

Minimum standard for determining
the recyclability of packaging subject
to system participation pursuant to
section 26 (3) VerpackDG

in agreement with the German
Environment Agency
(Umweltbundesamt)

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Context and introduction

This minimum standard enables companies to determine the recyclability of their packaging subject to system participation for the German market. This can be relevant in a variety of ways:

- The result of this mathematical determination (packaging recyclability percentage) is the basis for participation fees as per section 26 (1) of the 'Gesetz zur Durchführung der Verordnung (EU) 2025/40 betreffend Verpackungen' (Packaging Regulation (EU) 2025/40 Implementation Act, known in German as the 'Verpackungsrecht-Durchführungsgesetz' or 'VerpackDG'). The systems (PROs) set these participation fees in alignment with recyclability.
- For companies, the determination results can be the starting point for optimising their packaging and designing it better for recyclability. Doing so can help these companies meet any internal requirements or targets for packaging design for recyclability.
- In light of the ban on non-recyclable packaging that will come into effect in 2030 pursuant to Article 6 of Regulation (EU) 2025/40 of 19 December 2024 on packaging and packaging waste (PPWR), companies can use the determination results as an indicator of whether their packaging is expected to remain marketable from today's perspective and to identify any potential need for action early on, subject to any future European legislative developments.

In accordance with the PPWR, recyclability is a packaging property under this minimum standard. Recyclability quantifies how suitable a packaging unit is for a recycling process that generates secondary raw materials of sufficient quality – compared to the original material – to replace the primary raw material of the same substance in typical applications for that material. As per the requirements for design for recyclability set out in section 26 VerpackDG and Article 6 PPWR, recyclability is quantified as a percentage of a packaging unit's weight. This determination of recyclability is undertaken using a uniform methodology, irrespective of the material type:

Step 1: Delineate the object of determination

As a rule, recyclability is determined for an unfilled unit of packaging as a whole, including closures, decorations, labels, etc. Exceptions to this rule regarding the object of determination are discussed in Chapter 2.

Step 2: Assign to a packaging category

The object of determination then has to be assigned to a packaging category (see Annex 1).

Step 3: Determine recyclability

Recyclability is determined separately for each object of determination. The determination principles for each packaging category are included in Annex 2.

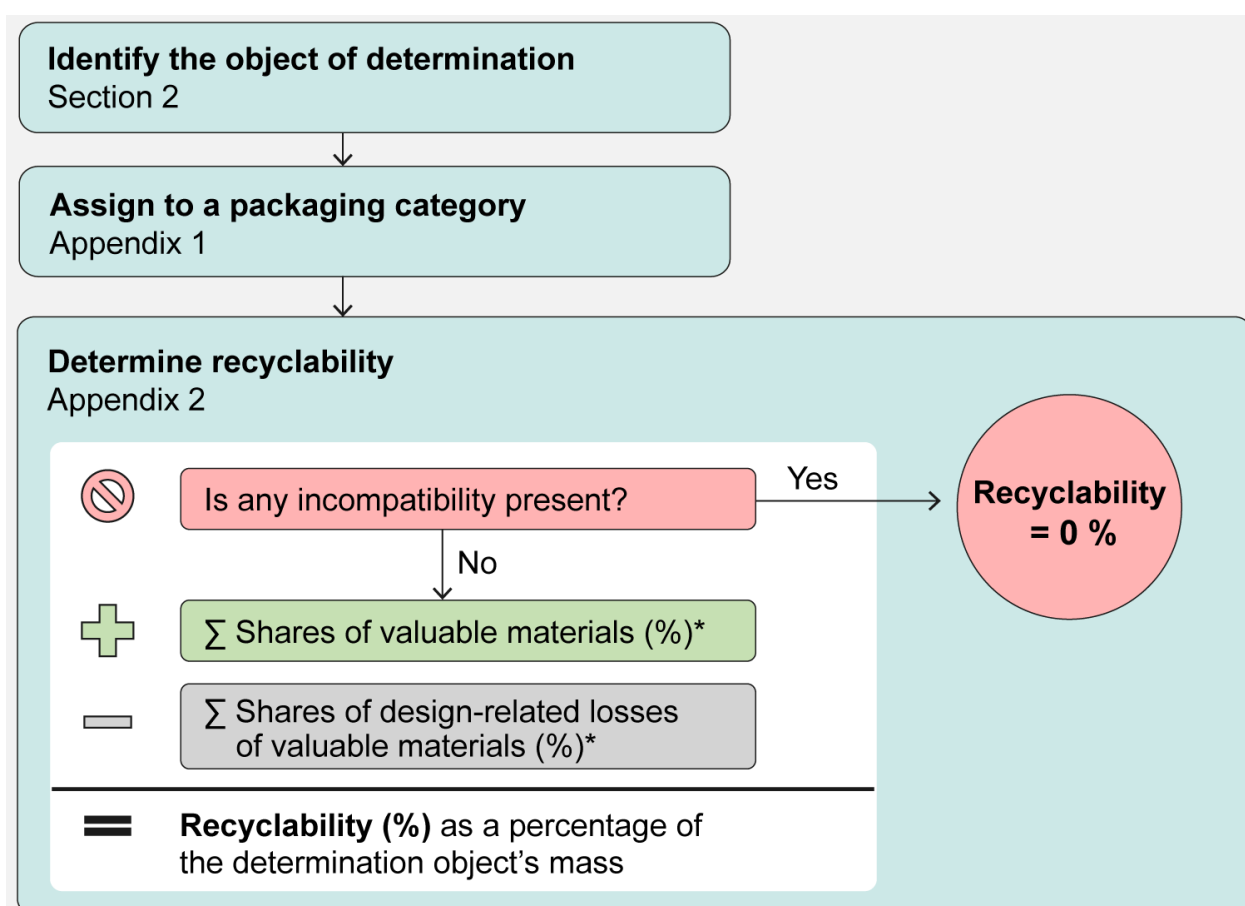
The tables in Annex 2 categorises design parameters according to their recyclability. Parameters are assigned to the categories 'valuable material', 'incompatibilities', 'separable or conditionally compatible' and 'requiring examination'. These categories were defined by the ZSVR and German Environment Agency on a scientific basis and in reference to the waste

management context (separate collecting, sorting in separate streams, recycling (processing), applying recycle). On this basis, recyclability is determined as follows:

1. If no parameter is assigned to the 'incompatible' category, the recyclability corresponds numerically to the sum of the shares of the materials or formulations that are categorised as 'valuable material' (see Annex 2 for calculation details). This scenario represents the standard case. Potential deductions under point 2 apply.
2. If one or more design parameters are assigned to the 'requiring examination' category, the user has to determine if the design causes valuable material to be lost when determining recyclability. If such losses can be ruled out through examination, the parameter has no impact on the calculation in accordance with point 1. Otherwise, design-related losses must be determined and deducted. Annex 2 also includes information about required examination and about determination rules.
3. If one or more design parameters are assigned to the 'incompatibilities' category, recyclability of the object of determination is 0%.

If design parameters are assigned to the 'separable or conditionally compatible' category or not listed at all, they are neither valuable materials nor incompatibilities. This has to be taken into account during the determination process under points 1 to 3. The recyclability of the object of determination can usually be improved if these design parameters are replaced with valuable material in the course of an optimisation.

Figure 1 illustrates the process for determining recyclability.



* as a percentage of the determination object's mass

Figure 1: structure and application of the minimum standard

For some packaging categories, no or only limited infrastructure recycling infrastructure in the aforementioned sense exists. In these cases, Annex 2 states that the existence of recycling infrastructure has to be evidenced in each individual case for recyclability to be above 0%.

Recyclability is calculated as follows:

$$\text{Recyclability [\%]} = \frac{\text{valuable material [g]} - \text{design-related valuable material losses [g]}}{\text{total weight of object of determination [g]}} \times 100 *$$

* If one or more design parameters are assigned to the 'incompatibilities' category, recyclability is 0%.

1. Legal framework under the Verpackungsrecht-Durchführungsgesetz

An essential goal of extended producer responsibility regulations is to incentivise producers to consider their products' environmental impact throughout the entire product life-cycle, especially eventual disposal, from the outset of design and production. That is why lawmakers have broadened extended producer responsibility provisions under the Verpackungsrecht-Durchführungsgesetz (German Packaging Law Implementation Act – VerpackDG) to include an obligation for systems to set monetary incentives through system participation fees.

Section 26 VerpackDG requires that general recyclability be considered when calculating participation fees. However, no specific legal requirements have been introduced for increasing or reducing these fees because, on the one hand, such requirements cannot currently be quantified in a universally binding manner based on the current state of knowledge and, on the other hand, they would constitute a significant encroachment on the pricing freedom of the systems (PROs), which is protected under German antitrust law. Specifically, section 26 (1) VerpackDG stipulates that:

'(1) Systems are obliged to calculate their participations fees in such a way that incentives are included with a view to the production of packaging subject to system participation to promote

1. the use of materials and material combinations that allow for the highest possible percentage to be recycled, taking into account the practice of sorting and recovery [...]'

In order to provide the systems (PROs) with a uniform framework for the determination of recyclability as defined in section 26 (1) no. 1, section 26 (3) requires the ZSVR to publish a minimum standard every year in agreement with the German Environment Agency. Pending the entry into force of one of the delegated acts referred to in Article 6 (4) (a) to (c) of Regulation (EU) 2025/40 (PPWR), the VerpackDG provides for the annual publication of the minimum standard, in agreement with the German Environment Agency, by 1 September of each year.

Stakeholders were initially involved in preparing this minimum standard through an expert committee. The minimum standard draft was based largely on recommendations from the ZSVR's Expert Committee III and subsequently refined to incorporate consultation feedback. The minimum standard was finalised after the consultation procedure was completed.

The minimum standard is to be used to determine the recyclability of packaging placed on the German market during the calendar year following the minimum standard's publication.

2. Object of determination

It is the packaging as a whole¹, after use, that is usually the object of determination.

¹ 'Functional unit of packaging' within the meaning of DIN/EN 13430, or DIN/EN 13427. This functional unit of packaging usually consists of various components (the smallest parts of packaging).

The recyclability determination refers to the unfilled packaging as a whole, including all integrated packaging components such as labels, sealing films, caps, covers and lids, adhesive applications, safety seals and closures, etc. Separability by hand is not a criterion for determining recyclability.

The following exceptions to this rule for separate packaging components apply:

- (1) Components of packaging are to be determined separately if and to the extent that they necessarily and irrevocably have to be separated for consumption or use (e.g. tear-off strips, crown corks, sparkling wine corks, agraffes).
- (2) Separate components also include wrappings such as folding boxes or wrapping films, to the extent that they have to be removed completely for the use of the product, and
- (3) non-attached packaging components that serve to protect the product during transport or to package individual product or assembly components, and
- (4) inserts, organisers, paper or plastic dividers if these are not glued in nor otherwise attached to the packaging through a force-based or form-based connection.
- (5) Recyclability must also be determined for individual packaging components in cases where the packaging components can be separated from each other simply through mechanical stress during transportation or preparation for sorting; as such, they would appear separately in the first relevant sorting stage, as can be assumed, e.g. for slip and snap-on lids and overcaps with no undercuts. This exception is applicable only to packaging intended to be allocated to the mixed collection of lightweight packaging (yellow sack, yellow bin, recycling bin).

Determination results for separate packaging components relate to those packaging components only; they must not be factored into a packaging unit's weighted total (see figure 2).

The determination of packaging in clusters is permissible if the individual packaging units in such a cluster possess the same material structure and only differ in terms of contents and/or quantity, but not in terms of relevant process-specific criteria (see **criteria in Chapter 3**). An example of where categorising packaging as a cluster does not make sense is where plastic articles are identical in their material structure but only partially sortable due to differences in colouring. For cluster determinations, the minimum recyclability percentage has to be determined and then applied to all packaging units of that cluster.

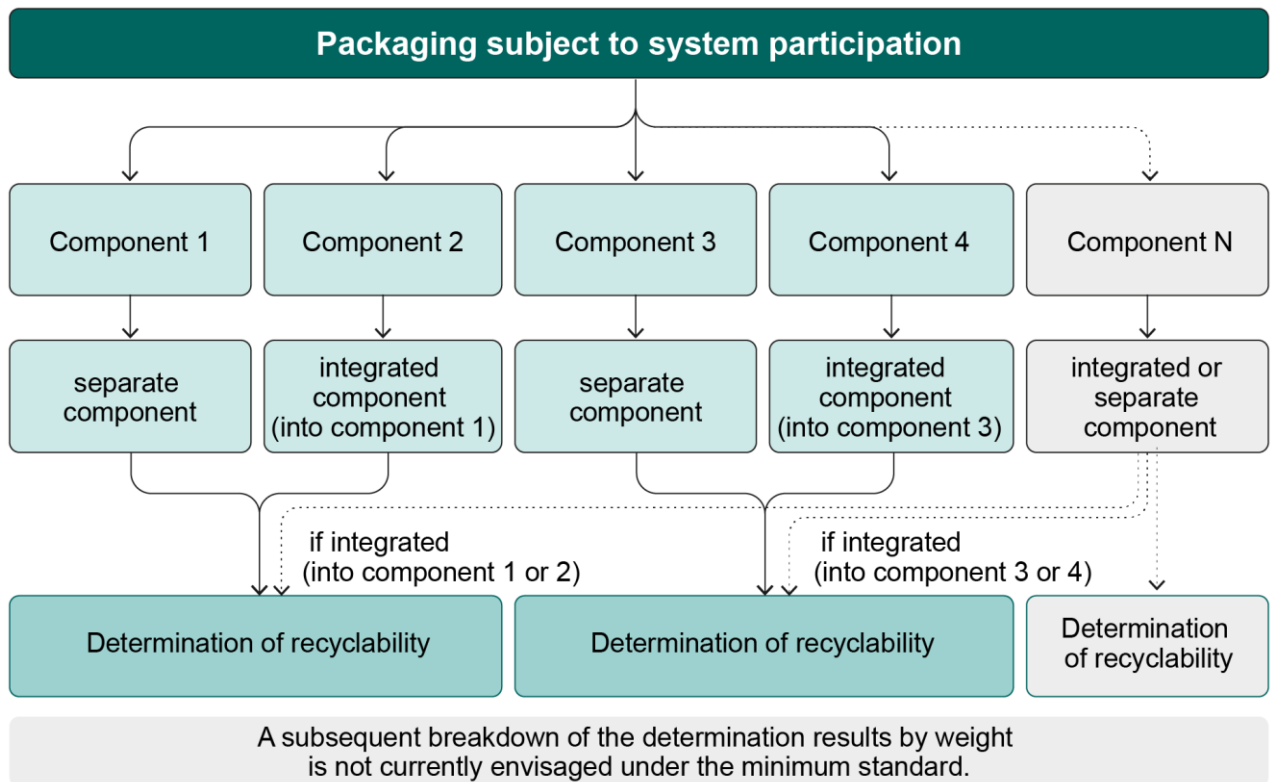


Figure 2: Diagram illustrating the identification process for an object of determination

Example application – cream jar in a folding box:

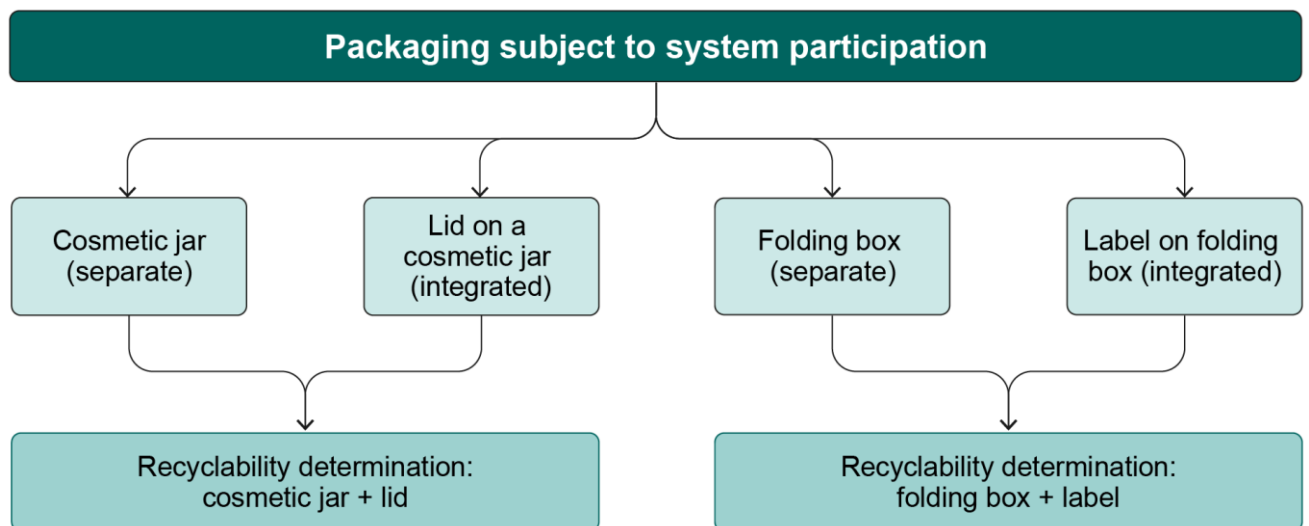


Figure 3: Diagram illustrating the identification process for an object of determination using an example

3. Description of the recyclability determination methodology and criteria

At a minimum, the determination of recyclability must take into account the available valuable material share of a packaging unit. In determining the available valuable material share, Annex 2 must be applied to verify and consider at least the following four requirements:

1. Packaging components or substances contained in the packaging materials must not be recycling-incompatible; **recycling incompatibilities** may render successful recycling unfeasible.
2. The packaging and/or separate packaging component must be **sortable** by its valuable material share.
3. The packaging materials must be **separable** after liberation if this is necessary to enable recycling that generates secondary raw materials of sufficient quality – compared to the original material – in order to replace the primary raw material of the same substance in typical applications for that material.
4. A **recycling infrastructure** must exist that allows for this packaging and/or separate packaging component to be recycled in such a way that secondary raw materials of sufficient quality – compared to the original material – are generated to replace the primary raw material of the same substance in typical applications for that material.

If the object of determination meets these requirements without qualification, the valuable material share determines recyclability. If criteria 1 or 4 have not been met, the packaging is not recyclable under this minimum standard. Criteria 2 and 3 can have a quantitative influence on the determination result. Systems (PROs) may also take further criteria into account when determining recyclability.

For this minimum standard, the individual design parameters of a packaging unit were checked for conformity with recycling requirements. This check was conducted for each packaging category in accordance with Annex II table 1 PPWR. The packaging category is determined by the main body's predominant material. The individual packaging types' category assignment can be found in Annex 1, which also refers to the applicable section of Annex 2. The design parameters were compared with the requirements for packaging design for recyclability using the criteria that are decisive for quantitative and qualitative recycling success in the relevant packaging category. The ZSVR and UBA have already undertaken this comparison for the present version of the minimum standard; the results for the individual packaging categories are presented in Annexes 2.1 to 2.22.

The determination criteria and methodologies are presented in the following chapters.

3.1. Packaging category and recycling path assignment

A packaging unit (or a packaging component whose recyclability is to be determined separately) is assigned to a packaging category according to the main body's predominant material.

The packaging category determines which recycling path will be applied in the determination, including its specific requirements and the resulting design-for-recyclability criteria.

The mandatory assignment is presented in Annex 1, which also refers to the applicable part of Annex 2.

3.2. Valuable material share determination

Valuable materials (target materials) are materials intended to be recovered as either a main product or by-product for high-quality applications through an established recycling process applicable to a given packaging category (reference process).

