

Checklist informative



To make your packaging more easily recyclable, you must evaluate the following 5 aspects:

1. RESIDUES AND EMPTYING;
2. SHAPE AND THICKNESS;
3. SURFACE TREATMENTS;
4. COMPONENTS;
5. ENVIRONMENTAL LABELLING.

Each aspect has been reported below with its objective, suggestions and useful information. This will allow you to evaluate the opportunities for improvement that you can still make on your packaging to make it more easily recyclable.

Further details are available in the full text of the guidelines.

1 RESIDUES AND EMPTYING

Objective: to allow the complete emptying of the packaging eliminating the residues of the product.

Make sure that the emptying action is as easy as possible. The product should not be wasted and the packaging should not contain residues that could complicate recycling and increase its environmental impact.

USEFUL INFORMATION

It is particularly important to encourage the complete emptying of hydrocarbon spray cans, which can cause safety problems when compacting aluminium scrap in selection plants.

Shortly, guidelines and specific information prepared by the various stakeholders will also be available.

SUGGESTIONS

- > Make sure that the emptying action is as easy as possible to avoid residues remaining inside the packaging
- > Use an ergonomic shape that facilitates the use and emptying phase
- > Provide a wide opening and / or a shape that avoids accumulation points of the product
- > Make the walls of some types of packaging (e.g. tubes) thinner to provide more flexibility
- > Provide be a space dedicated to inform the user of the importance of completely emptying the packaging before disposing the packaging in separate waste collection

Is your packaging a spray can?

- Yes**
- > Prefer the use of non-hydrocarbon-based propellants to overcome safety problems
 - > Provide a space dedicated to communicate to the user the importance of a complete emptying of the cans before disposing them in separate waste collection

2 SHAPE AND THICKNESS

Objective: to reduce the packaging thickness and design forms that allow flattening in order to facilitate recycling.

Make sure that packaging design is aimed at combining maximum functionality with features that make disposal, selection and recycling operations easier. For instance, reduced thickness and shape in which the packaging is recovered in the aluminium flow, thanks to the possibility of flattening it and reducing its volume during the collection phase.

USEFUL INFORMATION

It may happen that some aluminium components, due to the small size or the incorrect waste disposal by the users, do not reach the recycling phase. CiAl has created specific programs aimed, for example, at the recovery of aluminium components at glass processing plants. Nevertheless, it is important to take action to prevent this from happening.

SUGGESTIONS

- > Make sure that shape and the thickness guarantee the functional, communicative and identifying performances of the packaging, while making flattening possible
- > Reduce aluminium thickness as much as possible
- > Optimise shape and thickness in order to allow safe packaging flattening, without causing damage to the user to reduce the packaging volume of during delivery

Is your aluminium packaging/ component small in size?

- Yes**
- > Limit as much as possible that aluminium packaging minor parts detach, with the consequence of being dispersed during collection
 - > Reduce thickness as much as possible, in order to limit the amount of material that could not be recovered in the aluminium flow recuperato nel flusso dell'alluminio

Is your packaging an aluminium laminate?

- Yes**
- > Facilitates the compaction of aluminium sheet by the user in order to avoid problems in the recycling phase related to sheet oxidation
 - > Communicate on the packaging the need for the user to compact the sheet to increase its density

3 SURFACE TREATMENTS

Objective: to limit surface treatments environmental impact in the recycling phase.

Limit the printed surface of the packaging or reduce any processing that involves the use of Volatile Organic Compounds. Although they do not affect recycling, they increase its environmental impact and make emission control necessary.

USEFUL INFORMATION

These indications concern the use of prints and processes that are not strictly functional to protection guarantee of the content. Therefore, they should not be considered for those safety surface treatments for packaging containing food or personal hygiene products.

SUGGESTIONS

- > Use surface treatments only if strictly necessary to guarantee a property that cannot be obtained with other solutions
- > Evaluate possible communication alternatives with low-impact during recycling (e.g. embossing and texturing)
- > If necessary, prefer paint and lacquers with water or reduced VOC content

4 COMPONENTS

Objective: to optimise the recycling possibilities of the main body and components.

Prefer mono-material packaging and, if necessary, limit the use of components of different materials that can complicate the recycling of the main body in aluminium. This causes safety problems during the scrap decoating with the consequent decline in the quality of the second raw material obtained.

USEFUL INFORMATION

Rigid plastic components may complicate recycling if present in high quantities. In particular, PVC labels represent a contaminant during aluminium rework due to high chlorine content.

SUGGESTIONS

- > Prefer, where possible, the use of a single material (mono-material packaging)
- > Avoid or at least reduce the use of rigid plastic components to a minimum
- > Where it is not possible to opt for mono-material packaging, facilitate the complete separation of components in materials other than aluminium dall'alluminio
- > Avoid or reduce the use of PVC labels that can contaminate the flow during recycling
- > Prefer, if possible, direct printing on aluminium packaging, rather than using labels

5 ENVIRONMENTAL LABELLING

Objective: Provide the consumer with useful information for the correct waste sorting.

Support the user in the correct disposal of the packaging and its components in the separate waste collection and direct him towards a correct management of the packaging in his end-of-life / new-life. The greatest key elements are the information provided to the user, its compliance with current legislation and its consistency with the guidelines provided by CONAI.

SUGGESTIONS

- > Indicates the material with which your packaging is made and provides the user with a useful tool to facilitate the correct disposal of both the packaging and its components in separate collection. If you have not done so yet, consider this option. Remember that if you choose to include the environmental label on your packaging, you must do so by following the relevant legislation (Decision 97/129 / EC). In particular, aluminium requires the use of a standard marking with the abbreviation ALU and the code 41. In addition, you can also use the specific graphic symbol provided by CR 14311: 2002.
- > In addition to indicating the material of which your packaging is made, you can also provide additional help to the consumer, indicating on the label also the "where it should be disposed in separate waste collection?". If you have not done so yet, consider this option.

USEFUL INFORMATION

For more information and to check if you are using the correct wording, consult the "Packaging Environmental Labeling Guidelines" of the Italian Packaging Institute, downloadable from the CONAI website at the following link: <http://www.conai.org/download/linee-guida-per-letichettatura-ambientale-degli-imballaggi/>

For more information, see "Etichetta per il cittadino - Vademecum per una etichetta volontaria ambientale che guidi il cittadino alla raccolta differenziata degli imballaggi", scaricabile dal sito di CONAI al seguente link: <http://www.conai.org/download/etichetta-per-il-cittadino-vademecum-per-una-etichetta-volontaria-ambientale-che-guidi-il-cittadino-alla-raccolta-differenziata-degli-imballaggi/>