and metal must be reported to FTI. For exceptions refer to the Do not report section.

• **Paper**: All packaging materials made from paper, cardboard and corrugated board. Examples are cereal packets, rolls/bobbins (in rolls regarding toilet paper, aluminium and plastic wrap), shoe boxes, paper carrier bags, beverage cartons, mail-order and padded bags, etc.

• **Plastic**: All polymer-based packaging materials, including cellophane, corn starch and other plastic-like materials. Examples are plastic carrier bags, shampoo and ketchup bottles, toothpaste tubes, jam buckets, plastic containers, plastic strapping, stretch- and clingfilm, etc.

• **Metal**: Packaging made from steel plate (magnetic) and aluminium (non-magnetic). Examples are paint, food and spray cans, lids, bottle caps, steel drums/oil barrels (30-250 liter), strip steel, baling wire, etc.

Packaging made from different materials

If packaging comprises several different materials, each type of material that can easily be separated is classified as a packaging material. One example is an aluminium tray with a cardboard lid, which comprises two different types of material. The aluminium tray and the cardboard lid is each reported separately.

Packaging made from mixed materials

Laminated paper or packaging that is not easy to separate is classified according to the heaviest type of material in the packaging. One example is a milk carton, which comprises 90 percent cardboard and 10 percent plastic, excluding the screw cap. The carton is classified, and reported, as paper packaging. The removable screw cap, however, is reported as plastic packaging.

HOW TO CALCULATE VOLUMES

Here are some tips for calculating packaging volumes. You can use one or more of the following methods.

Sales/import statistics
Enter the packaging weights of the various types of material at item level in your packaging reporting data. Based on either your sales or import statistics, multiply the weights you have entered with the number of items. Don't forget to update any new items, or to include the items' proportion of group and transport packaging.

Purchasing
Base volumes on the amount of purchased packaging materials. Subtract any packaging for exported products.

Own model
Companies that import items (also from within the EU) can create average weights for various product groups. In this case, it is important to document the basis for your calculations, and that updating procedures are clear. Base your calculations on typical items, normally "bestsellers."

Model variable standard rate based on sales with FTI
We jointly develop a model that is then linked to your company's sales.

FTI's spot test model
Companies with large amounts of imported items can use FTI's spot test model to calculate the volume of packaging material in their imported range.

The spot test model is an Excel workbook that calculates based on purchasing or sales statistics for imported items. Some typical items are selected and the packaging material is weighed. The program then calculates the packaging volume for the entire imported range.

Some common errors:
- distribution between household and commercial packaging
- incorrect weight declaration
- not reporting packaging materials for imported goods (including from EU member states)
- not subtracting packaging materials for exported goods (including to EU member states)

Are you a client or contract manufacturers/-packers?
To ensure that the fee is paid, it is important that the client and the manufacturer/contract packer ascertain which of them is to report to FTI.

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