The determination requirements in Annex 2 contain a list of materials and substances that are to be categorised as valuable material. Categorisation as a valuable material was undertaken in consideration of the recyclates' reference applications.

For the purposes of this minimum standard, the list is exhaustive. When additional materials, substances or formulations are to be accounted for as valuable material, individual evidence needs to be documented and provided in line with Annex 3.1.

To determine the valuable material share of the object of determination, the mean valuable material shares (as a percentage by weight of the total weight of the object of determination) must be added together.

3.3. Identifying and determining incompatibilities

The recyclability of packaging depends on the absence of any materials, substances or other design parameters that could prevent successful recycling, i.e. the packaging must not exhibit any incompatibilities.

Annex 2 provides the basis for determining incompatibilities in each packaging category. Incompatibility is determined with reference to the relevant recycle reference application and on the premise that adequate separation during processing is not feasible. An incompatibility reduces the recyclability of the object of determination to 0%.

For the purposes of this minimum standard, the list of incompatibilities is exhaustive. The result obtained using the tables in Annex 2 may be overridden if evidence based on analytical testing methods are documented and provided. If individual packaging compatibility was evidenced through measurement, testing must be repeated if the recycle reference application differs from the minimum standard and is not covered by existing evidence. The requirements for individual evidence are included in Annex 3.1.

If packaging has been designed in such a way that residual packaged goods remain inside the packaging even after the packaging has been emptied as intended, the influence of the residual contents² has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities if the

2 Special care must be taken in case of the following contents in combination with plastic packaging: silicones, acrylic polymers, polyurethanes and other cross-linkable polymers, waxes and paraffins, as well as bituminous compounds.

contents cannot be separated completely during the recycling process without causing a significant loss in valuable material.

3.4. Determining packaging sortability

In the minimum standard, sortability refers to the 'sorting' step of processing where a collected mix is separated into different sorting fractions according to packaging type. This applies to the paper and lightweight packaging collected mixes. Sorting processes that separate packaging according to material type after it has been liberated (e.g. shredded) are discussed in Chapter 3.5.

A distinction must be made between packaging sorting involving individual operations that serve to prepare the packaging for sorting and the actual sorting operations resulting in sorting fractions. Established sorting processes include unit operations to prepare for sorting, such as sieving, air classifying and ballistic separation. Design criteria are not based on these sub-operations because the latest technology makes it safe to assume that running the right separation processes, including repetition and recirculation, prevents any design-related packaging losses.

The sortability criteria are based on the individual sorting fractions' production stages. The processes used in this context are:

- magnetic separation to sort steel-based packaging and steel-based separate packaging components (criterion: ferromagnetism);
- eddy current separation to sort aluminium-based packaging and non-ferrous metal separate packaging components (criterion: effective electrical conductivity);
- NIR separator to sort paper and plastic-based packaging and separate packaging components (criterion: packaging reflection spectrum in the NIR wavelength range).

The minimum standard operates under the assumption that the relevant object of determination meets sortability requirements. For some design parameters, however, that assumption has to be examined, evidenced and, where necessary, corrected. Indicators that such an examination should be undertaken are listed in Annex 2.

The requirements for individual evidence are included in Annex 3.2.

The determination result has to reflect gradually reduced sortability through a corresponding deduction in the available valuable material share.

3.5. Determining the separability of valuable material

Recyclates for high-quality applications can only be produced if valuable materials of sufficient purity can be converted into a valuable material concentrate. To do so, the material composite needs to be liberated so that it can be separated by material property. The minimum standard refers to this recycling process stage as 'processing'.

Design-related valuable material losses during processing reduce recyclability. These losses may occur, for example, in the development of material composites where the state of technology does not allow for downstream separation by material property after liberation.

Losses may also occur from modifications to specific material properties – such as density – that are used to physically separate valuable from non-valuable material.

As such, the criteria for valuable material separability following the liberation of the packaging are based on the relevant individual operations of each processing procedure.

The key procedures used in this context are:

- Mechanically pulping paper packaging to sort fibrous material through separation by geometric property (criterion: defiberability);
- Density separation to sort the grinded particles of plastics packaging by plastic type (criterion: density);
- Optical separation to sort glass fragments by transmittance measurement (criterion: translucency).

The determination operates under the assumption that a packaging unit meets the requirements for separating valuable material from non-valuable material. For some design parameters, however, that assumption has to be examined and, where necessary, corrected. Indicators that such an examination should be undertaken are listed in Annex 2.

Valuable material separability is not binary, but rather a property to be determined analogously. Design-related valuable material losses during processing must be quantified through appropriate analysis and measurement methods as set out in Annex 3.2.

The determination result has to reflect gradually limited separability of value material through a corresponding deduction in the available valuable material share.

3.6. Calculating recyclability

Under this minimum standard, recyclability is determined by the valuable material share available for recycling.

The following calculation rules apply:

1. If no parameter is assigned to the 'incompatible' category, the recyclability corresponds numerically to the sum of the shares of the materials or formulations that are categorised as 'valuable material' (see Annex 2 for calculation details). This scenario represents the standard case. Potential deductions under point 2 apply.
2. If one or more design parameters are assigned to the 'requiring examination' category, the user has to determine if the design causes valuable material to be lost when determining recyclability. If such losses can be ruled out through examination, the parameter has no impact on the calculation in accordance with point 1. Otherwise, design-related losses must be determined and deducted. Annex 2 also includes information about required examination and about determination rules.
3. If one or more design parameters are assigned to the 'incompatibilities' category, recyclability is 0%.

Recyclability is calculated as follows:

$$\text{Recyclability [\%]} = \frac{\text{valuable material [g]} - \text{design-related valuable material losses [g]}}{\text{total weight of object of determination [g]}} \times 100 *$$

* If one or more design parameters are assigned to the 'incompatibilities' category, recyclability is 0%.

Determination results for separate packaging components relate to those packaging components only; they must not be factored into a packaging unit's weighted total.

4. Existence of recycling infrastructure

Under section 26 VerpackDG in conjunction with Article 6 (4) (a) (i) to (iii) PPWR, the existence of recycling infrastructure at an operational scale is a basic precondition for establishing recyclability of more than 0% for an object of determination. Refer to Annex 2 for whether it can be assumed that recycling infrastructure exists for a given packaging category.

Exceptions may apply in individual cases if it can be proven that (i) the infrastructure exists that is required for recycling that generates secondary raw materials of sufficient quality – compared to the original material – to replace the primary raw material of the same substance in typical applications for that material and (ii) this infrastructure is used. Evidence must be documented and provided for each individual case and must comprise the following:

- (1) evidence that the result of the recycling process is of high quality within the meaning of the minimum standard, and
- (2) weighing notes evidence that this recycling path has received, from systems (PROs), packaging waste of the same packaging category in a volume that is equal to or greater than the participation volume in the reference year.

Annex 3.3 lists the packaging categories for which individual evidence of recycling infrastructure existence is recommended or required for recyclability determinations other than 0%. It also contains additional information about how to provide evidence.

5. Terminology and definitions

In this document, the following definitions apply:

(1) Recyclability

It means the fundamental and gradual suitability of any given unit of packaging – after undergoing recovery processes that are available on an industrial scale (separate collecting, sorting in separate streams, recycling) – to generate secondary raw materials of sufficient quality when compared to the original material that they can replace the primary raw material of the same substance in typical applications for that material³.

(2) Metallisation

Metallising is the application of a thin metal coating, generally aluminium, in a thickness of between approx. 5 and 50 nanometres. Producer specifications for metallising generally involve adding 'met' to the coated plastic film type (e.g. PET met, PP met). Typical packaging applications include crisp packets and bonbon wrappers.

(3) Recyclates⁴

A product (substance or mixture) that is obtained from waste and suitable to serve as a substitute for virgin material in applications typical for that material.

(4) Valuable material

Valuable materials are those materials in a unit of packaging that are to be recovered as recyclates through a material-specific recycling process (e.g. steel alloys, metallic aluminium alloys, NF metal alloys, PE plastics, fibrous material, PET-A, etc.).

(5) Non-valuable material

Non-valuable material is any material that cannot be counted towards the valuable material share.

³ This comprises primary or secondary recycle applications. Examples of primary applications (i.e. use in applications of the same type) include using glass fragments from recycled waste glass to produce container glass or using polypropylene regranulate to produce paint buckets or nursery plant pots for garden beds. Examples of secondary applications include using packaging steel scrap in the production of constructional steel or polypropylene regranulate in the production of cleaning buckets or filing trays.

Recycling methods are not classified as leading to 'high-quality' recycling if they enable packaging waste to be processed only up to the point required for the recycle to be incorporated into products of non-valuable material or products that are not typically made from virgin material of the same substance. In the context of products of non-valuable material, examples of applications with low recycle requirements include using cellulose fibres as filler material in road construction. Products that are not typically made from virgin material of the same substance include, in particular, substitutes for wood, concrete or natural stone made from plastics that have undergone dry-mechanical treatment, such as palisades.

⁴ This definition of recyclates applies only to the minimum standard in relation to section 26 (1) no. 1 VerpackDG.

(6) Incompatibility

For the purposes of the minimum standard, incompatibility refers to design parameters (e.g. materials) which, based on state-of-the-art processing, cannot be separated from the valuable material, or can only be separated with insufficient efficiency, and which have shown in practice to jeopardise either the recycling process itself or the reference application.

(7) Fibrous material

'Fibrous material' can be defined as the sum of fibre, fillers, starch, mineral pigment-based coating colour, including binder as well as further additives typically used in the paper industry such as wet-strength agents, glue or bound water.

(8) Available valuable material share

The available valuable material share is the proportion of valuable material that is available for recycling in the total weight of an object of determination, taking into account the provisions of this minimum standard. A synonym for this term is 'recyclability'.

(9) Composite packaging / composites

Composite packaging means a unit of packaging made of two or more different materials which are part of the weight of the main packaging material and cannot be separated manually and therefore form a single integral unit, unless one of the materials constitutes an insignificant part of the packaging unit and in any event no more than 5 % of the total mass of the packaging unit and excluding labels, varnishes, paints, inks, adhesives and lacquers.

(10) Plastics

When determining the valuable material share of plastic-based packaging, the following applies: the valuable material share (PE, PP, PO, etc.) of 'plastic-based packaging' is equal to the eponymous main polymer part (plus additives, fine-disperse filling and strengthening agents, as well as pigments included in the polymer matrix composite).

(11) Targeted separability

Targeted separability is the mechanical separability of packaging into target fractions during industrial sorting, based on the degree of identification, mass and geometric properties.

(12) Reference application

Reference applications are products established on the market for which a recyclate can serve as a substitute for a primary raw material. They determine the minimum requirements on design for recyclability for a unit of packaging, its recycling process and the required recyclate quality.

(13) Main body

The main body is the component that gives a packaging format its name (e.g. bottle, bag, tube, etc.).

6. Abbreviations

In this document, the following relevant abbreviations are used:

AA	Acetaldehyde
Al	Aluminium
AlOx	Aluminium oxide
COC	Cyclic olefin copolymer
CO ₂	Carbon dioxide
EAA	Ethylene acrylic acid copolymer
EAN	European Article Number
EEA	Ethyl acrylate copolymer
EMA	Ethyl methacrylate copolymer
EMAA	Ethylene methacrylic acid copolymer
EPS	Expanded polystyrene
EPRC	European Paper Recycling Council
EVA	Ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer
EU	European Union
EuPIA	European Printing Ink Association
EVOH	Ethylene vinyl alcohol copolymer
FBCA	Food and Beverage Carton Alliance
GPPS	General purpose polystyrene
GTIN	Global Trade Item Number
HDPE	High-density polyethylene
IML	In-mould label
LDPE	Low-density polyethylene
LLDPE	Linear low-density polyethylene
MAH	Maleic anhydride
MDPE	Medium-density polyethylene
mPE	Metallocene polyethylene
MPO	Mixed polyolefin
NF	Non-ferromagnetic
NC	Nitrocellulose (also known as: cellulose nitrate)
NIR	Near-infrared
OPS	Oriented polystyrene
PA	Polyamide

PAN	Polyacrylonitrile
PB	Polybutene
PBT	Polybutylene terephthalate
PC	Polycarbonate
PE	Polyethylene
PEF	Polyethylene furanoate
PEN	Polyethylene naphthalate
PE-X	Cross-linked polyethylene
PET	Polyethylene terephthalate
PET-A	Amorphous PET
PET-C	Crystalline PET
PET-G	Glycol-modified polyethylene terephthalate
PHB	Polyhydroxybutyrate
PLA	Polylactide
PMMA	Polymethyl methacrylate
PO	Polyolefin
POK	Polyketone
POM	Polyoxymethylene
PolyAl	By-product from the processing of paper grades 5.03.00 as per EN 643 or fraction number 512 consisting of polyolefin-based plastics, plastic-aluminium composites and aluminium, largely fibre-free (< 5% DM) according to technical standards
PP	Polypropylene
Paper/cardboard from lightweight packaging	Paper/cardboard from the lightweight packaging collection fraction
PPWR	Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2025/40)
PRO	Producer responsibility organisation
PS	Polystyrene
PVC	Polyvinyl chloride
PVDC	Polyvinylidene chloride
PVOH	Polyvinyl alcohol
RCS	Roughing/cleaning stages
rPE	Recycled polyethylene

rPET	Recycled polyethylene terephthalate
rPP	Recycled polypropylene
rPS	Recycled polystyrene
SBS	Styrene-butadiene-styrene copolymer
SiOx	Silicon oxide
UBA	Umweltbundesamt (German Environment Agency)
UFI code	Unique Formula Identifier Code
UV	Ultraviolet
TPE-O	Thermoplastic elastomers based on olefin
TPE-S	Thermoplastic elastomers based on styrenic block copolymers
DM	Dry mass
VerpackDG	Verpackungsrecht-Durchführungsgesetz (German Packaging Law Implementation Act)
XPS	Extruded polystyrene foam
ZSVR	Zentrale Stelle Verpackungsregister (Central Agency Packaging Register)

Annexes

Annex 1	Packaging types and packaging categories
Annex 2	Determination principles and requirements for individual packaging categories
Annex 2.1	Glass and composite packaging of which the majority is glass
Annex 2.2	Paper/cardboard packaging (excluding composite packaging)
	Liquid packaging board
Annex 2.3a	Composite packaging of which the majority is paper/cardboard (excluding liquid packaging board)
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Annex 2.4	Aluminium and composite packaging of which the majority is aluminium – rigid, semi-rigid and flexible
Annex 2.5/2.6	Bottles made of PET-A – rigid (transparent, clear/coloured)
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Annex 2.12	PP – flexible (natural/coloured)
Annex 2.13	HDPE and PP – rigid (natural/coloured)
Annex 2.14	PS – rigid (natural/coloured)
Annex 2.15a	XPS – rigid (natural/coloured)
Annex 2.15b	EPS – rigid (natural/coloured)
Annex 2.16	Other rigid plastics (e.g. PVC, PC) including multi-materials – rigid
Annex 2.17	Other flexible plastics including multi-materials – flexible
	Biodegradable plastics – rigid (e.g. PLA, PHB) and flexible (e.g. PLA)
Annex 2.18	Wooden packaging, including cork
	Natural and synthetic textile fibres
Annex 2.19	Clay, stone, ceramics, porcelain
Annex 2.20	
Annex 2.21	
Annex 2.22	
Annex 3	Analyses and individual evidence
Annex 3.1	Requirements for compatibility analyses
Annex 3.2	Requirements for evidencing sortability and separability
Annex 3.3	Requirements for evidencing the existence of recycling infrastructure

Annex 1: Assign to a packaging category

Assigning an object of determination to a packaging category in accordance with Annex II table 1 PPWR and the related determination requirements

Procedure:

The following steps are required to assign an object of determination to the correct packaging category, based on this Annex:

1. In column 1, the predominant packaging material of the main body is identified.
2. If there are multiple rows with identical entries in column 1, the applicable packaging type is identified in column 2; the entries are checked in the order of the table. In column 3, typical packaging formats for the packaging types are provided by way of example to determine plausibility.
3. If the packaging type is identified in column 2, column 4 will indicate which section of Annex 2 contains the relevant provisions for determining the recyclability.

Objects of determination that cannot be assigned to a packaging category:

If an object of determination cannot be assigned to any category using the procedure described above, it should generally be assumed that no recycling infrastructure exists. Such objects are usually not sorted out and therefore not recycled; as a consequence, they are to be categorised as non-recyclable (0% recyclability). To override the result, individual evidence in line with the provisions of Annex 2.22 must be documented and provided.

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Cate- gory no.	Predominant packaging mate- rial (of the main body)	Packaging type (plus colour / opti- cal transmittance, if applicable)	Format (illustrative and non-ex- haustive)	Determina- tion require- ments in An- nex
1	Glass	Glass and compo- site packaging of which the majority is glass	Bottles, canning jars, flacons, cosmetics pots, jars, contain- ers, ampoules, vials made of glass (soda-lime glass), aerosol cans	2.1
2	Paper/cardboard	Paper/cardboard packaging (excluding compo- site packaging)	Corrugated board, folding boxes, folding cartons, trays, grouped packaging, flexible paper packaging (e.g. films, sheets, pouches, lidding, cones, wrappers)	2.2

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Cate- gory no.	Predominant packaging mate- rial (of the main body)	Packaging type (plus colour / opti- cal transmittance, if applicable)	Format (illustrative and non-ex- haustive)	Determina- tion require- ments in An- nex
3	Paper/cardboard	Liquid packaging board	Aseptic, non-aseptic or auto- clavable cardboard composite packaging, coated on both sides, for bev- erages, foods with a pasty consistency, animal feed, etc.	2.3 a
3	Paper/cardboard	Composite packag- ing of which the majority is pa- per/cardboard (excluding liquid packaging board)	Laminated folding boxes, composite cans, paper cups (i.e. laminated with polyolefin and with or without alumin- ium), trays, plates and cups, metallised or plastic laminated paper/cardboard, paper/card- board with plastic liners/win- dows, wrappers	2.3 b
4	Metal	Steel and compo- site packaging of which the majority is steel	Aerosols cans, food cans, paint and colour cans, crates, trays, buckets, barrels, tubes made of steel, including tinplate, thin sheet metal and stainless steel	2.4
5	Metal	Aluminium and composite packag- ing of which the majority is alumin- ium – rigid	Rigid formats (food and bever- age cans, bottles, aerosols, barrels, tubes, cans, crates, trays) made of aluminium	2.5/2.6
6	Metal	Aluminium and composite packag- ing of which the majority is alumin- ium – semi-rigid and flexible	Semi rigid and flexible formats (containers and trays, tubes, foils, flexible foil) made of alu- minium	2.5/2.6
7	Plastics	Bottles made of PET-A – rigid (transparent, clear/coloured, opaque)	Bottles and flasks	2.7

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Cate- gory no.	Predominant packaging mate- rial (of the main body)	Packaging type (plus colour / opti- cal transmittance, if applicable)	Format (illustrative and non-ex- haustive)	Determina- tion require- ments in An- nex
8	Plastics	Thermoforms made of PET-A and PET-C – rigid (transparent, clear/coloured, opaque)	Mono- and multilayer trays, snap-on lids, cups, blisters, other thermoforms, etc.	2.8 a
8	Plastics	Other packaging made of PET-A and PET-C – rigid (transparent, clear/coloured, opaque)	Rigid formats other than bot- tles and flasks as well as ther- moformed packaging (includ- ing pots, tubs, cans, jars, cups, mono- and multilayer trays and containers, aerosol cans)	2.8 b
9	Plastics	PET – flexible (natural/coloured)	Films, pouches, foams, stand- up pouches, carrier bags, wrapping films	2.9
10	Plastics	PE – rigid (natural/coloured)	Containers, bottles ≤ 5l, cups, trays, blisters, pots, cans, buckets ≤ 5l, canisters ≤ 5l and tubes	2.10
11	Plastics	PE – flexible (natural/coloured)	Flowpacks, pouches, nets, foams, tubular bags, shrink films, stand-up pouches, car- rier bags, bags, wrapping films, bubble wrap, films, in- cluding multilayer and multi- material packaging	2.11
12	Plastics	PP – rigid (natural/coloured)	Containers, bottles ≤ 5l, cups, trays, blisters, pots, cans, buckets ≤ 5l, canisters ≤ 5l and tubes	2.12
13	Plastics	PP – flexible (natural/coloured)	Flowpacks, pouches, nets, foams, tubular bags, shrink films, stand-up pouches, car- rier bags, bags, wrapping films, bubble wrap, films, in- cluding multilayer and multi- material packaging	2.13

