

Who we are

EUROPEN

The European Organization for Packaging and the Environment

EUROPEN - the **European Organization for Packaging and the Environment** - is the pan-European cross-industry organisation representing **raw material suppliers, packaging producers and brand owners.** EUROPEN gathers together the entire packaging supply chain in a single organisation, capable of making a positive difference to packaging for a more sustainable future.



EUROPEN Members:



National Packaging Associations:



EUROPEN Mission and Vision

To promote packaging that is:



Responsibly

sourced







Reused/recycled and of benefit to society as a whole



Innovative and supportive towards the achievement of a circular economy and low-carbon future





Promoting and enabling a harmonised policy framework and a functioning **EU internal market for packaging and packaged products**



Promoting the **role, functionalities and benefits of packaging** within all relevant EU policies



Leading cross-industry alignment and providing expertise on packaging issues within EUROPEN and also as chair of the "Packaging Chain Forum" (PCF). The PCF is a value chain forum comprised of over 100 EU and national industry associations and companies, contributing to comprehensive policy frameworks that advance sustainable innovation and the competitiveness of our industry in Europe

The packaging supply chain in Europe has a key role in achieving sustainable production and consumption, and can accelerate progress towards goal number 12 of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, complemented by the right legislative framework in Europe.

EUROPEN members represent an important part of the value chain needed to achieve the EU's Circular Economy Package (CEP) objectives. Corporate members have published significant commitments towards environmental improvements that go beyond legislative targets such as on recycled content, recyclability, resource efficiency/ packaging optimisation and material sourcing.

For more information please see EUROPEN's website.



What we do

Drivers for Packaging Innovation for a Circular Economy

Our members are continually innovating along the packaging supply chain in response to a changing world, while ensuring that products are effective and safe for the consumer.

Here are some drivers for packaging innovation:

Circularity

The packaging supply chain is looking to improve sustainable practices in packaging design, production, use and waste management. Our corporate members currently invest more than 3.1 billion Euros annually to build and finance collection, sorting and recycling systems (via Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) systems) across Europe. This amount will increase significantly in the coming years through new legislative measures aiming at improving EPR and waste management systems. Additionally, members are investing in innovative materials and new packaging solutions, as well as in new end-of-life technologies to increase reuse and recycling.

(For more information please see EUROPEN's position paper on EPR for packaging waste available on our website.)



Changing demographics contribute to evolving packaging functionality:

An ageing population needs easy-to-open and accessible packaging. Urbanisation trends are dictating changing food packaging needs towards smaller portion and portable packaging.

Consumer choice:

Consumers are increasingly aware of the environmental performance of packaging and choose materials that are 100 % recyclable, reusable or compostable.

E-commerce:

Unprecedented growth of e-commerce requires further innovation towards slim and strong packaging, capable of providing optimal space utilisation, easy to assemble/dissemble and is reused or recycled efficiently after use.

About packaging

Packaging delivers products to the consumer in perfect condition. To achieve this objective, it must fulfil multiple functions including:



HANDLING

Packaging enables products to be transported from producers to retailers and ultimately, the consumer



DISTRIBUTION

Packaging facilitates the smooth distribution of billions of products around the EU's internal market every day





UNITISATION

Packaging groups products into transport and retail units, which can then be broken down into consumer units



POINT-OF-SALE DISPLAY

Packaging facilitates quick display of fast-moving consumer goods on retail shelves



prevents

PROTECTION

breakage, spoilage and

increases the shelf-life

of products

Packaging

CONVENIENCE

Packaging enables a multitude of lifestyle options



WASTE REDUCTION

Packaging extends the shelf-life of perishable products and helps consumers to take only the portions they need, storing the rest for later



INFORMATION

Packaging is the vehicle by which producers communicate voluntary and legally-required information about their product and packaging



PROMOTION

Packaging is the canvas on which producers paint their brand and messages to consumers



Contact information

We would love to hear from you

Le Royal Tervuren Avenue de l'Armée 6 Legerlaan B - 1040 Brussels Belgium