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Cate- gory no.	Predominant packaging mate- rial (of the main body)	Packaging type (plus colour / opti- cal transmittance, if applicable)	Format (illustrative and non-ex- haustive)	Determina- tion require- ments in An- nex
14	Plastics	HDPE and PP – rigid (natural/coloured)	Boxes and pallets, corrugated plastic sheets	2.14
15	Plastics	PS – rigid (natural/coloured)	Rigid formats (including dairy packaging, bottles ≤ 5l, trays, blisters, cans, cups and other food containers, buckets ≤ 5l, canisters ≤ 5l, tubes)	2.15 a
15	Plastics	XPS – rigid (natu- ral/coloured)	Rigid formats including trays, cups and other food contain- ers	2.15 b
16	Plastics	EPS – rigid (natural/coloured)	Rigid formats (including cool boxes, fish boxes, edge pro- tectors and other impact pro- tection for electronic items and trays), cups and other food containers	2.16
17	Plastics	Other rigid plastics (e.g. PVC, PC) in- cluding multi-ma- terials – rigid	Rigid formats, including inter- mediate bulk containers, bar- rels	2.17
18	Plastics	Other flexible plas- tics including multi-materials – flexible	Pouches, blisters, ther- moformed packaging, vacuum packaging, modified atmos- phere / modified humidity packaging, including flexible intermediate bulk containers, bags, stretch films	2.18
19	Plastics	Biodegradable plastics (1) – rigid (e.g. PLA, PHB) and flexible (e.g. PLA)	Rigid and flexible formats	2.19
20	Wood, cork	Wooden packag- ing, including cork	Pallets, crates, boxes	2.20
21	Textiles	Natural and syn- thetic textile fibres	Bags, cords	2.21

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Cate- gory no.	Predominant packaging mate- rial (of the main body)	Packaging type (plus colour / opti- cal transmittance, if applicable)	Format (illustrative and non-ex- haustive)	Determina- tion require- ments in An- nex
22	Ceramics or porcelain stone- ware	Clay, stone, ceram- ics, porcelain	Pots, containers, bottles, jugs	2.22

(¹) Please note that this category contains plastics that are readily biodegradable (meaning a proven ability to convert > 90 % of the original material into CO₂, water and minerals by biological processes within six months) and regardless of the feedstock used for their production. Biobased polymers that are not readily biodegradable are covered under the other relevant plastic categories.

Annex 2: Determination principles and requirements for individual packaging categories

A 2.1 Glass and composite packaging of which the majority is glass

a. Scope of application

The following determination principles, criteria and requirements apply to packaging with glass as the main material. Examples include: canning jars, bottles, jars, flacons and ampoules.

b. Categorisation of design parameters, including examination and testing requirements

The most common design parameters of glass packaging are listed below in a table, assigned to the columns 'valuable material', 'incompatibilities', 'separable or conditionally compatible', and 'examination of design-related valuable material losses'. The last categorisation mentioned may also be additive and refers to the corresponding examination or determination requirement in the lower section of the table at the end of the chapter.

c. Calculation of recyclability

1. If no parameter is assigned to the 'incompatible' category, the recyclability corresponds numerically to the sum of the shares of the materials or formulations that are categorised as 'valuable material'. This scenario represents the standard case.
2. If one or more design parameters are categorised as 'requiring examination', it must be determined whether they result in design-related valuable material losses. If such losses can be ruled out through examination, the parameter has no impact on the calculation in accordance with paragraph 1. Otherwise, design-related losses must be determined and deducted.
3. If one or more design parameters are categorised under 'incompatibilities', recyclability is 0%.

d. Requirement of individual evidence for the 'existence of recycling infrastructure' criterion

No individual evidence for the existence of a recycling infrastructure is required to establish recyclability.

Glass and composite packaging of which the majority is glass Reference application: Container glass						
Main body						
			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ⁵	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Main body	Material	Normal glass (soda-lime glass), including colouring agent (pigmentation)	X			P 2.2 ⁶
		Leaded glass		X		
		Opal glass (cryolite glass)			X	
		Borosilicate glass		X		
		Glass-ceramics		X		
		Quartz glass		X		
		Other glass containing lead		X		
	Printing, lacquer and stamping	Direct printing			X	P2.2
		Foil stamping			X	P2.2
		Lacquer			X	P2.2
Ancillary components						
Closure/ functional head	Material	Borosilicate glass		X		
		Normal glass (soda-lime glass)	X			
		Leaded glass		X		
		Opal glass (cryolite glass)			X	
		Glass-ceramics		X		
		Quartz glass		X		
		Other glass containing lead		X		
		Plastic*			X	
		Ceramics		X		
		Natural material (wood, cork)			X	
		Swing tops with non-ferromagnetic metal shares only		X		
		Non-ferrous metal and stainless steel (except valve spring and ball, swing tops)	X			
		Steel alloys, ferromagnetic (except valve spring and ball)	X			
		Valve spring and ball in plastic functional closures			X	
		Ferrous metal	X			

⁵ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

⁶ A list of critical standard glass colours requiring examination in accordance with P 2.2 will be added as part of the next revision of the minimum standard.

			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ⁷	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Label/sleeve	Material	Plastic			X	P2.1
		Paper ⁸			X	
		Paper-plastic label			X	P2.1
	Adhesive application	Adhesive application			X	
	Decoration	Printing ink			X	
		Foil stamping			X	
		Lacquer			X	
Wrapping and other decoration	Material	Borosilicate glass		X		
		Normal glass (soda-lime glass)	X			
		Leaded glass		X		
		Opal glass (cryolite glass)			X	
		Glass-ceramics		X		
		Quartz glass		X		
		Other glass containing lead		X		
		Plastic			X	
		Ceramics		X		
		Wicker basket			X	P9
		Metal net, ferromagnetic	X			P9
		Metal net, non-ferromagnetic		X		
		Natural material (wood, cork)			X	
		Non-ferrous metal and stainless steel	X			P6
		Steel alloys, ferromagnetic	X			P6
		Ferrous metal	X			P6

⁷ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

⁸ Please note: different categorisation for crate-based deposit systems as valuable material possible.

Examination of design-related valuable material losses	
P2.1	In the case of glass packaging with adhesive labels made of plastic, the glass share covered by these labels cannot be counted towards the available valuable material share if the adhesive used produces highly waterproof (hydrophobic) adhesive applications (e.g. labels with 'no-label' look). The alternative option for determining design-related glass losses is using NIR error identification to provide individual evidence in line with Annex 3.2.
P2.2	Glass shares of a glass packaging with a lower level of transmittance in a 400 nm to 780 nm wave range (e.g. due to varnishing or tinting ⁹) than the reference specified hereafter require individual evidence pursuant to Annex 3.2 on sufficient translucency in order to count them towards the available valuable material share. A glass sample with a thickness of 7 mm, in the colour 'dark green', with absorbance A = 0.55 and saturation S = 44 at a dominating wavelength of 569 nm, is used as reference for the indicative comparison. (The information provided for A and S refers to the standard thickness of 2 mm.)
P6	In the case of glass packaging with glued-on metal plaques, the glass share covered by this plaque cannot be counted towards the available valuable material share if the adhesive used produces waterproof adhesive applications.
P9	With demijohns (i.e. bottles covered with a basket) and metal nets the glass share is to be considered completely lost. Evidence must be documented and provided for individual exceptions.

⁹ Affixed residual contents expressly do not result in testing being required pursuant to test specification P.2.2.

A 2.2 Paper/cardboard packaging (excluding composite packaging)

a. Scope of application

The following determination principles, criteria and requirements apply to packaging with paper/cardboard as the main material. Examples include: corrugated board, folding boxes, paper bags and pouches.

b. Categorisation of design parameters, including examination and testing requirements

The most common design parameters of paper/cardboard packaging are listed below in a table, assigned to the columns 'valuable material', 'incompatibilities', 'separable or conditionally compatible', and 'examination of design-related valuable material losses'. The last categorisation mentioned may also be additive and refers to the corresponding examination or determination requirement in the lower section of the table at the end of the chapter.

c. Calculation of recyclability

1. If no parameter is assigned to the 'incompatible' category, the recyclability corresponds numerically to the sum of the shares of the materials or formulations that are categorised as 'valuable material'. This scenario represents the standard case.
2. If one or more design parameters are categorised as 'requiring examination', it must be determined whether they result in design-related valuable material losses. If such losses can be ruled out through examination, the parameter has no impact on the calculation in accordance with paragraph 1. Otherwise, design-related losses must be determined and deducted.
3. If one or more design parameters are categorised under 'incompatibilities', recyclability is 0%.

d. Requirement of individual evidence for the 'existence of recycling infrastructure' criterion

No individual evidence for the existence of a recycling infrastructure is required to establish recyclability.

Paper/cardboard packaging (excluding composite packaging) Reference application: Corrugated base paper						
Main body						
			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ¹⁰	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Main body	Material	Corrugated board ¹¹	X			
		Kraft paper ¹¹	X			
		Moulded pulp, highly compressed ¹¹	X			P6.2
		Moulded pulp, slightly compressed ¹¹	X			
		Glassine ¹¹	X			
		Bogus paper ¹¹	X			
		Wrapping tissue ¹¹	X			
		Bitumen paper ¹¹		X		
		Oil paper ¹¹		X		
		Wax/paraffin paper ¹¹		X		
		Paper/cardboard, other sorts ¹¹	X			
		Cellophane			X	
		Foamed, extruded, thermoformed component made of starch			X	
		Aluminium lamination			X	P0.1
		Plastic film (film lamination)			X	
	Dyeing	Dyed black, using carbon black				P2
	Other finishing (of the paper)	Dry strength agent: PVOH	X			P6.2
		Dry strength agent: Starch (mass and surface)	X			
		Dry strength agent: Other synthetic polymers	X			P6.2
		Sizing agent, hydrophobic (mass and surface)	X			
		Wet strength agent, impregnating agent	X			P6.2
		Mineral fillers	X			
		Other finishing	X			
	Barriers and surface finish (of the paper)	Metallisation			X	
		Mineral pigment coating incl. binding agent	X ¹²			
		Polymer dispersion coating, heat-sealing lacquer (in each case thermoplastic)			X	P8
		PVOH coating (water-soluble)			X	
		Polymer mineral coating (thermoplastic)			X	P8

¹⁰ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

¹¹ Incl. bound water

¹² Mineral pigment coatings including binding agents without a sealing function and without a function as a water vapour, oxygen or grease barrier must be counted towards the valuable material share.

			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ¹³	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
		Silicone coating			X	P6.2
		Paraffin, wax, oil			X	P6.2
		Extrusion lamination			X	
		Other surface finish			X	P6.2, P8
Main body	Additives and coatings (of the plastic layer)	AlOx			X	
		Metallisation			X	
		SiOx			X	
	Adhesive in multilayer structure	Dispersion adhesive			X	
		Hot-melt adhesive application, criteria of EPRC scorecard fulfilled			X	
		Hot-melt adhesive application, criteria of EPRC scorecard not fulfilled			X	P8
		Starch-based adhesive	X			
	Decoration	Direct printing, with substances listed in the 'EuPIA Charter on raw material selection and exclusion for printing inks and related products'		X		
		Direct printing, without substances listed in the 'EuPIA Charter on raw material selection and exclusion for printing inks and related products'			X	
		Foil stamping			X	
		Lacquer			X	
		Fully lacquered surface – excluding clear protective lacquer up to a thickness of ≤ 5 micrometers – excluding internal bag layers if the grammage is at least 100 g/m²				P2
		Ancillary components				
	Label, adhesive tape	Material	Paper (not equipped with wet strength agent) ¹⁴	X		
Paper (equipped with wet strength agent) ¹³			X			P6.2
Paper (fibre-reinforced) ¹³			X			P6.2
Plastic					X	
Adhesive		Dispersion adhesive			X	
		Hot-melt adhesive application, criteria of EPRC scorecard fulfilled			X	
		Hot-melt adhesive application, criteria of EPRC scorecard not fulfilled			X	P8
		Starch-based adhesive			X	

¹³ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

¹⁴ Incl. bound water

			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ¹⁵	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
	Decoration	Direct printing, with substances listed in the 'EuPIA Charter on raw material selection and exclusion for printing inks and related products'		X		
		Direct printing, without substances listed in the 'EuPIA Charter on raw material selection and exclusion for printing inks and related products'			X	
		Lacquer			X	
Seam adhesion/ attachment	Adhesive	Adhesive application			X	
Ancillary component (not fibre-based)	Material	Cellophane			X	
		Plastic (non-specific)			X	
		PVOH			X	
		Non-ferrous metal, stainless steel, magnetic materials, steel			X	P0.1, P0.2
Other design parameters						
Other design parameters	Structure	Plastic-coated surface – excluding internal bag layers if the grammage is at least 100 g/m²				P2
	Decoration	Metal pigments applied on a large scale (taking up > 50% of the projected surface) (lacquering, print, coating or embossing)				P2
		> 50% fully printed black (including background) using carbon black				P2
	Barrier coating on both sides					P6.2
	Contents	Non-dry contents – i.e. packaging for example for liquids, certain food-stuffs, oils and emulsions				P6.1

¹⁵ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

Examination of design-related valuable material losses	
P0.1	Presence of an aluminium foil layer: examination required (test if necessary) whether the design causes sorting into aluminium fraction. If so, a complete loss of valuable material for packaging category 2 has to be assumed. The same applies if no examination is performed. NOTE: the criterion explicitly does not apply to metallised packaging.
P0.2	Presence of ferromagnetic components $\geq 5\%$ by weight in relation to the object of determination: examination required (test if necessary) whether the design causes sorting into ferrous metal fraction. If so, a complete loss of valuable material for packaging category 2 has to be assumed. The same applies if no examination is performed.
P2	Testing required to determine if identifiability, including targeted separability, is given in a sensor-based sorting context. Restrictions must be taken into account as proportionate losses of valuable material. NOTE: explicitly not applicable to large-format transport packaging (e.g. cardboard boxes) not subject to system participation.
P6.1	When determining the recyclability of paper/cardboard packaging, its gradual defiberability is another decisive factor. In the case of paper/cardboard packaging for non-dry contents – i.e. for example for liquids, certain food-stuffs, oils and emulsions – evidence must be provided that the operating conditions (for example, dwell time and other operating parameters in the processing of the material) of the respective recovery path (paper/cardboard or lightweight packaging collection) result in the dispersion of the fibre portion, and that the fibre portion is recycled. This obligation to provide evidence does not apply to paper/cardboard packaging that is typically filled with contents that are dry ($< 15\%$ moisture content), free-flowing or particulate, such as flour or sugar. The non-recoverable valuable material share must be deducted to determine recyclability. If, during the pulping of paper/cardboard packaging, substances that cannot be categorised as fibrous material pass into the aqueous phase (water-soluble, colloiddally dissolved or finely dispersed), these must be quantified by a suitable testing method and deducted when calculating recyclability.
P6.2	If wet-strength agents, impregnating agents, waxes, fibre reinforcement, etc., are used for paper/cardboard packaging, and in the case of paper or cardboard (excluding liquid packaging board) coated or metallised on both sides, the determination of defiberability needs to be based on a suitable testing methodology. The non-recoverable valuable material share must be deducted to determine the available valuable material share. If, during the pulping of paper/cardboard packaging, substances that cannot be counted towards the valuable material share pass into the aqueous phase (water-soluble, colloiddally dissolved or finely dispersed), these must be quantified by a suitable testing method and deducted when calculating the available valuable material share.
P8	The categorisation is subject to individual evidence produced through analytical testing methods (sheet adhesion test)¹⁶ that no strong adhesive effects exist. Otherwise, the design parameter must be categorised as incompatibility.

¹⁶ The 'Paper and board – Laboratory test method for recyclability assessment of paper and board-based materials and products – Part 1: conventional recycling process, Chapter 8.7. Sheet adhesion and visual appearance test'; Level 3 (Tackiness present) is a method recognised in the context of this minimum standard.

A 2.3a Liquid packaging board

a. Scope of application

The following determination principles, criteria and requirements apply to packaging with cardboard as the main material. Examples include: liquid packaging boards.

b. Categorisation of design parameters, including examination and testing requirements

The most common design parameters of liquid packaging board are listed below in a table, assigned to the columns 'valuable material', 'incompatibilities', 'separable or conditionally compatible', and 'examination of design-related valuable material losses'. The last categorisation mentioned may also be additive and refers to the corresponding examination or determination requirement in the lower section of the table at the end of the chapter.

c. Calculation of recyclability

1. If no parameter is assigned to the 'incompatible' category, the recyclability corresponds numerically to the sum of the shares of the materials or formulations that are categorised as 'valuable material'. This scenario represents the standard case.
2. If one or more design parameters are categorised as 'requiring examination', it must be determined whether they result in design-related valuable material losses. If such losses can be ruled out through examination, the parameter has no impact on the calculation in accordance with paragraph 1. Otherwise, design-related losses must be determined and deducted.
3. If one or more design parameters are categorised under 'incompatibilities', recyclability is 0%.

d. Requirement of individual evidence for the 'existence of recycling infrastructure' criterion

No individual evidence for the existence of a recycling infrastructure is required to establish recyclability; if PE, PP and aluminium components are claimed as valuable material, individual evidence of polyAl recycling in accordance with Annex 3.3 is recommended.

Liquid packaging board Reference application: Corrugated base paper (fibre share) and injection moulding products (PO share) and aluminium casting or deoxidising agent (Al share)						
Main body						
			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ¹⁷	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Main body	Material	Cardboard ¹⁸	X			
		PE	X ¹⁹			
		PET			X	
		PP	X ¹⁹			
		Aluminium foil	X ¹⁹			
	Materials in multilayer films, density < 1 g/cm ³	Biodegradable and compostable materials as a layer		X		
		COC, COC-PO blend	X ¹⁹			P5
		EVOH layer			X	
		Ionomer layer (non-specific)			X	
		PA layer (non-specific)		X		
		Polyamide 6 or co-polyamide 6-66 in coextruded PE/PA films (with or without EVOH), combined with MAH-grafted PE as an adhesion promoter at a ratio of at least 0.5 g of adhesive per 1 g of PA (+EVOH)			X	
		Polyamide 6 in laminated PE/PA films, combined with MAH-grafted PE as a compatibiliser at a ratio of at least 0.15 g of compatibiliser per 1 g of PA			X	
		PE layer (non-specific)	X ¹⁹			
		HDPE layer	X ¹⁹			
		MDPE layer	X ¹⁹			
		LDPE layer	X ¹⁹			
		LLDPE layer	X ¹⁹			
		mPE (metallocene) layer	X ¹⁹			
		PET layer in combination with PE (PET/PE composite)		X		
		PP layer	X ¹⁹			
		PVOH layer (water-soluble by means of cold washing)			X	
		PVOH layer (water-insoluble by means of cold washing)		X		
		Other non-PO plastics		X		
		Non-polymeric layers (excluding aluminium foil and SiOx/AlOx/metallisation)		X		

¹⁷ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

¹⁸ Incl. bound water

¹⁹ Individual evidence in accordance with Annex 3.3 is recommended to allow for a categorisation as valuable material.

			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ²⁰	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Main body	Materials in multilayer films, density > 1 g/cm ³	Plastic multilayer film, density > 1 g/cm ³			X	P5
	Other finishing (of the paper)	Dry strength agent: PVOH	X			P6.2
		Dry strength agent: Starch (mass and surface)	X			
		Dry strength agent: Other synthetic polymers	X			P6.2
		Sizing agent, hydrophobic (mass and surface)	X			
		Wet strength agent, impregnating agent	X			P6.2
		Mineral fillers	X			
		Other finishing	X			
	Barriers and surface finish (of the paper)	Metallisation			X	
		Mineral pigment coating incl. binding agent	X ²¹			
		Polymer dispersion coating (thermo-plastic)			X	P8
		PVOH coating (water-soluble)			X	
		Polymer mineral coating (thermo-plastic)			X	P8
		Silicone coating			X	P6.2
		Paraffin, wax, oil		X		
		Other surface finish			X	P6.2, P8
	Additives and coatings (of the plastic layer)	AlOx			X	
		Metallisation			X	
		SiOx			X	
		Other additives and coatings		X		
	Adhesive in multilayer structure	Starch-based adhesive			X	

²⁰ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

²¹ Mineral pigment coatings including binding agents without a sealing function and without a function as a water vapour, oxygen or grease barrier must be counted towards the valuable material share.

			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ²²	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Main body	Decoration	Direct printing, with substances listed in the 'EuPIA Charter on raw material selection and exclusion for printing inks and related products'		X		
		Direct printing, without substances listed in the 'EuPIA Charter on raw material selection and exclusion for printing inks and related products'			X	
		Foil stamping			X	
		Lacquer			X	
Ancillary components						
Closure	Material	PE	X ²³			P5
		PET			X	
		POM			X	
		PP	X ²³			P5
		PS			X	
		Non-PO plastics, density < 1 g/cm³		X		
		Other plastic			X	
Attachment	Adhesive	Adhesive application			X	
Other design parameters						
Other design parameters	Structure	Design different from standard structure (no wet-strength cardboard, PE ± aluminium)				P2
	Decoration	Metal pigments applied on a large scale (taking up > 50% of the projected surface) (lacquering, print, coating or embossing)				P2
		> 50% fully printed black (including background) using carbon black				P2

²² The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

²³ Individual evidence in accordance with Annex 3.3 is recommended to allow for a categorisation as valuable material.

Examination of design-related valuable material losses	
P2	Testing required to determine if identifiability, including targeted separability, is given in a sensor-based sorting context. Restrictions must be taken into account as proportionate losses of valuable material.
P5	Only the packaging components containing valuable material that have a verified density of less than 1 g/cm ³ (including additives, masterbatches, fillers, or in multilayer structures as well as printing inks) must be counted towards the available valuable material share.
P6.2	If wet-strength agents are used that deviate from the FBCA²⁴ provisions, the determination of recyclability needs to be based on a suitable testing methodology. The non-recoverable valuable material share must be deducted to determine the available valuable material share. If, during the pulping of liquid packaging board, substances that cannot be counted towards the valuable material share pass into the aqueous phase (water-soluble, colloiddally dissolved or finely dispersed), these must be quantified by a suitable testing method and deducted when calculating the available valuable material share.
P8	The categorisation is subject to individual evidence produced through analytical testing methods (sheet adhesion test) ²⁵ that no strong adhesive effects exist. Otherwise, the design parameter must be categorised as incompatibility.

²⁴ Food and Beverage Carton Alliance. (15 July 2025). Design for Recycling Guidelines. <https://doi.org/10.64254/2025.01>

²⁵ The 'Paper and board – Laboratory test method for recyclability assessment of paper and board-based materials and products – Part 3: Recycling mill with specialised process (UBC), Chapter 8.8. Assessment of sheet adhesion and visual impurities' is a method recognised in the context of this minimum standard.

A 2.3b Composite packaging of which the majority is paper/cardboard (excluding liquid packaging board)

a. Scope of application

The following determination principles, criteria and requirements apply to packaging with paper/cardboard as the main material. Examples include: laminated folding boxes, composite cans, coated papers, paper cups coated on both sides, wrappers.

b. Categorisation of design parameters, including examination and testing requirements

The most common design parameters of paper/cardboard packaging are listed below in a table, assigned to the columns 'valuable material', 'incompatibilities', 'separable or conditionally compatible', and 'examination of design-related valuable material losses'. The last categorisation mentioned may also be additive and refers to the corresponding examination or determination requirement in the lower section of the table at the end of the chapter.

c. Calculation of recyclability

1. If no parameter is assigned to the 'incompatible' category, the recyclability corresponds numerically to the sum of the shares of the materials or formulations that are categorised as 'valuable material'. This scenario represents the standard case.
2. If one or more design parameters are categorised as 'requiring examination', it must be determined whether they result in design-related valuable material losses. If such losses can be ruled out through examination, the parameter has no impact on the calculation in accordance with paragraph 1. Otherwise, design-related losses must be determined and deducted.
3. If one or more design parameters are categorised under 'incompatibilities', recyclability is 0%.

d. Requirement of individual evidence for the 'existence of recycling infrastructure' criterion

Individual evidence for the existence of a recycling infrastructure is recommended to establish recyclability.

Composite packaging of which the majority is paper/cardboard (excluding liquid packaging board) Reference application: Corrugated base paper						
Main body						
			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ²⁶	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Main body	Material	Corrugated board ²⁷	X			
		Kraft paper ²⁷	X			
		Moulded pulp, highly compressed ²⁷	X			P6.2
		Moulded pulp, slightly compressed ²⁷	X			
		Glassine ²⁷	X			
		Bogus paper ²⁷	X			
		Wrapping tissue ²⁷	X			
		Bitumen paper ²⁷		X		
		Oil paper ²⁷		X		
		Wax/paraffin paper ²⁷		X		
		Paper/cardboard, other sorts ²⁷	X			
		Foamed, extruded, thermoformed component made of starch			X	
		Aluminium lamination			X	P0.1
		Plastic film (film lamination)			X	
	Dyeing	Dyed black, using carbon black				P2
	Other finishing (of the paper)	Dry strength agent: PVOH	X			P6.2
		Dry strength agent: Starch (mass and surface)	X			
		Dry strength agent: Other synthetic polymers	X			P6.2
		Sizing agent, hydrophobic (mass and surface)	X			
		Wet strength agent, impregnating agent	X			P6.2
		Mineral fillers	X			
		Other finishing	X			
	Barriers and surface finish (of the paper)	Metallisation			X	
		Mineral pigment coating incl. binding agent	X ²⁸			
		Polymer dispersion coating, heat-sealing lacquer (in each case thermo-plastic)			X	P8
		PVOH coating (water-soluble)			X	
		Polymer mineral coating (thermo-plastic)			X	P8
		Silicone coating			X	P6.2

²⁶ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

²⁷ Incl. bound water

²⁸ Mineral pigment coatings including binding agents without a sealing function and without a function as a water vapour, oxygen or grease barrier must be counted towards the valuable material share.

			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ²⁹	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Main body	Barriers and surface finish (of the paper)	Paraffin, wax, oil			X	P6.2
		Extrusion lamination			X	
		Other surface finish			X	P6.2, P8
	Additives and coatings (of the plastic layer)	AlOx			X	
		Metallisation			X	
		SiOx			X	
	Adhesive in multilayer structure	Dispersion adhesive			X	
		Hot-melt adhesive application, criteria of EPRC scorecard fulfilled			X	
		Hot-melt adhesive application, criteria of EPRC scorecard not fulfilled			X	P8
		Starch-based adhesive			X	
	Decoration	Direct printing, with substances listed in the 'EuPIA Charter on raw material selection and exclusion for printing inks and related products'		X		
		Direct printing, without substances listed in the 'EuPIA Charter on raw material selection and exclusion for printing inks and related products'			X	
		Foil stamping			X	
		Lacquer			X	
		Fully lacquered surface – excluding clear protective lacquer up to a thickness of ≤ 5 micrometers – excluding internal bag layers if the grammage is at least 100 g/m²				P2
Ancillary components						
Label, adhesive tape	Material	Paper (not equipped with wet strength agent) ³⁰	X			
		Paper (equipped with wet strength agent) ³⁰	X			P6.2
		Paper (fibre-reinforced) ³⁰			X	P6.2
		Plastic			X	
	Adhesive	Dispersion adhesive			X	
		Hot-melt adhesive application, criteria of EPRC scorecard fulfilled			X	
		Hot-melt adhesive application, criteria of EPRC scorecard not fulfilled			X	P8
		Starch-based adhesive			X	

²⁹ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

³⁰ Incl. bound water

			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ³¹	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Label, adhesive tape	Decoration	Direct printing, with substances on the EuPIA exclusion list		X		
		Direct printing, without substances on the EuPIA exclusion list			X	
		Lacquer			X	
Seam adhesion/ attachment	Adhesive	Adhesive application			X	
Ancillary component (not fibre-based)	Material	Cellophane			X	
		Plastic (non-specific)			X	
		PVOH			X	
		Non-ferrous metal, stainless steel, magnetic materials, steel			X	P0.1, P0.2
Other design parameters						
Other design parameters	Structure	Plastic-coated surface – excluding internal bag layers if the grammage is at least 100 g/m²				P2
	Decoration	Metal pigments applied on a large scale (taking up > 50% of the projected surface) (lacquering, print, coating or embossing)				P2
		> 50% fully printed black (including background) using carbon black				P2
	Barrier coating on both sides					P6.2
	Contents	Non-dry contents – i.e. composite packaging of which the majority is paper/cardboard (excluding liquid packaging board) for example for liquids, certain foodstuffs, oils and emulsions				P6.1

³¹ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

Examination of design-related valuable material losses	
P0.1	Presence of an aluminium foil layer: examination required (test if necessary) whether the design causes sorting into aluminium fraction. If so, a complete loss of valuable material for packaging category 3 has to be assumed. The same applies if no examination is performed. NOTE: the criterion explicitly does not apply to metallised packaging.
P0.2	Presence of ferromagnetic components $\geq 5\%$ by weight in relation to the object of determination: examination required (test if necessary) whether the design causes sorting into ferrous metal fraction. If so, a complete loss of valuable material for packaging category 3 has to be assumed. The same applies if no examination is performed.
P2	Testing required to determine if identifiability, including targeted separability, is given in a sensor-based sorting context. Restrictions must be taken into account as proportionate losses of valuable material. NOTE: explicitly not applicable to large-format transport packaging (e.g. cardboard boxes) not subject to system participation.
P6.1	When determining the recyclability of composite packaging of which the majority is paper/cardboard (excluding liquid packaging board), its gradual defiberability is another decisive factor. In the case of composite packaging of which the majority is paper/cardboard (excluding liquid packaging board) for non-dry contents – i.e. for example for liquids, certain foodstuffs, oils and emulsions – evidence must be provided that the operating conditions (for example, dwell time and other operating parameters in the processing of the material) of the respective recovery path (paper/cardboard or lightweight packaging collection) result in the dispersion of the fibre portion, and that the fibre portion is recycled. This obligation to provide evidence does not apply to packaging that is typically filled with contents that are dry ($< 15\%$ moisture content), free-flowing or particulate, such as flour or sugar. The non-recoverable valuable material share must be deducted to determine recyclability. If, during the pulping of composite packaging of which the majority is paper/cardboard (excluding liquid packaging board), substances that cannot be categorised as fibrous material pass into the aqueous phase (water-soluble, colloiddally dissolved or finely dispersed), these must be quantified by a suitable testing method and deducted when calculating recyclability.
P6.2	If wet-strength agents, impregnating agents, waxes, etc., are used for composite packaging of which the majority is paper/cardboard (excluding liquid packaging board), and in the case of paper or cardboard (excluding liquid packaging board) coated or metallised on both sides, the determination of recyclability needs to be based on a suitable testing methodology. The non-recoverable valuable material share must be deducted to determine the available valuable material share. If, during the pulping of composite packaging of which the majority is paper/cardboard (excluding liquid packaging board), substances that cannot be counted towards the valuable material share pass into the aqueous phase (water-soluble, colloiddally dissolved or finely dispersed), these must be quantified by a suitable testing method and deducted when calculating the available valuable material share.
P8	The categorisation is subject to individual evidence produced through analytical testing methods (sheet adhesion test)³² that no strong adhesive effects exist. Otherwise, the design parameter must be categorised as incompatibility.

³² The 'Paper and board – Laboratory test method for recyclability assessment of paper and board-based materials and products – Part 1: conventional recycling process, Chapter 8.7. Sheet adhesion and visual appearance test'; Level 3 (Tackiness present) is a method recognised in the context of this minimum standard.

A 2.4 Steel and composite packaging of which the majority is steel

a. Scope of application

The following determination principles, criteria and requirements apply to packaging with steel as the main material. Examples include: food cans, aerosol cans, paint and colour cans, metal buckets.

b. Categorisation of design parameters, including examination and testing requirements

The most common design parameters of tinplate and sheet metal packaging are listed below in a table, assigned to the columns 'valuable material', 'incompatibilities', 'separable or conditionally compatible', and 'examination of design-related valuable material losses'. The last categorisation mentioned may also be additive and refers to the corresponding examination or determination requirement in the lower section of the table at the end of the chapter.

c. Calculation of recyclability

1. If no parameter is assigned to the 'incompatible' category, the recyclability corresponds numerically to the sum of the shares of the materials or formulations that are categorised as 'valuable material'. This scenario represents the standard case.
2. If one or more design parameters are categorised as 'requiring examination', it must be determined whether they result in design-related valuable material losses. If such losses can be ruled out through examination, the parameter has no impact on the calculation in accordance with paragraph 1. Otherwise, design-related losses must be determined and deducted.
3. If one or more design parameters are categorised under 'incompatibilities', recyclability is 0%.

d. Requirement of individual evidence for the 'existence of recycling infrastructure' criterion

No individual evidence for the existence of a recycling infrastructure is required to establish recyclability.

Steel and composite packaging of which the majority is steel Reference application: Steel products						
Main body						
			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ³³	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Main body	Material	Steel (non-specific)	X			
		Steel, chrome-plated	X			
		Steel, tin-plated	X			
		Aluminium	X			
		Plastic			X	
		Paper			X	
	Printing, lacquer and coatings	Direct printing			X	
		Lacquer (inner and external lacquer)			X	
		Other			X	
Ancillary components						
Closure/functional head	Material	Steel (non-specific)	X			
		Steel, chrome-plated	X			
		Steel, tin-plated	X			
		Stainless steel	X			
		Aluminium	X			
		Non-ferrous metal, other	X			
		Glass			X	
		Plastic			X	
		Other			X	
Label	Material	Plastic			X	
		Paper			X	
		Other material			X	
	Adhesive application	Adhesive application			X	
	Decoration	Printing ink			X	
		Foil stamping			X	
		Lacquer			X	

³³ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

A 2.5/2.6 Aluminium and composite packaging of which the majority is aluminium – rigid, semi-rigid and flexible

a. Scope of application

The following determination principles, criteria and requirements apply to packaging with aluminium as the main material. Examples include: food cans, aerosol cans, aluminium trays and aluminium tubes.

b. Categorisation of design parameters, including examination and testing requirements

The most common design parameters of aluminium packaging are listed below in a table, assigned to the columns 'valuable material', 'incompatibilities', 'separable or conditionally compatible', and 'examination of design-related valuable material losses'. The last categorisation mentioned may also be additive and refers to the corresponding examination or determination requirement in the lower section of the table at the end of the chapter.

c. Calculation of recyclability

1. If no parameter is assigned to the 'incompatible' category, the recyclability corresponds numerically to the sum of the shares of the materials or formulations that are categorised as 'valuable material'. This scenario represents the standard case.
2. If one or more design parameters are categorised as 'requiring examination', it must be determined whether they result in design-related valuable material losses. If such losses can be ruled out through examination, the parameter has no impact on the calculation in accordance with paragraph 1. Otherwise, design-related losses must be determined and deducted.
3. If one or more design parameters are categorised under 'incompatibilities', recyclability is 0%.

d. Requirement of individual evidence for the 'existence of recycling infrastructure' criterion

No individual evidence for the existence of a recycling infrastructure is required to establish recyclability.

Aluminium and composite packaging of which the majority is aluminium – rigid, semi-rigid and flexible Reference application: Aluminium casting						
Main body						
			Valuable material	Incompati- bilities ³⁴	Separable or condition- ally compati- ble	Examination of design- related valuable material losses
Main body	Material	Aluminium	X			
		Non-ferrous metal, other	X			P3
		Plastic			X	
		Paper			X	
		Steel (non-specific)	X			
		Steel, chrome-plated	X			
		Steel, tin-plated	X			
	Printing, lac- quer and coatings	Direct printing			X	
		Lacquer (inner and external lac- quer)			X	
		Other			X	
Ancillary components						
Closure/ functional head	Material	Aluminium	X			
		Glass			X	
		Plastic			X	
		Non-ferrous metal, other	X			
		Stainless steel	X			
		Steel (non-specific)	X			
		Steel, chrome-plated	X			
		Steel, tin-plated	X			
		Other			X	
Label	Material	Plastic			X	
		Paper			X	
		Other material			X	
	Adhesive ap- plication	Adhesive application			X	
	Decoration	Printing ink			X	
		Foil stamping			X	
		Lacquer			X	

Examination of design-related valuable material losses	
P3	Examination of effective electrical conductivity (eddy current separator test): non-sortable packaging must be regarded as having a recyclability of 0%. NOTE: the criterion explicitly does not apply to metallised packaging and large-format transport packaging not subject to system participation that is recycled as non-ferrous metal scrap via a separate mono-collection.

³⁴ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

A 2.7 Bottles made of PET-A – rigid (transparent, clear/coloured)

a. Scope of application

The following determination principles, criteria and requirements apply to transparent PET bottles (clear/coloured). ***Opaque and transparent PET bottles must be determined pursuant to category 2.8b.***

b. Categorisation of design parameters, including examination and testing requirements

The most common design parameters of transparent PET bottles are listed below in a table, assigned to the columns 'valuable material', 'incompatibilities', 'separable or conditionally compatible', and 'examination of design-related valuable material losses'. The last categorisation mentioned may also be additive and refers to the corresponding examination or determination requirement in the lower section of the table at the end of the chapter.

c. Calculation of recyclability

1. If no parameter is assigned to the 'incompatible' category, the recyclability corresponds numerically to the sum of the shares of the materials or formulations that are categorised as 'valuable material'. This scenario represents the standard case.
2. If one or more design parameters are categorised as 'requiring examination', it must be determined whether they result in design-related valuable material losses. If such losses can be ruled out through examination, the parameter has no impact on the calculation in accordance with paragraph 1. Otherwise, design-related losses must be determined and deducted.
3. If one or more design parameters are categorised under 'incompatibilities', recyclability is 0%.

d. Requirement of individual evidence for the 'existence of recycling infrastructure' criterion

No individual evidence for the existence of a recycling infrastructure is required to establish recyclability.

Bottles made of PET-A – rigid (transparent, clear/coloured)) ³⁵ Reference application: Bottles (contact-sensitive) or thermoforms (contact-sensitive)						
Main body						
			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ³⁶	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Main body	Material (mono-material or in multilayer, density > 1 g/cm³)	PET-A	X			
		PET-G		X		
		rPET	X			
		EVOH layer		X		
		PA layer		X		
		PVOH layer (water-soluble in hot wash, 80 °C)			X	
		PVOH layer (water-insoluble in hot wash, 80 °C)		X		
		Other non-PET polymer layer		X		
	Material in multilayer, density < 1 g/cm³	Multilayer structure, density < 1 g/cm³			X	P5
	Structure	Multilayer structure				P2
	Masterbatch or colour batch	Masterbatch, colour batch (transparent)	X			
		Dyeing using carbon black (also when used for internal layers)				P2
	Additives	AA-blocker	X			
		Anti-block	X			
		Bio-/oxo-/photodegradable additives		X		
		Nanocomposites	X			
		Oxygen scavenger (PA free)	X			
		PA additivation		X		
		UV stabilisers	X			
		Other blended barriers		X		
	Coating	AlOx			X	
		Anti-fog coating			X	
		EVOH coating		X		
		PVOH coating (water-soluble in hot wash, 80 °C)			X	
		PVOH coating (water-insoluble in hot wash, 80 °C)		X		
		SiOx			X	
		Other coatings		X		P8

³⁵ Opaque and transparent PET bottles must be determined pursuant to category 2.8b.

³⁶ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ³⁷	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
	Decoration	Direct printing (excluding production codes, 'best before' dates and UFI codes)		X		
		Lacquer layer, transparent and wash-off-able in alkaline hot wash (at 80 °C)			X	
		Other lacquer layer		X		
Ancillary components						
Closure/ functional head	Material	Rigid HDPE, rHDPE from closures and functional elements	X			P5
		Rigid PP, rPP from closures and functional elements	X			P5
		Undecorated closure made of PET-A, PET-A opaque, PET-C not additionally nucleated, rPET, PBT	X			
		Closure made of PET-G		X		
		PA (e.g. in applicators)		X		
		PEF from closures and functional elements	X			
		Aluminium		X		
		Glass			X	
		High-alloy steels, non-ferromagnetic		X		
		Steel, ferromagnetic			X	P0.2
		Seals made of EVA, EMA, TPE-O, TPE-S with density< 1 g/cm³			X	
		Elastomer components, density > 1 g/cm³		X		
Label/ sleeve	Material	Mono/multilayer film incl. print and lacquer, density > 1 g/cm³		X		
		Mono/multilayer film incl. print and lacquer, density < 1 g/cm³			X	
		Paper label (not wet-strength/wet-strength equipped)			X	
	Coverage	Large labels (taking up > 50% of the projected surface) made from non-valuable material				P2
		Full sleeve labels (excluding full sleeves of PET hollow bodies without a light barrier – clear or light blue – where OPS, PET or PO sleeves are used)				P2
Label	Adhesive application	Adhesive application (wash-off capability unknown)		X		
		Adhesive application (wash-off-able in alkaline hot wash, 80 °C)			X	
		Adhesive application (not wash-off-able in alkaline hot wash, 80 °C)		X		

³⁷ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ³⁸	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Other design parameters						
Other design parameters	Structure	Different types of plastic used on front and back sides				P2
	Decoration	> 50% fully printed black (including background) using carbon black				P2
		Metal pigments applied on a large scale (taking up > 50% of the projected surface) (lacquering, coating or embossing)				P2

Examination of design-related valuable material losses	
P0.2	Presence of ferromagnetic components $\geq 5\%$ by weight in relation to the object of determination: examination required (test if necessary) whether the design causes sorting into ferrous metal fraction. If so, a complete loss of valuable material for packaging category 7 has to be assumed. The same applies if no examination is performed.
P2	Testing required to determine if identifiability, including targeted separability, is given in a sensor-based sorting context. Restrictions must be taken into account as proportionate losses of valuable material. NOTE: explicitly not applicable to large-format transport packaging not subject to system participation and to plastic packaging for which a separate plastic-type-only mono-collection is a requirement for recycling (e.g. reusable packaging in deposit systems, etc.).
P5	Only valuable material shares made of PET that have a verified density of more than 1 g/cm ³ (including additives, masterbatches, fillers or in multilayer structures as well as printing inks) must be counted towards the available valuable material share. Only valuable material shares made of PO that have a verified density of less than 1 g/cm ³ (including additives, masterbatches, fillers, or in multilayer structures as well as printing inks) must be counted towards the available valuable material share.
P8	For any deviating determination in the sense that incompatible substances do not negatively affect recyclability in individual cases, individual evidence produced through analytical testing must be provided. Requirements for the implementation and documentation of individual evidence are specified in Annex 3.1.

³⁸ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

A 2.8a Thermoforms made of PET-A and PET-C – rigid (transparent clear/coloured, opaque)

a. Scope of application

The following determination principles, criteria and requirements apply to packaging with PET as the main material. Examples include: trays, snap-on lids, cups, blisters and other thermoforms.

b. Categorisation of design parameters, including examination and testing requirements

The most common design parameters of thermoforms made of PET-A and PET-C are listed below in a table, assigned to the columns 'valuable material', 'incompatibilities', 'separable or conditionally compatible', and 'examination of design-related valuable material losses'. The last categorisation mentioned may also be additive and refers to the corresponding examination or determination requirement in the lower section of the table at the end of the chapter.

c. Calculation of recyclability

1. If no parameter is assigned to the 'incompatible' category, the recyclability corresponds numerically to the sum of the shares of the materials or formulations that are categorised as 'valuable material'. This scenario represents the standard case.
2. If one or more design parameters are categorised as 'requiring examination', it must be determined whether they result in design-related valuable material losses. If such losses can be ruled out through examination, the parameter has no impact on the calculation in accordance with paragraph 1. Otherwise, design-related losses must be determined and deducted.
3. If one or more design parameters are categorised under 'incompatibilities', recyclability is 0%.

d. Requirement of individual evidence for the 'existence of recycling infrastructure' criterion

Individual evidence for the existence of a recycling infrastructure is required to establish recyclability.

Thermoforms made of PET-A and PET-C – rigid (transparent, clear/coloured, opaque) Reference application: Thermoforms (contact-sensitive)						
Main body						
			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ³⁹	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Main body	Material (mono-material or in multilayer, density > 1 g/cm ³)	PET-A	X			
		PET-A opaque	X			
		PET-C	X			
		PET-G		X		
		rPET	X			
		PEF	X			
		PBT	X			
	Material in multilayer, density > 1 g/cm ³	Aluminium foil layer		X		
		EVOH layer		X		
		PA layer		X		
		PBT layer	X			
		PE layer			X	
		PE-X layer		X		
		PE peel layer (non-specific)		X		
		PEF layer	X			
		PP layer		X		
		PP peel layer (non-specific)		X		
		PVDC layer		X		
		PVOH layer (water-soluble in hot wash, 80 °C)			X	
		PVOH layer (water-insoluble in hot wash, 80 °C)		X		
		Other non-PET polymer layer		X		
	Material in multilayer, density < 1 g/cm ³	Multilayer structure, density < 1 g/cm ³			X	P5
	Structure	Multilayer structure				P2
	Masterbatch or colour batch	Masterbatch, colour batch	X			
		Dyeing using carbon black (also when used for internal layers)				P2
	Fillers, mineral additives and absorbers	Absorber (mineral)	X			
		Lime, chalk	X			
		Talc	X			
		Titanium dioxide	X			

³⁹ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ⁴⁰	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Main body	Additives	AA-blocker	X			
		Anti-block	X			
		Bio-/oxo-/photodegradable additives		X		
		Nanocomposite	X			
		Oxygen scavenger (PA free)	X			
		PA additivation		X		
		Slip additive	X			
		UV stabilisers	X			
		Other blended barriers		X		
	Coating	Acrylic-based coating		X		
		AlOx			X	
		EVOH coating		X		
		PVOH coating (water-soluble in hot wash, 80 °C)			X	
		PVOH coating (water-insoluble in hot wash, 80 °C)		X		
		Sealing edge coating (wash-off-able in hot wash, 80 °C)			X	
		Sealing edge coating (not wash-off-able in hot wash, 80 °C)		X		
		SiOx			X	
		Other coatings		X		P8
	Adhesive application	Adhesive		X		P8
	Decoration	Direct printing (excluding production codes, 'best before' dates and UFI codes)		X		
		Lacquer layer, transparent and wash-off-able in alkaline hot wash (at 80 °C)			X	
		Other lacquer layer		X		
Ancillary components						
Label/ IML/ sealing film/ back	Material	Monolayer film/coextruded multilayer film made of PET (except PET-G), density > 1 g/cm³, unprinted and not lacquered	X			
		Multilayer film made of PET, adhesive-laminated, density > 1 g/cm³, unprinted and not lacquered		X		P8
		Coextruded multilayer film made of PET (except PET-G)/PE, unprinted and not lacquered			X	
		Mono/multilayer film incl. print and lacquer, density > 1 g/cm³		X		

⁴⁰ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ⁴¹	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Label/IML/sealing film/back	Material	Mono/multilayer film incl. print and lacquer, density < 1 g/cm ³ , removable without residue in alkaline hot wash, 80 °C			X	
		Mono/multilayer film incl. print and lacquer, density < 1 g/cm ³ , not removable without residue in alkaline hot wash, 80 °C		X		
		Paper label (not wet-strength/wet-strength equipped), back for blisters or blister card made of paper/cardboard			X	
		Aluminium lid		X		
	Coverage	Large labels (taking up > 50% of the projected surface) made from non-valuable material				P2
Sealing film	Additives in PET-A and PET-C	AA-blocker	X			
		Anti-block	X			
		Nanocomposite	X			
		Oxygen scavenger (PA free)	X			
		PA additivation		X		
		UV stabilisers	X			
		Other blended barriers		X		
	Coating	Acrylic-based coating		X		
		AlOx			X	
		SiOx			X	
		EVOH coating		X		
		PVOH coating (water-soluble in hot wash, 80 °C)			X	
		PVOH coating (water-insoluble in hot wash, 80 °C)		X		
		Other coatings		X		P8
Absorbent pad/bubble pad	Material	Absorbent			X	
		PE, density < 1 g/cm ³			X	
		PP, density < 1 g/cm ³			X	
		XPS, density < 1 g/cm ³			X	
		Cellulose			X	
Label/absorbent pad/bubble pad/back	Adhesive application	Adhesive application (wash-off capability unknown)		X		P8
		Adhesive application (wash-off-able in alkaline hot wash, 80 °C)			X	
		Adhesive application (not wash-off-able in alkaline hot wash, 80 °C)		X		

⁴¹ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ⁴²	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Other design parameters						
Other design parameters	Structure	Different types of plastic used on front and back sides				P2
	Decoration	> 50% fully printed black (including background) using carbon black				P2
		Metal pigments applied on a large scale (taking up > 50% of the projected surface) (lacquering, coating or embossing)				P2

Examination of design-related valuable material losses	
P2	Testing required to determine if identifiability, including targeted separability, is given in a sensor-based sorting context. Restrictions must be taken into account as proportionate losses of valuable material. NOTE: explicitly not applicable to large-format transport packaging not subject to system participation.
P5	Only valuable material shares made of PET that have a verified density of more than 1 g/cm ³ (including additives, masterbatches, fillers or in multilayer structures as well as printing inks) must be counted towards the available valuable material share. NOTE: explicitly not applicable to large-format transport packaging not subject to system participation that is recycled via a separate mono-collection and whose recycling process does not include density separation.
P8	For any deviating determination in the sense that incompatible substances do not negatively affect recyclability in individual cases, individual evidence produced through analytical testing must be provided. Requirements for the implementation and documentation of individual evidence are specified in Annex 3.1.

⁴² The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

A 2.8b Other packaging made of PET-A and PET-C – rigid (transparent clear/coloured, opaque)

a. Scope of application

The following determination principles, criteria and requirements apply to packaging with PET as the main material. Examples include: cans and jars.

b. Categorisation of design parameters, including examination and testing requirements

The most common design parameters of other PET packaging are listed below in a table, assigned to the columns 'valuable material', 'incompatibilities', 'separable or conditionally compatible', and 'examination of design-related valuable material losses'. The last categorisation mentioned may also be additive and refers to the corresponding examination or determination requirement in the lower section of the table at the end of the chapter.

c. Calculation of recyclability

1. If no parameter is assigned to the 'incompatible' category, the recyclability corresponds numerically to the sum of the shares of the materials or formulations that are categorised as 'valuable material'. This scenario represents the standard case.
2. If one or more design parameters are categorised as 'requiring examination', it must be determined whether they result in design-related valuable material losses. If such losses can be ruled out through examination, the parameter has no impact on the calculation in accordance with paragraph 1. Otherwise, design-related losses must be determined and deducted.
3. If one or more design parameters are categorised under 'incompatibilities', recyclability is 0%.

d. Requirement of individual evidence for the 'existence of recycling infrastructure' criterion

Individual evidence for the existence of a recycling infrastructure is required to establish recyclability.

Other packaging made of PET-A and PET-C – rigid (transparent, clear/coloured, opaque) Reference application: Thermoforms or strapping bands						
Main body						
			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ⁴³	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Main body	Material (mono-material or in multilayer, density > 1 g/cm³)	PET-A	X			
		PET-A opaque	X			
		PET-C not additionally nucleated	X			
		PET-G		X		
		rPET	X			
		PEF	X			
		PBT	X			
	Material in multilayer, density > 1 g/cm³	Aluminium foil layer		X		
		EVOH layer		X		
		PA layer		X		
		PBT layer	X			
		PE layer			X	
		PE-X layer		X		
		PE peel layer (non-specific)		X		
		PEF layer	X			
		PP peel layer (non-specific)		X		
		PVDC layer		X		
		PVOH layer (water-soluble in hot wash, 80 °C)			X	
		PVOH layer (water-insoluble in hot wash, 80 °C)		X		
		Other non-PET polymer layer		X		
	Material in multilayer, density < 1 g/cm³	Multilayer structure, density < 1 g/cm³			X	P5
	Structure	Multilayer structure				P2
	Masterbatch or colour batch	Masterbatch, colour batch	X			
		Dyeing using carbon black (also when used for internal layers)				P2
	Fillers, mineral additives and absorbers	Absorber (mineral)	X			
		Lime, chalk	X			
		Talc	X			
		Titanium dioxide	X			
		Other fillers		X		
	Additives	AA-blocker	X			
		Anti-block	X			

⁴³ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ⁴⁴	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Main body	Additives	Bio-/oxo-/photodegradable additives		X		
		Nanocomposite	X			
		Oxygen scavenger (PA free)	X			
		PA additivation			X	
		UV stabilisers	X			
		Other blended barriers		X		
	Coating	Acrylic-based coating		X		
		AlOx			X	
		Anti-fog coating			X	
		EVOH coating		X		
		PVOH coating (water-soluble in hot wash, 80 °C)			X	
		PVOH coating (water-insoluble in hot wash, 80 °C)		X		
		SiOx			X	
		Other coatings		X		P8
	Decora-tion	Direct printing (excluding production codes, 'best before' dates and UFI codes)		X		
Lacquer layer, transparent and wash-off-able in alkaline hot wash (at 80 °C)				X		
Other lacquer layer			X			
Ancillary components						
Closure/ func-tional head	Material	Rigid HDPE, rHDPE from closures and functional elements	X			P5
		Rigid PP, rPP from closures and functional elements	X			P5
		Undecorated closure made of PET-A, PET-A opaque, PET-C not additionally nucleated, rPET, PEF, PBT	X			
		Closure made of PET-G		X		
		Decorated closure made of PET-A, PET-A opaque, PET-C not additionally nucleated, rPET, PEF, PBT		X		
		PA (e.g. in applicators)		X		
		Aluminium		X		
		Glass			X	
		Steel, ferromagnetic			X	P0.2
		High-alloy steels, non-ferromagnetic		X		
		Non-PET plastic (except HDPE or PP), foamed or filled, density < 1 g/cm³			X	

⁴⁴ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ⁴⁵	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Closure/ functional head	Material	Seals made of EVA, EMA, TPE-O, TPE-S with density < 1 g/cm ³			X	
		Elastomer components, density > 1 g/cm ³		X		
		Other polymer components, density > 1 g/cm ³ (except PET-A)		X		P8
Label/ IML/ sleeve/ sealing film	Material	Monolayer film/coextruded multilayer film made of PET (except PET-G), density > 1 g/cm ³ , unprinted and not lacquered	X			
		Multilayer film made of PET, adhesive-laminated, density > 1 g/cm ³ , unprinted and not lacquered		X		
		Coextruded multilayer film made of PET (except PET-G)/PO, unprinted and not lacquered			X	
		Mono/multilayer film incl. print and lacquer, density > 1 g/cm ³		X		
Label/ sleeve/ sealing film	Material	Mono/multilayer film incl. print and lacquer, density < 1 g/cm ³			X	
		Paper label (not wet-strength/wet-strength equipped)			X	
	Coverage	Large labels (taking up > 50% of the projected surface) made from non-valuable material				P2
		Full sleeve labels (excluding full sleeves of PET hollow bodies without a light barrier – clear or light blue – where OPS, PET or PO sleeves are used)				P2
Sealing film	Additives	AA-blocker	X			
		Anti-block	X			
		Bio-/oxo-/photodegradable additives		X		
		Nanocomposite	X			
		Oxygen scavenger (PA free)	X			
		PA addition			X	
		UV stabilisers	X			
		Other blended barriers		X		
	Coating	Acrylic-based coating		X		
		AlOx			X	
		Metallisation			X	
		EVOH coating		X		
		PVOH coating (water-soluble in hot wash, 80 °C)			X	
		PVOH coating (water-insoluble in hot wash, 80 °C)		X		
		SiOx			X	
		Other coatings		X		P8

⁴⁵ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ⁴⁶	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Label	Adhesive application	Adhesive application (wash-off capability unknown)		X		
		Adhesive application (wash-off-able in alkaline hot wash, 80 °C)			X	
		Adhesive application (not wash-off-able in alkaline hot wash, 80 °C)		X		
Other design parameters						
Other design parameters	Structure	Different types of plastic used on front and back sides				P2
	Decorations	> 50% fully printed black (including background) using carbon black				P2
		Metal pigments applied on a large scale (taking up > 50% of the projected surface) (lacquering, coating or embossing)				P2

Examination of design-related valuable material losses	
P0.2	Presence of ferromagnetic components $\geq 5\%$ by weight in relation to the object of determination: examination required (test if necessary) whether the design causes sorting into ferrous metal fraction. If so, a complete loss of valuable material for packaging category 8 has to be assumed. The same applies if no examination is performed.
P2	Testing required to determine if identifiability, including targeted separability, is given in a sensor-based sorting context. Restrictions must be taken into account as proportionate losses of valuable material. NOTE: explicitly not applicable to large-format transport packaging not subject to system participation and to plastic packaging for which a separate plastic-type-only mono-collection is a requirement for recycling (e.g. reusable packaging in deposit systems, etc.).
P5	Only valuable material shares made of PP and PE that have a verified density of less than 1 g/cm ³ because of additives, fillers or multi-layering including printing inks must be counted towards the available valuable material share. NOTE: explicitly not applicable to large-format transport packaging not subject to system participation or to reusable packaging that is recycled via a separate mono-collection and whose recycling process does not include density separation.
P8	For any deviating determination in the sense that incompatible substances do not negatively affect recyclability in individual cases, individual evidence produced through analytical testing must be provided. Requirements for the implementation and documentation of individual evidence are specified in Annex 3.1.

⁴⁶ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

A 2.9 PET – flexible (natural/coloured)

a. Scope of application

The following determination principles, criteria and requirements apply to flexible packaging with PET as the main material. Examples include: films, pouches, foams, stand-up pouches, carrier bags and wrapping films.

b. Categorisation of design parameters, including examination and testing requirements

No recycling paths exist for PET flexible plastic packaging subject to system participation. Consequently, design-for-recyclability requirements that could serve as determination principles cannot be derived.

c. Calculation of recyclability

Recyclability is 0% unless individual evidence is provided.

d. Requirement of individual evidence for the 'existence of recycling infrastructure' criterion

Individual evidence in accordance with Section 4 and Annex 3.3 is required to establish recyclability. Based on the verified recycling path, the design-for-recyclability criteria must be derived and applied to the object of determination.

A 2.10 PE – rigid (natural/coloured)

a. Scope of application

The following determination principles, criteria and requirements apply to packaging with PE as the main material. Examples include: bottles < 5 litres, cups, trays, blisters, tubes, cans, buckets, canisters.

b. Categorisation of design parameters, including examination and testing requirements

The most common design parameters of rigid plastic packaging made of PE are listed below in a table, assigned to the columns 'valuable material', 'incompatibilities', 'separable or conditionally compatible', and 'examination of design-related valuable material losses'. The last categorisation mentioned may also be additive and refers to the corresponding examination or determination requirement in the lower section of the table at the end of the chapter.

c. Calculation of recyclability

1. If no parameter is assigned to the 'incompatible' category, the recyclability corresponds numerically to the sum of the shares of the materials or formulations that are categorised as 'valuable material'. This scenario represents the standard case.

When determining the overall valuable material share, it must be noted that – for the sake of practicability when transferring supplier specifications – the descriptions of valuable materials in the below table are redundant. For example when selecting the material 'PE (non-specific)' it is not necessary to specify the PE types in more detail. Relevant entries are right-aligned.

2. If one or more design parameters are categorised as 'requiring examination', it must be determined whether they result in design-related valuable material losses. If such losses can be ruled out through examination, the parameter has no impact on the calculation in accordance with paragraph 1. Otherwise, design-related losses must be determined and deducted.
3. If one or more design parameters are categorised under 'incompatibilities', recyclability is 0%.

d. Requirement of individual evidence for the 'existence of recycling infrastructure' criterion

No individual evidence for the existence of a recycling infrastructure is required to establish recyclability.

PE – rigid (natural/coloured) Reference application: Blown film or injection moulding products						
Main body						
			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ⁴⁷	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Main body	Material	PE (non-specific) including PE-PE blends and PE copolymers with non-polar comonomer	X			P5
		HDPE	X			
		MDPE	X			
		LDPE	X			
		LLDPE	X			
		rPE	X			
		PO	X			
		rPO	X			
		PE-PP blend	X			
		PE-X		X		
	Material in multilayer, density < 1 g/cm³	PE peel (non-specific)		X		
		PE-PB peel	X			
		PS-PE blend			X	
		Aluminium foil layer			X	P0.1, P5
		Biodegradable and compostable materials as a layer		X		
		COC, COC-PO blend	X			P5
		EVOH layer			X	
		Ionomer layer			X	
		PA layer		X		
		PAN layer		X		P8
		PB layer	X			
		mPE (metallocene) layer	X			
		PEN layer		X		P8
		PET layer		X		P8
		rPET layer		X		P8
		Plastomer (PE) layer	X			
		PP layer (non-specific) including PP-PE blends and PP co-/terpolymers with non-polar comonomers	X			
		PP-ethylene copolymer layer	X			
		rPP layer	X			
		PP peel layer (non-specific)		X		
		PP-PB peel layer	X			
		PVC layer		X		

⁴⁷ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ⁴⁸	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Main body	Material in multilayer, density < 1 g/cm ³	PVDC layer		X		
		PVOH layer (water-soluble by means of cold washing)			X	
		PVOH layer (water-insoluble by means of cold washing)		X		
	Material in multilayer, density > 1 g/cm ³	Multilayer structure, density > 1 g/cm ³			X	P5
	Structure	Multilayer structure (except PE-PE and PE-EVOH)				P2
Main body	Masterbatch or colour batch	Masterbatch, colour batch	X			
		Dyeing using carbon black (also when used for internal layers)				P2
	Fillers, mineral additives and absorbers	Absorber (mineral)	X			P5
		Lime, chalk	X			P5
		Talc	X			P5
		Titanium dioxide	X			P5
	Additives	Bio-/oxo-/photodegradable additives		X		
		Other additives in valuable material	X			
	Coating	AlOx			X	
		Lacquer with PVC-based binder		X		
		Metallisation			X	
		Metallisation as outer layer or visible on the projected surface				P2
		EVOH coating			X	
		PVOH coating (water-soluble by means of cold washing)			X	
		PVOH coating (water-insoluble by means of cold washing)		X		
		SiOx			X	
		Other coatings		X		P8
	Tie layer, adhesive application	MAH-grafted LLDPE or LDPE	X			
		Adhesive and other tie layer			X	
	Decoration	Direct printing, lacquer with non-PVC-based binder			X	
		Direct printing, lacquer with PVC-based binder		X		

⁴⁸ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ⁴⁹	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Ancillary components						
Closure/ functional head/ valve/ applicator	Material	HDPE, MDPE, LDPE, LLDPE, rPE	X			
		Elastomer, rubber (non-thermoplastic), density < 1 g/cm ³		X		
		Elastomer (thermoplastic), density < 1 g/cm ³			X	
		Ionomer			X	
		PA, PBT, POM, POK in applicators with density < 1 g/cm ³		X		
		PB	X			
		PET			X	
		PET (foamed, density < 1 g/cm ³)		X		P8
		rPET			X	
		PP	X			
		PP-ethylene copolymers	X			
		rPP	X			
		PS			X	
		rPS			X	
		PS-PE blend			X	
		PU, density < 1 g/cm ³		X		
Closure/ functional head/ valve	Material	PVC			X	
		PVDC			X	
		Silicone, density < 1 g/cm ³		X		
		Silicone, density ≥ 1 g/cm ³			X	
		Other polymer components, density < 1 g/cm ³		X		P8
		Aluminium			X	P0.1
		Stainless steel			X	
		Glass			X	
		Steel			X	P0.2

⁴⁹ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ⁵⁰	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Label/ sleeve/ IML	Material	PE	X			
		PET (foamed, density < 1 g/cm³)		X		
		PP	X			
		Fibre-containing labels/IML if the cellulose share can be removed by means of cold washing			X	
		Fibre-containing labels/IML if the cellulose share cannot be removed by means of cold washing		X		
		Other materials	Categorisation in line with main body			
	Density	Label/sleeve, density > 1 g/cm³			X	P5
	Adhesive application	Adhesive			X	
	Decoration	Printing ink, lacquer with non-PVC-based binder			X	
		Direct printing, lacquer with PVC-based binder		X		
	Coverage	Large labels (taking up > 50% of the projected surface) made from non-valuable material				P2
		Full sleeve labels				P2

⁵⁰ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ⁵¹	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Sealing film/ back	Material	Aluminium lid, aluminium membrane, each including a sealing layer			X	P0.1
		Paper/cardboard back			X	
		PE-X (non-specific)		X		
		PE-X (≤ 50 kGy)	X			
		PE-X (> 50 kGy)		X		
		Other materials	Categorisation in line with main body			
	Density	Sealing film, density > 1 g/cm³			X	P5
	Additives	Bio-/oxo-/photodegradable additives		X		
		Other additives in valuable material	X			P5
	Coating	AlOx			X	
		Lacquer with PVC-based binder		X		
		Metallisation			X	P2
		EVOH coating			X	
		PVOH coating (water-soluble by means of cold washing)			X	
		PVOH coating (water-insoluble by means of cold washing)		X		
		SiOx			X	
		Other coatings		X		P8
	Tie layer, adhesive application	MAH-grafted LDPE or LLDPE	X			
		Adhesive and other tie layer			X	
	Decoration	Direct printing, lacquer with non-PVC-based binder			X	
		Direct printing, lacquer with PVC-based binder		X		
Other design parameters						
Other design parameters	Structure	Different types of plastic used on front and back sides				P2
	Decoration	> 50% fully printed black (including background) using carbon black				P2
		Metal pigments applied on a large scale (taking up > 50% of the projected surface) (lacquering, coating or embossing)				P2
	Sealant cartridges			X		

⁵¹ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

Examination of design-related valuable material losses	
P0.1	Presence of an aluminium foil layer or in the case of coffee capsules with an aluminium lid: examination required (test if necessary) whether the design causes sorting into aluminium fraction. If so, a complete loss of valuable material for packaging category 10 has to be assumed. The same applies if no examination is performed. NOTE: the criterion explicitly does not apply to metallised packaging.
P0.2	Presence of ferromagnetic components $\geq 5\%$ by weight in relation to the object of determination: examination required (test if necessary) whether the design causes sorting into ferrous metal fraction. If so, a complete loss of valuable material for packaging category 10 has to be assumed. The same applies if no examination is performed.
P2	Testing required to determine if identifiability, including targeted separability, is given in a sensor-based sorting context. Restrictions must be taken into account as proportionate losses of valuable material. NOTE: explicitly not applicable to large-format transport packaging not subject to system participation and to plastic packaging for which a separate plastic-type-only mono-collection is a requirement for recycling (e.g. packaging assigned to PPWR category 14, EPS, reusable packaging in deposit systems, etc.).
P5	Only valuable material shares that have a verified density of less than 1 g/cm^3 because of additives, fillers or multi-layering including printing inks must be counted towards the available valuable material share. NOTE: explicitly not applicable to large-format transport packaging not subject to system participation or to reusable packaging such as crates for beverage bottles that are recycled via a separate mono-collection and whose recycling process does not include density separation.
P8	For any deviating determination in the sense that incompatible substances do not negatively affect recyclability in individual cases, individual evidence produced through analytical testing must be provided. Requirements for the implementation and documentation of individual evidence are specified in Annex 3.1.

A 2.11 PE – flexible (natural/coloured)

a. Scope of application

The following determination principles, criteria and requirements apply to packaging with PE-flex as the main material. Examples include: flowpacks, films, bags, nets, foams, tubular bags, shrink films, stand-up pouches, carrier bags, bags, wrapping films, bubble wrap, pouches.

b. Categorisation of design parameters, including examination and testing requirements

The most common design parameters of flexible plastic packaging made of PE are listed below in a table, assigned to the columns 'valuable material', 'incompatibilities', 'separable or conditionally compatible', and 'examination of design-related valuable material losses'. The last categorisation mentioned may also be additive and refers to the corresponding examination or determination requirement in the lower section of the table at the end of the chapter.

c. Calculation of recyclability

1. If no parameter is assigned to the 'incompatible' category, the recyclability corresponds numerically to the sum of the shares of the materials or formulations that are categorised as 'valuable material'. This scenario represents the standard case.

When determining the overall valuable material share, it must be noted that – for the sake of practicability when transferring supplier specifications – the descriptions of valuable materials in the below table are partially redundant. For example when selecting the material 'PE (non-specific)' it is not necessary to specify the PE types in more detail. Relevant entries are right-aligned.

2. If one or more design parameters are categorised as 'requiring examination', it must be determined whether they result in design-related valuable material losses. If such losses can be ruled out through examination, the parameter has no impact on the calculation in accordance with paragraph 1. Otherwise, design-related losses must be determined and deducted.
3. If one or more design parameters are categorised under 'incompatibilities', recyclability is 0%.

d. Requirement of individual evidence for the 'existence of recycling infrastructure' criterion

No individual evidence for the existence of a recycling infrastructure is required to establish recyclability; individual evidence is recommended for objects of determination with a format smaller than DIN A4.

PE – flexible (natural/coloured) Reference application: Blown film and injection moulding products						
Main body						
			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ⁵²	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Main body	Material	PE (non-specific) including PE-PE blends and PE copolymers with non-polar comonomer	X			P5
		HDPE	X			
		MDPE	X			
		LDPE	X			
		LLDPE	X			
		rPE	X			
		PE-PP blend	X			
		PE-X (non-specific)		X		
		PE-X (≤ 50 kGy)	X			
		PE-X (> 50 kGy)		X		
		PE-PB peel	X			
		Aluminium foil layer		X		P0.1
		Biodegradable and compostable materials as a layer		X		
		COC, COC-PO blend	X			P5
		EVA layer (VA ≤ 15%)	X			
	Material in multilayer, density < 1 g/cm ³	EVOH layer			X	
		Ionomer layer			X	
		Polyamide 6 or co-polyamide 6-66 in coextruded PE/PA films (with or without EVOH), combined with MAH-grafted PE as an adhesion promoter at a ratio of at least 0.5 g of adhesive per 1 g of PA (+EVOH)			X	
		Polyamide 6 in laminated PE/PA films, combined with MAH-grafted PE as an integrated compatibiliser at a ratio of at least 0.15 g of compatibiliser per 1 g of PA			X	
		Other PA layers		X		
		PAN layer		X		
		PB layer	X			
		PET layer		X		
		rPET layer		X		
		PLA layer		X		
		Other non-polyolefin polymer layers		X		

⁵² The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ⁵³	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Main body	Material in multilayer, density < 1 g/cm ³	PP layer (non-specific) including PP blends with non-polar blend partners and PP co-/terpolymers with non-polar comonomers			X	
		PP-ethylene copolymer layer	X			
		PP terpolymer layer			X	
		rPP layer			X	
		PP peel layer		X		
	Material in multilayer, density < 1 g/cm ³	PS layer		X		
		rPS layer		X		
		PVC layer		X		
		PVDC layer		X		
		PVOH layer (water-soluble by means of cold washing)			X	
		PVOH layer (water-insoluble by means of cold washing)		X		
		Other non-PE polymer layer		X		
		Other non-polymer layer		X		
	Material in multilayer, density > 1 g/cm ³	Multilayer structure, density > 1 g/cm ³			X	P5
	Masterbatch or colour batch	Masterbatch, colour batch	X			
		Dyeing using carbon black (also when used for internal layers)				P2
	Fillers, mineral additives and absorbers	Absorber (mineral)	X			P5
		Lime, chalk	X			P5
		Talc	X			P5
		Titanium dioxide	X			P5
	Additives	Bio-/oxo-/photodegradable additives		X		
		Other additives in valuable material	X			
	Coating	AlOx			X	
		Lacquer with PVC-based binder		X		
		Metallisation			X	
		Metallisation as outer layer or visible on the projected surface				P2
		EVOH coating			X	
		PVOH coating (water-soluble by means of cold washing)			X	
		PVOH coating (water-insoluble by means of cold washing)		X		
		SiOx			X	
		Other coatings		X		P8

⁵³ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ⁵⁴	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Main body	Tie layer, adhesive application	MAH-grafted LLDPE or LDPE	X			
		Adhesive and other tie layer			X	
	Structure	Multilayer structure (except PE-PE and PE-EVOH)			X	P2
	Decoration	NC-, PU-, PVB-based binders in frontal printing			X	
		PU-, PVB-based binders in interlayer printing			X	
		NC-based binders in interlayer printing		X		
		Printing ink, lacquer with PVC-based binder		X		
Lacquer with non-PVC-based binder			X			
Ancillary components						
Closure/functional head/applicator/valve	Material	HDPE, MDPE, LDPE, LLDPE, rPE	X			
		Elastomer, rubber (non-thermoplastic), density < 1 g/cm ³		X		
		Elastomer (thermoplastic), density < 1 g/cm ³			X	
		EVA (VA ≤ 15%)	X			
		PB	X			
		Ionomer			X	
		PA, PBT, POM, POK in applicators with density < 1 g/cm ³		X		
		PET			X	
		PET (foamed, density < 1 g/cm ³)		X		
		rPET			X	
		pp			X	
		PP-ethylene copolymers	X			
		PP terpolymers		X		
		rPP			X	
		PS			X	
		rPS			X	
		PU, density < 1 g/cm ³		X		
		PVC			X	
		PVDC			X	
		Silicone, density < 1 g/cm ³		X		
		Silicone, density ≥ 1 g/cm ³			X	
		Other polymer components, density < 1 g/cm ³		X		P8

⁵⁴ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ⁵⁵	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Closure/functional head/applicator/valve	Material	Aluminium			X	P0.1
		Stainless steel			X	
		Glass			X	
		Steel			X	P0.2
Label	Material	PE	X			
		PP			X	
		Fibre-containing labels if the cellulose share can be removed by means of cold washing			X	
		Fibre-containing labels if the cellulose share cannot be removed by means of cold washing		X		
		Other materials	Categorisation in line with main body			
	Density	Label, density > 1 g/cm ³			X	P5
	Adhesive application	Adhesive			X	
	Decoration	NC-, PU-, PVB-based binders in frontal printing			X	
		PU-, PVB-based binders in interlayer printing			X	
		NC-based binders in interlayer printing		X		
		Printing ink, lacquer with PVC-based binder		X		
		Lacquer with non-PVC-based binder			X	
	Coverage	Large labels (taking up > 50% of the projected surface) made from non-valuable material				P2
Other design parameters						
Other design parameters	Structure	Different types of plastic used on the front and back sides of the packaging				P2
	Decoration	> 50% fully printed black (including background) using carbon black				P2
		Metal pigments applied on a large scale (taking up > 50% of the projected surface) (lacquering, coating or embossing)				P2
	Nets					P2

⁵⁵ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

Examination of design-related valuable material losses	
P0.1	Presence of an aluminium foil layer or in the case of coffee capsules with an aluminium lid: examination required (test if necessary) whether the design causes sorting into aluminium fraction. If so, a complete loss of valuable material for packaging category 11 has to be assumed. The same applies if no examination is performed. NOTE: the criterion explicitly does not apply to metallised packaging.
P0.2	Presence of ferromagnetic components $\geq 5\%$ by weight in relation to the object of determination: examination required (test if necessary) whether the design causes sorting into ferrous metal fraction. If so, a complete loss of valuable material for packaging category 11 has to be assumed. The same applies if no examination is performed.
P2	Testing required to determine if identifiability, including targeted separability, is given in a sensor-based sorting context. Restrictions must be taken into account as proportionate losses of valuable material. The limited scope of application (cf. below) must be observed, if applicable. NOTE: explicitly not applicable to large-format transport packaging not subject to system participation and to plastic packaging for which a separate plastic-type-only mono-collection is a requirement for recycling (e.g. stretch films (transport packaging)).
P5	Only the packaging components containing valuable material that have a verified density of less than 1 g/cm^3 (including additives, masterbatches, fillers, or in multilayer structures as well as printing inks) must be counted towards the available valuable material share. NOTE: explicitly not applicable to large-format transport packaging not subject to system participation that is recycled via a separate mono-collection and whose recycling process does not include density separation.
P8	For any deviating determination in the sense that incompatible substances do not negatively affect recyclability in individual cases, individual evidence produced through analytical testing must be provided. Requirements for the implementation and documentation of individual evidence are specified in Annex 3.1.

A 2.12 PP – rigid (natural/coloured)

a. Scope of application

The following determination principles, criteria and requirements apply to packaging with PP as the main material. Examples include: bottles < 5 litres, cups, trays, blisters, tubes, cans, buckets, canisters.

b. Categorisation of design parameters, including examination and testing requirements

The most common design parameters of rigid plastic packaging made of PP are listed below in a table, assigned to the columns 'valuable material', 'incompatibilities', 'separable or conditionally compatible', and 'examination of design-related valuable material losses'. The last categorisation mentioned may also be additive and refers to the corresponding examination or determination requirement in the lower section of the table at the end of the chapter.

c. Calculation of recyclability

1. If no parameter is assigned to the 'incompatible' category, the recyclability corresponds numerically to the sum of the shares of the materials or formulations that are categorised as 'valuable material'. This scenario represents the standard case.

When determining the overall valuable material share, it must be noted that – for the sake of practicability when transferring supplier specifications – the descriptions of valuable materials in the below table are redundant. For example when selecting the material 'PE (non-specific)' it is not necessary to specify the PE types in more detail. Relevant entries are right-aligned.

2. If one or more design parameters are categorised as 'requiring examination', it must be determined whether they result in design-related valuable material losses. If such losses can be ruled out through examination, the parameter has no impact on the calculation in accordance with paragraph 1. Otherwise, design-related losses must be determined and deducted.
3. If one or more design parameters are categorised under 'incompatibilities', recyclability is 0%.

d. Requirement of individual evidence for the 'existence of recycling infrastructure' criterion

No individual evidence for the existence of a recycling infrastructure is required to establish recyclability.

PP – rigid (natural/coloured) Reference application: Injection moulding products or thermoforms						
Main body						
			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ⁵⁶	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Main body	Material	PP (non-specific) including PP-PE blends and PP co-/terpolymers with non-polar comonomers	X			
		rPP	X			
	Material in multilayer, density < 1 g/cm ³	PP peel (non-specific)		X		
		PP-PB peel	X			
		Aluminium foil layer			X	P0.1, P5
		Biodegradable and compostable materials as a layer		X		
		COC, COC-PO blend	X			P5
		EVOH layer			X	
		Ionomer layer			X	
		PA layer		X		
		PAN layer		X		P8
		PB layer	X			
		PE layer (non-specific) including PE-PE blends and PE copolymers with non-polar comonomer	X			
		HDPE layer	X			
		MDPE layer	X			
		LDPE layer	X			
		LLDPE layer	X			
		rPE layer	X			
		PE-PP blend layer	X			
		PE peel layer (non-specific)		X		
		PE-PB peel layer	X			
		PEN layer		X		P8
		PET layer		X		P8
		rPET layer		X		P8
		PS layer			X	
		rPS layer			X	
		PVC layer		X		
		PVDC layer		X		
		PVOH layer (water-soluble by means of cold washing)			X	
		PVOH layer (water-insoluble by means of cold washing)		X		

⁵⁶ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ⁵⁷	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Main body	Material in multilayer, density > 1 g/cm³	Multilayer structure, density > 1 g/cm³			X	P5
	Masterbatch or colour batch	Masterbatch, colour batch	X			
		Dyeing using carbon black (also when used for internal layers)				P2
	Fillers, mineral additives and absorbers	Absorber (mineral)	X			P5
		Lime, chalk	X			P5
		Talc	X			P5
		Titanium dioxide	X			P5
		Other fillers		X		P5
	Additives	Bio-/oxo-/photodegradable additives		X		
		Other additives in valuable material	X			
	Structure	Multilayer structure (except PE-PE and PE-EVOH)	X			P2
	Coating	AlOx			X	
		Lacquer with PVC-based binder		X		
		EVOH coating			X	
		PVOH coating (water-soluble by means of cold washing)			X	
		PVOH coating (water-insoluble by means of cold washing)		X		
		SiOx			X	
		Other coatings		X		P8
	Tie layer, adhesive application	PE-based tie layer	X			
		PP-based tie layer	X			
		Adhesive			X	
	Decoration	Direct printing, lacquer with non-PVC-based binder			X	
		Direct printing, lacquer with PVC-based binder		X		
Ancillary components						
Closure/functional head/applicator/valve	Material	PP, PP-ethylene copolymers, rPP	X			
		Elastomer, rubber (non-thermoplastic), density < 1 g/cm³		X		
		Elastomer (thermoplastic), density < 1 g/cm³			X	
		Ionomer			X	
		PA, PBT, POM, POK in applicators with density < 1 g/cm³		X		
		PB	X			
		HDPE	X			

⁵⁷ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ⁵⁸	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Closure/ functional head/ applicator/ valve	Material	MDPE	X			
		LDPE	X			
		LLDPE	X			
		rPE	X			
		PE-PP blend	X			
		PET			X	
		PET (foamed, density < 1 g/cm ³)		X		
		rPET			X	
		PS			X	
		rPS			X	
		PU, density < 1 g/cm ³		X		
		PVC			X	
Closure/ functional head/ valve	Material	PVDC			X	
		Silicone, density < 1 g/cm ³		X		
		Silicone, density ≥ 1 g/cm ³			X	
		Non-PO plastics, density < 1 g/cm ³		X		
		Aluminium			X	P0.1
		Stainless steel			X	
		Glass			X	
		Steel			X	P0.2
Label/ sleeve/ IML	Material	PO	X			
		PE	X			
		PP	X			
		PET (foamed, density < 1 g/cm ³)		X		
		Fibre-containing labels/IML if the cellulose share can be removed by means of cold washing			X	
		Fibre-containing labels/IML if the cellulose share cannot be removed by means of cold washing		X		
		Other materials	Categorisation in line with main body			
	Density	Label/sleeve, density > 1 g/cm ³			X	P5
	Adhesive application	Adhesive			X	
	Decoration	Printing ink, lacquer with non-PVC-based binder			X	
		Printing ink, lacquer with PVC-based binder		X		

⁵⁸ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ⁵⁹	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Label/sleeve/IML	Coverage	Large labels (taking up > 50% of the projected surface) made from non-valuable material				P2
		Full sleeve labels				P2
Sealing film/back	Material	Aluminium lid*, aluminium membrane*, each including a sealing layer			X	P0.1
		Paper/cardboard back			X	
		Other materials	Categorisation in line with main body			
	Density	Sealing film, density > 1 g/cm³			X	P5
	Additives	Bio-/oxo-/photodegradable additives		X		
		Other additives in valuable material	X			P5
	Coating	AlOx			X	
		Lacquer with PVC-based binder		X		
		Metallisation			X	P2
		EVOH coating			X	
		PVOH coating (water-soluble by means of cold washing)			X	
		PVOH coating (water-insoluble by means of cold washing)		X		
		SiOx			X	
		Other coatings		X		P8
	Tie layer, adhesive application	PE-based tie layer	X			
		PP-based tie layer	X			
		Adhesive			X	
	Decoration	Printing ink, lacquer with non-PVC-based binder			X	
		Printing ink, lacquer with PVC-based binder		X		
Other design parameters						
Other design parameters	Structure	Different types of plastic used on front and back sides				P2
	Coating	Metallisation			X	
		Metallisation as outer layer or visible on the projected surface				P2
	Decoration	> 50% fully printed black (including background) using carbon black				P2
		Metal pigments applied on a large scale (taking up > 50% of the projected surface) (lacquering, coating or embossing)				P2
	Sealant cartridges			X		
Examination of design-related valuable material losses						

⁵⁹ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

* Inclusion of the aluminium share as a valuable material subject to individual evidence pursuant to Annex 3.3

P0.1	Presence of an aluminium foil layer or of a coffee capsule with an aluminium lid: examination required (test if necessary) whether the design causes sorting into aluminium fraction. If so, a complete loss of valuable material for packaging category 12 has to be assumed. The same applies if no examination is performed. NOTE: the criterion explicitly does not apply to metallised packaging.
P0.2	Presence of ferromagnetic components $\geq 5\%$ by weight in relation to the object of determination: examination required (test if necessary) whether the design causes sorting into ferrous metal fraction. If so, a complete loss of valuable material for packaging category 12 has to be assumed. The same applies if no examination is performed.
P2	Testing required to determine if identifiability, including targeted separability, is given in a sensor-based sorting context. Restrictions must be taken into account as proportionate losses of valuable material. NOTE: explicitly not applicable to large-format transport packaging not subject to system participation and to plastic packaging for which a separate plastic-type-only mono-collection is a requirement for recycling (e.g. packaging assigned to PPWR category 14, EPS, reusable packaging in deposit systems, etc.).
P5	Only the packaging components containing valuable material that have a verified density of less than 1 g/cm^3 (including additives, masterbatches, fillers, or in multilayer structures as well as printing inks) must be counted towards the available valuable material share. NOTE: explicitly not applicable to large-format transport packaging not subject to system participation or to reusable packaging such as crates for beverage bottles that are recycled via a separate mono-collection and whose recycling process does not include density separation.
P8	For any deviating determination in the sense that incompatible substances do not negatively affect recyclability in individual cases, individual evidence produced through analytical testing must be provided. Requirements for the implementation and documentation of individual evidence are specified in Annex 3.1.

A 2.13 PP – flexible (natural/coloured)

a. Scope of application

The following determination principles, criteria and requirements apply to packaging with PP-flex as the main material. Examples include: flowpacks, films, bags, nets, foams, tubular bags, shrink films, stand-up pouches, carrier bags, bags, wrapping films, bubble wrap, pouches.

b. Categorisation of design parameters, including examination and testing requirements

The most common design parameters of flexible plastic packaging made of PP are listed below in a table, assigned to the columns 'valuable material', 'incompatibilities', 'separable or conditionally compatible', and 'examination of design-related valuable material losses'. The last categorisation mentioned may also be additive and refers to the corresponding examination or determination requirement in the lower section of the table at the end of the chapter.

c. Calculation of recyclability

1. If no parameter is assigned to the 'incompatible' category, the recyclability corresponds numerically to the sum of the shares of the materials or formulations that are categorised as 'valuable material'. This scenario represents the standard case.

When determining the overall valuable material share, it must be noted that – for the sake of practicability when transferring supplier specifications – the descriptions of valuable materials in the below table are redundant. For example when selecting the material 'PE (non-specific)' it is not necessary to specify the PE types in more detail. Relevant entries are right-aligned.

2. If one or more design parameters are categorised as 'requiring examination', it must be determined whether they result in design-related valuable material losses. If such losses can be ruled out through examination, the parameter has no impact on the calculation in accordance with paragraph 1. Otherwise, design-related losses must be determined and deducted.
3. If one or more design parameters are categorised under 'incompatibilities', recyclability is 0%.

d. Requirement of individual evidence for the 'existence of recycling infrastructure' criterion

While individual evidence for the existence of a recycling infrastructure is not required to establish recyclability, it is recommended.

PP – flexible (natural/coloured) Reference application: Injection moulding products or thermoforms						
Main body						
			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ⁶⁰	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Main body	Material	PP (non-specific) including PP-PE blends and PP co-/terpolymers with non-polar comonomers	X			
		rPP	X			
	Material in multilayer, density < 1 g/cm ³	PP peel (non-specific)		X		
		PP-PB peel	X			
		Aluminium foil layer			X	P0.1, P5
		Biodegradable and compostable materials as a layer		X		
		COC, COC-PO blend	X			P5
		EVA layer (VA ≤ 15%)	X			
		EVOH layer			X	
		Ionomer layer			X	
		PA layer		X		
		PB layer	X			
		PE (non-specific) including PE-PE blends and PE copolymers with non-polar comonomer	X			P5
		HDPE layer	X			
		MDPE layer	X			
		LDPE layer	X			
		LLDPE layer	X			
		rPE layer	X			
		PE-PP blend layer	X			
		PE peel layer (non-specific)		X		
		PE-PB peel layer	X			
		Other non-polyolefin polymer layers		X		P8
		PET layer		X		P8
		rPET layer		X		P8
		PS layer			X	
		rPS layer			X	
		PVC layer		X		
		PVDC layer		X		
		EVOH layer			X	
		PVOH layer (water-soluble by means of cold washing)			X	
		PVOH layer (water-insoluble by means of cold washing)		X		

⁶⁰ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ⁶¹	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
	Material in multilayer, density > 1 g/cm³	Multilayer structure, density > 1 g/cm³			X	P5
	Structure	Multilayer structure (except PP-PP and PP-EVOH)				P2
Main body	Masterbatch or colour batch	Masterbatch, colour batch	X			
		Dyeing using carbon black (also when used for internal layers)				P2
	Fillers, mineral additives and absorbers	Absorber (mineral)	X			P5
		Lime, chalk	X			P5
		Talc	X			P5
		Titanium dioxide	X			P5
	Additives	Bio-/oxo-/photodegradable additives		X		
		Other additives in valuable material	X			
	Coating	AlOx			X	
		Lacquer with PVC-based binder		X		
		Metallisation			X	
		Metallisation as outer layer or visible on the projected surface				P2
		SiOx			X	
		EVOH coating			X	
		PVOH coating (water-soluble by means of cold washing)			X	
		PVOH coating (water-insoluble by means of cold washing)		X		
		Other coatings		X		P8
	Tie layer, adhesive application	PE-based tie layer	X			
		PP-based tie layer	X			
		Adhesive			X	
	Decoration	Direct printing, lacquer with non-PVC-based binder			X	
		Direct printing, lacquer with PVC-based binder		X		
Ancillary components						
Closure/functional head/applicator/valve	Material	PP, PP-ethylene copolymers, rPP	X			
		Elastomer, rubber (non-thermoplastic), density < 1 g/cm³		X		
		Elastomer (thermoplastic), density < 1 g/cm³			X	
		EVA (VA ≤ 15%)	X			
		Ionomer			X	

⁶¹ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ⁶¹	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
		PA, PBT, POM, POK in applicators with density < 1 g/cm ³		X		
Closure/ functional head/ applicator/ valve	Material	PB	X			
		HDPE	X			
		MDPE	X			
		LDPE	X			
		LLDPE	X			
		rPE	X			
		PE-PP blend	X			
		PET (foamed, density < 1 g/cm ³)		X		P8
		rPET			X	
		PVC			X	
		PVDC			X	
Closure/ functional head/ valve	Material	PS			X	
		rPS			X	
		PU, density < 1 g/cm ³		X		
		PVC			X	
		PVDC			X	
		Silicone, density < 1 g/cm ³		X		
		Silicone, density ≥ 1 g/cm ³			X	
		Other polymer components, density < 1 g/cm ³		X		P8
		Aluminium			X	P0.1
		Stainless steel			X	
		Glass			X	
		Steel			X	P0.2
Label	Material	PE	X			
		PET (foamed, density < 1 g/cm ³)		X		
		PP	X			
		Other foamed non-polyolefin components		X		
		Fibre-containing labels if the cellulose share can be removed by means of cold washing			X	
		Fibre-containing labels if the cellulose share cannot be removed by means of cold washing		X		
		Other materials	Categorisation in line with main body			
	Density	Label, density > 1 g/cm ³			X	P5
	Metallisation	Metallisation			X	P2
	Adhesive application	Adhesive			X	

			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ⁶²	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Label	Decoration	Printing ink, lacquer with non-PVC-based binder			X	
		Printing ink, lacquer with PVC-based binder		X		
	Coverage	Large labels (taking up > 50% of the projected surface) made from non-valuable material				P2
Other design parameters						
Other design parameters	Structure	Different types of plastic used on front and back sides				P2
	Decoration	> 50% fully printed black (including background) using carbon black				P2
		Metal pigments applied on a large scale (taking up > 50% of the projected surface) (lacquering, coating or embossing)				P2
	Nets					P2

Examination of design-related valuable material losses	
P0.1	Presence of an aluminium foil layer or of a coffee capsule with an aluminium lid: examination required (test if necessary) whether the design causes sorting into aluminium fraction. If so, a complete loss of valuable material for packaging category 13 has to be assumed. The same applies if no examination is performed. NOTE: the criterion explicitly does not apply to metallised packaging.
P0.2	Presence of ferromagnetic components $\geq 5\%$ by weight in relation to the object of determination: examination required (test if necessary) whether the design causes sorting into ferrous metal fraction. If so, a complete loss of valuable material for packaging category 13 has to be assumed. The same applies if no examination is performed.
P2	Testing required to determine if identifiability, including targeted separability, is given in a sensor-based sorting context. Restrictions must be taken into account as proportionate losses of valuable material. NOTE: explicitly not applicable to large-format transport packaging not subject to system participation and to plastic packaging for which a separate plastic-type-only mono-collection is a requirement for recycling (e.g. EPS, reusable packaging in deposit systems, etc.).
P5	Only the packaging components containing valuable material that have a verified density of less than 1 g/cm³ (including additives, masterbatches, fillers, or in multilayer structures as well as printing inks) must be counted towards the available valuable material share. NOTE: explicitly not applicable to large-format transport packaging not subject to system participation or to reusable packaging that is recycled via a separate mono-collection and whose recycling process does not include density separation.
P8	For any deviating determination in the sense that incompatible substances do not negatively affect recyclability in individual cases, individual evidence produced through analytical testing must be provided. Requirements for the implementation and documentation of individual evidence are specified in Annex 3.1.

⁶² The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

A 2.14 HDPE and PP – rigid (natural/coloured)

As things currently stand, packaging category no. 14 does not include any packaging subject to system participation. If packaging subject to system participation falls under packaging category no. 14 going forward, its recyclability must be determined based on the main material in accordance with Annex A 2.10 for HDPE and Annex A 2.12 for PP.

A 2.15a PS – rigid (natural/coloured)

a. Scope of application

The following determination principles, criteria and requirements apply to packaging with PS as the main material. Examples include: bottles < 5 litres, cups, trays, blisters, cans, jars.

b. Categorisation of design parameters, including examination and testing requirements

The most common design parameters of rigid plastic packaging made of PS are listed below in a table, assigned to the columns 'valuable material', 'incompatibilities', 'separable or conditionally compatible', and 'examination of design-related valuable material losses'. The last categorisation mentioned may also be additive and refers to the corresponding examination or determination requirement in the lower section of the table at the end of the chapter.

c. Calculation of recyclability

1. If no parameter is assigned to the 'incompatible' category, the recyclability corresponds numerically to the sum of the shares of the materials or formulations that are categorised as 'valuable material'. This scenario represents the standard case.
2. If one or more design parameters are categorised as 'requiring examination', it must be determined whether they result in design-related valuable material losses. If such losses can be ruled out through examination, the parameter has no impact on the calculation in accordance with paragraph 1. Otherwise, design-related losses must be determined and deducted.
3. If one or more design parameters are categorised under 'incompatibilities', recyclability is 0%.

d. Requirement of individual evidence for the 'existence of recycling infrastructure' criterion

While individual evidence for the existence of a recycling infrastructure is not required to establish recyclability, it is recommended.

PS – rigid (natural/coloured) Reference application: Injection moulding products						
Main body						
			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ⁶³	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Main body	Material	PS	X			
		HIPS	X			
		GPPS	X			
		SBS	X			
		rPS	X			
	Materials in multilayer, density $\geq 1 \text{ g/cm}^3$ and $\leq 1.08 \text{ g/cm}^3$	COC, COC-PO blend		X		
		EAA-, EEA-, EMA-, EMAA layer		X		
		EVA layer		X		
		EVOH layer		X		
		PA layer		X		
		HDPE layer		X		
		MDPE layer		X		
		LDPE layer		X		
		LLDPE layer		X		
		rPE layer		X		
		PE-PP blend layer		X		
		PE-X layer		X		
		PE peel layer (non-specific)		X		
		PET layer		X		
		rPET layer		X		
		PP layer		X		
		PP-ethylene copolymer layer		X		
		rPP layer		X		
		PP peel layer (non-specific)		X		
		PVDC layer		X		
		PVOH layer (water-soluble by means of cold washing)			X	
		PVOH layer (water-insoluble by means of cold washing)		X		
		Other non-PS polymer layer		X		
	Materials in multilayer, density $< 1 \text{ g/cm}^3$ or $> 1.08 \text{ g/cm}^3$	Multilayer structure, density $< 1 \text{ g/cm}^3$ or $> 1.08 \text{ g/cm}^3$			X	P5
	Structure	Multilayer structure				P2
	Masterbatch or colour batch	Masterbatch, colour batch	X			
		Dyeing using carbon black (also when used for internal layers)				P2

⁶³ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ⁶⁴	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Main body	Fillers, mineral additives and absorbers	Absorber (mineral)	X			P5
		Lime, chalk	X			P5
		Talc	X			P5
		Titanium dioxide	X			P5
	Additives	Bio-/oxo-/photodegradable additives		X		
		Other additives in valuable material	X			
	Coating	Acrylic-based coating		X		
		AlOx			X	
		Lacquer with PVC-based binder		X		
		Metallisation			X	
		EVOH coating		X		
		PVOH coating (water-soluble by means of cold washing)			X	
		PVOH coating (water-insoluble by means of cold washing)		X		
		SiOx			X	
		Other coatings		X		P8
	Tie layer, adhesive application	Tie layer		X		
		Adhesive			X	
	Decoration	Direct printing, lacquer with non-PVC-based binder			X	
		Direct printing, lacquer with PVC-based binder		X		
Ancillary components						
Closure/functional head/applicator	Material	Rigid HDPE, rHDPE from closures and functional elements	X			
		Rigid PP, rPP from closures and functional elements	X			
		PA, PBT, POM, POK in applicators, 1 g/cm³ ≤ density ≤ 1.08 g/cm³		X		
		SBS	X			
		Aluminium			X	P0.1
		Stainless steel			X	
		Glass			X	
		Steel			X	P0.2
		Non-PS plastic, foamed or filled, density > 1.08 g/cm³			X	
		Other polymer components, 1 g/cm³ ≤ density ≤ 1.08 g/cm³		X		

⁶⁴ The potential influence of residual contents has to be taken into account when determining incompatibilities (cf. 3.3).

			Valuable material	Incompatibilities ⁶⁴	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Label/ Sleeve/ sealing film	Material	Mono layer film made of PS, 1 g/cm³ ≤ density (incl. print and lacquer) ≤ 1.08 g/cm³	X			
		Mono/multilayer film incl. print and lacquer, density < 1 g/cm³ or > 1.08 g/cm³			X	P5
		Mono (not PS)/multilayer film, 1 g/cm³ ≤ density (incl. print and lacquer) ≤ 1.08 g/cm³		X		
Label/ Sleeve/ sealing film	Material	Aluminium lid*, aluminium membrane*, each including a sealing layer			X	P0.1
		Fibre-containing labels if the cellulose share can be removed by means of cold washing			X	
		Fibre-containing labels if the cellulose share cannot be removed by means of cold washing		X		
	Decoration	Printing ink, lacquer with non-PVC-based binder			X	
		Printing ink, lacquer with PVC-based binder		X		
	Coverage	Large labels (taking up > 50% of the projected surface) made from non-valuable material				P2
		Full sleeve labels				P2
Label	Adhesive application	Adhesive application			X	
Sealing film	Additives	Bio-/oxo-/photodegradable additives		X		
		Additives in valuable material	X			
		AlOx			X	
		Lacquer with PVC-based binder		X		
		Metallisation			X	P2
		EVOH coating		X		
		PVOH coating		X		
		SiOx			X	
		Other coatings		X		P8
Other design parameters						
Other design parameters	Structure	Different types of plastic used on front and back sides				P2
	Decoration	> 50% fully printed black (including background) using carbon black				P2
		Metal pigments applied on a large scale (taking up > 50% of the projected surface) (lacquering, coating or embossing)				P2
* Inclusion of the aluminium share as a valuable material subject to individual evidence pursuant to Annex 3.3						

		Valuable material	Incompatibilities ⁶⁴	Separable or conditionally compatible	Examination of design-related valuable material losses
Examination of design-related valuable material losses					
P0.1	Presence of an aluminium foil layer or in the case of coffee capsules with an aluminium lid: examination required (test if necessary) whether the design causes sorting into aluminium fraction. If so, a complete loss of valuable material for packaging category 15 has to be assumed. The same applies if no examination is performed. NOTE: the criterion explicitly does not apply to metallised packaging.				
P0.2	Presence of ferromagnetic components $\geq 5\%$ by weight in relation to the object of determination: examination required (test if necessary) whether the design causes sorting into ferrous metal fraction. If so, a complete loss of valuable material for packaging category 15 has to be assumed. The same applies if no examination is performed.				
P2	Testing required to determine if identifiability, including targeted separability, is given in a sensor-based sorting context. Restrictions must be taken into account as proportionate losses of valuable material. NOTE: explicitly not applicable to large-format transport packaging not subject to system participation and to plastic packaging for which a separate plastic-type-only mono-collection is a requirement for recycling (e.g. EPS, reusable packaging in deposit systems, etc.).				
P5	Only PS components and shares that have a verified density of more than 1 g/cm³ and less than 1.08 g/cm³ (including additives, masterbatches, fillers, or in multilayer structures as well as printing inks) must be counted towards the available valuable material share. Only valuable material shares made of PO that have a verified density of less than 1 g/cm³ (including additives, masterbatches, fillers, or in multilayer structures as well as printing inks) must be counted towards the available valuable material share. NOTE: explicitly not applicable to large-format transport packaging not subject to system participation or to reusable packaging that is recycled via a separate mono-collection and whose recycling process does not include density separation.				
P8	For any deviating determination in the sense that incompatible substances do not negatively affect recyclability in individual cases, individual evidence produced through analytical testing must be provided. Requirements for the implementation and documentation of individual evidence are specified in Annex 3.1.				

A 2.15b XPS – rigid (natural/coloured)

a. Scope of application

The following determination principles, criteria and requirements apply to packaging made of foamed polystyrene (XPS). Examples include trays.

b. Categorisation of design parameters, including examination and testing requirements

Packaging subject to system participation made of XPS can only be recycled in Germany if it is collected as mono-material through bring systems at recycling centres. Packaging that accumulates separately with final consumers in this form must therefore be classified as 100% valuable material.

c. Calculation of recyclability

Recyclability is 0% unless individual evidence is provided.

d. Requirement of individual evidence for the 'existence of recycling infrastructure' criterion

Individual evidence in accordance with Section 4 and Annex 3.3 is required to establish recyclability. A requirement whose fulfilment must currently be evidenced is that the volumes in question were collected in a mono-collection outside the usual kerbside collection for lightweight packaging. This is possible, for example, through bring systems at recycling centres, provided that the collection is sorted as mono-material.

A 2.16 EPS – rigid (natural/coloured)

a. Scope of application

The following determination principles, criteria and requirements apply to packaging made of expanded polystyrene (EPS). Examples include: cool boxes, edge protectors and other impact protection for electronic items.

b. Categorisation of design parameters, including examination and testing requirements

Packaging subject to system participation made of EPS can only be recycled in Germany if it is collected as mono-material (white and coarse-grained) through bring systems at recycling centres. Packaging that accumulates separately with final consumers in this form must therefore be classified as 100% valuable material.

c. Calculation of recyclability

Recyclability is 0% unless individual evidence is provided.

d. Requirement of individual evidence for the 'existence of recycling infrastructure' criterion

Individual evidence in accordance with Section 4 and Annex 3.3 is required to establish recyclability. A requirement whose fulfilment must currently be evidenced is that the volumes in question were collected in a mono-collection outside the usual kerbside collection for lightweight packaging. This is possible, for example, through bring systems at recycling centres, provided that the collection is sorted as mono-material (white and coarse-grained) (fraction number 340).

A 2.17 Other rigid plastics (e.g. PVC, PC) including multi-materials – rigid

a. Scope of application

The following determination principles, criteria and requirements apply to rigid plastic packaging such as barrels and bulk containers (unless they belong to packaging categories 7, 8, 10, 12, 14, 15, 16 or 19).

b. Categorisation of design parameters, including examination and testing requirements

No recycling paths exist for rigid sales packaging subject to system participation, such as barrels or bulk containers (unless they are assigned to packaging categories 7, 8, 10, 12, 14, 15, 16 or 19). Consequently, design-for-recyclability requirements that could serve as determination principles cannot be derived.

c. Calculation of recyclability

Recyclability is 0% unless individual evidence is provided.

d. Requirement of individual evidence for the 'existence of recycling infrastructure' criterion

For rigid sales packaging such as barrels and bulk containers (unless they belong to packaging categories 7, 8, 10, 12, 14, 15, 16 or 19), individual evidence in accordance with Section 4 and Annex 3.3 is required to establish recyclability. Based on the verified recycling path, the design-for-recyclability criteria must be derived and applied to the object of determination.

A 2.18 Other flexible plastics including multi-materials – flexible

a. Scope of application

The following determination principles, criteria and requirements apply to flexible plastic packaging such as bags, blisters, thermoformed packaging, vacuum packaging, big bags and stretch films (unless they belong to packaging categories 9, 11, 13 or 19).

b. Categorisation of design parameters, including examination and testing requirements

No recycling paths exist for flexible plastic packaging subject to system participation, such as bags, blisters, thermoformed packaging, vacuum packaging, big bags or stretch films (unless they are assigned to packaging categories 9, 11, 13 or 19). Consequently, design-for-recyclability requirements that could serve as determination principles cannot be derived.

c. Calculation of recyclability

Recyclability is 0% unless individual evidence is provided.

d. Requirement of individual evidence for the 'existence of recycling infrastructure' criterion

For flexible plastic packaging such as bags, blisters, thermoformed packaging, vacuum packaging, big bags and stretch films (unless they belong to packaging categories 9, 11, 13 or 19), individual evidence in accordance with Section 4 and Annex 3.3 is required to establish recyclability. Based on the verified recycling path, the design-for-recyclability criteria must be derived and applied to the object of determination.

A 2.19 Biodegradable plastics – rigid (e.g. PLA, PHB) and flexible (e.g. PLA)

a. Scope of application

The following determination principles, criteria and requirements apply to packaging, rigid and flexible, made of biodegradable plastics such as PLA and PHB.

b. Categorisation of design parameters, including examination and testing requirements

No recycling paths exist for sales packaging subject to system participation that is made of biodegradable plastics. Consequently, design-for-recyclability requirements that could serve as determination principles cannot be derived.

c. Calculation of recyclability

Recyclability is 0% unless individual evidence is provided.

d. Requirement of individual evidence for the 'existence of recycling infrastructure' criterion

Individual evidence in accordance with Section 4 and Annex 3.3 is required to establish recyclability. Based on the verified recycling path, the design-for-recyclability criteria must be derived and applied to the object of determination.

A 2.20 Wooden packaging, including cork

a. Scope of application

The following determination principles, criteria and requirements apply to wooden packaging, including cork, such as pallets, crates and boxes.

b. Categorisation of design parameters, including examination and testing requirements

No recycling paths exist for sales packaging subject to system participation that is made of wood, including cork. Consequently, design-for-recyclability requirements that could serve as determination principles cannot be derived.

c. Calculation of recyclability

Recyclability is 0% unless individual evidence is provided.

d. Requirement of individual evidence for the 'existence of recycling infrastructure' criterion

Individual evidence in accordance with Section 4 and Annex 3.3 is required to establish recyclability. Based on the verified recycling path, the design-for-recyclability criteria must be derived and applied to the object of determination.

A 2.21 Natural and synthetic textile fibres

a. Scope of application

The following determination principles, criteria and requirements apply to packaging made of natural/synthetic textile fibres, such as bags, pouches and cords.

b. Categorisation of design parameters, including examination and testing requirements

No recycling paths exist for textile sales packaging subject to system participation. Consequently, design-for-recyclability requirements that could serve as determination principles cannot be derived.

c. Calculation of recyclability

Recyclability is 0% unless individual evidence is provided.

d. Requirement of individual evidence for the 'existence of recycling infrastructure' criterion

For textile sales packaging, individual evidence in accordance with Section 4 and Annex 3.3 is required to establish recyclability in accordance with the minimum standard. Based on the verified recycling path, the design-for-recyclability criteria must be derived and applied to the object of determination.

A 2.22 Clay, stone, ceramics, porcelain

a. Scope of application

The following determination principles, criteria and requirements apply to packaging made of clay, stone, ceramics and porcelain, such as pots, containers, bottles and jugs.

b. Categorisation of design parameters, including examination and testing requirements

No recycling paths exist for sales packaging subject to system participation that is made of stoneware or porcelain. Consequently, design-for-recyclability requirements that could serve as determination principles cannot be derived.

c. Calculation of recyclability

Recyclability is 0% unless individual evidence is provided.

d. Requirement of individual evidence for the 'existence of recycling infrastructure' criterion

Individual evidence in accordance with Section 4 and Annex 3.3 is required to establish recyclability. Based on the verified recycling path, the design-for-recyclability criteria must be derived and applied to the object of determination.

Annex 3: Analyses and individual evidence

Annex 3.1: Requirements for compatibility analyses

1. Examining and determining the compatibility of packaging variations in deviation from the categorisation in Annex 2 requires analyses, measurements or calculations. These analyses, measurements or calculations must be conducted using reliable, exact and reproducible state-of-the-art methods whose results are subject to little uncertainty.
2. In the case of empirical analyses in laboratories, pilot plants or operations, the analysis methods, sample preparation and all relevant machine settings must be documented and aligned with the requirements set out in the first paragraph.
3. When planning and conducting analyses, it must be ensured (and explained in detail in the analysis report) that the chosen analysis and determination method, i.e. the determination parameters and criteria, is suitable for justifying that a packaging variation has been categorised differently from the specification in Annex 2 based on the reference application(s) defined there.
4. If the analysis results are used to trigger general exemptions from the categorisation in Annex 2 for certain substances, materials or formulations, the analysis reports must be published in a suitable manner and in compliance with the requirements specified in the first to third paragraphs; the timing of the publication must enable participation in the minimum standard consultation.

Annex 3.2: Requirements for evidencing sortability and separability

1. When evidence is mandatory, examining and determining the sortability and separability of a packaging variation's valuable material share requires measurements and calculations. These measurements and calculations must be conducted using reliable, exact and reproducible state-of-the-art methods whose results are subject to little uncertainty.
2. In the case of empirical analyses in laboratories, pilot plants or operations, the analysis methods, sample preparation and all relevant machinery and settings parameters must be documented and aligned with the requirements set out in the first paragraph. It is expressly noted that if measurements are conducted in operational plants with individual machinery or units being recognised, the functional integration of this individual machinery or these units into the overall process must also be documented (e.g. roughing stage for particles in the range of 20–140mm, cleaning stage, etc.) and the explicit indication of the maintenance state as per the producer's maintenance requirements is mandatory (e.g. most recent calibration).
3. When planning and conducting analyses, it must be ensured (and explained in detail in the analysis report) that the chosen analysis and determination method, i.e. the determination parameters and criteria, is suitable for transferring the results to the practice of sorting and recovery. This particularly refers to the question whether state-of-the-art technology was used.
4. Sortability and separability are not binary, but rather an analogously developed packaging characteristic. Design-related packaging losses (and therefore direct proportional losses of valuable material) in the sorting and separation processes must be quantified. The analysis methods must take into account, for example, that the individual operations for sorting out non-metallic sorting fractions are carried out in several stages and that cleaning stages (RCS processes) can partially compensate for incorrect ejections. Stochastic and systematic measurement errors must also be taken into account so that only design-related losses are quantified.
5. If the analysis results are used to trigger general exemptions from the individual evidence obligation for certain packaging variations, packaging components or packaging material variations, the analysis reports must be published in a suitable manner and in compliance with the requirements specified in the first to third paragraphs; the reports must be published prior to the start of the minimum standard consultation.

Annex 3.3: Requirements for evidencing the existence of recycling infrastructure

Individual evidence for the existence of recycling infrastructure is recommended for packaging categories with an application rate below 80%, according to an analysis of the German Environment Agency⁶⁵. Within the scope of the minimum standard, this evidence is mandatory if the application rate for the packaging category falls below 20%. Packaging categories for which individual evidence is recommended or mandatory, as well as the fraction numbers of the sorting fractions through which such evidence can be provided, are listed in the following table.

Packaging category, as defined in table 1 of Annex II PPWR:		Application rate (in %)	Individual evidence recommended	Individual evidence mandatory	Individual evidence by fraction numbers
No	Packaging type				
3	Liquid packaging board ⁶⁶	PolyAl 23 – 36	x		323-512 323-503
3	Composite packaging of which the majority is paper/cardboard	52 – 57	x		550
8	Thermoforms made of PET-A and PET-C – rigid (transparent, clear/coloured, opaque)	13 – 62		x	328-5 328-6 (328-2)
8	Other packaging made of PET-A and PET-C – rigid (transparent, clear/coloured, opaque)	13 – 62		x	328-5 (328-1) (328-2) (328-3)
9	PET – flexible (natural/coloured)	0		x	–
11	PE – flexible (natural/coloured)	50	x		310 (323) 323-2

⁶⁵ <https://www.umweltbundesamt.de/publikationen/praxis-der-sortierung-verwertung-von-verpackungen-2> (available in German only).

⁶⁶ Individual evidence is recommended for the PO and Al share (polyolefins from PE/PP film and PE/PP caps and closures as well as aluminium foil), as the existence of the recycling infrastructure for polyAl (by-product from the processing of paper grades 5.03.00 as per EN 643 or fraction number 512 consisting of polyolefin-based plastics, plastic-aluminium composites and aluminium, largely fibre-free (< 5% DM) according to technical standards) has been limited to date.

Packaging category, as defined in table 1 of Annex II PPWR:		Application rate (in %)	Individual evidence recommended	Individual evidence mandatory	Individual evidence by fraction numbers
No.	Packaging type				
13	Flexible packaging made from PP	27	x		324-2 (310) (323) (323-2) (324-1)
15	Rigid packaging made from PS	62	x		331 (351)
15	Rigid packaging made from XPS	0		x	-
16	Rigid packaging made from EPS	0		x	340
17	Other rigid plastic packaging (e.g. PVC, PC), including multi-materials	0		x	-
18	Other flexible plastic packaging, including multi-materials	0		x	-
19	Biodegradable flexible and rigid plastic packaging (e.g. PLA, PHB)	0		x	-
20	Wood, cork	0		x	-
21	Textiles (natural and synthetic textile fibres)	0		x	-
22	Ceramics or porcelain stoneware (clay, stone)	0		x	-

Requirements for documenting individual evidence under Section 4, applicable to dual systems

Individual evidence must be produced for each party under participation obligation, packaging type and reference year. The systems (PROs) should provide the ZSVR with evidence for a given reference year in an aggregated form, i.e. with a report pursuant to section 26 (2) VerpackDG. They are required to document recovery volumes and participation volumes, the latter categorised as recyclable by individual evidence.

1. Evidence of recovery volumes for the reference year includes:
 - (1) Supply volumes received by the system (PRO) as per the list of weighting notes, broken down by fraction number, showing sender and final recipient facility
 - (2) Evidence of high-quality mechanical recycling under Section 4 (2) for final recipient facilities
 - (3) Eligible shares of the packaging type to be documented as per product specification, broken down by fraction number (based on a Germany-wide analysis, if required)
 - (4) Recovery rate recommended for the final recipient facilities, as per certificate and broken down by fraction number (for the packaging type to be documented)
 - (5) Subtotals and totals for the volumes of the packaging type that is to be documented and was transferred for high-quality mechanical recycling. Proof used as individual evidence of recovery volumes must be attested by the expert instructed to audit the volume flow report.
2. Evidence of participation volumes for the reference year includes:
 - (1) Participation volumes, broken down by packaging type to be documented and party under obligation, including a conclusive indication of individual packaging (EAN, GTIN or internal product code)
 - (2) Information about the recyclability of the packaging included in the individual evidence (recyclability as defined under Section 3.2 et seqq. in this minimum standard)
 - (3) Total participation volumes covered by the individual evidence, broken down by packaging type
 - (4) Note: The sums of specific recovery volumes by packaging type under 1 (5) must be equal to or exceed the corresponding volumes under 2 (3).

The following examples serve to clarify the procedure:

Example 1:

A producer of frozen products distributes these goods in large polystyrene (EPS) boxes. It has been determined that the packaging complies with the process-specific criteria under Sections 3.2 and 3.3 of this minimum standard. To fulfil their producer responsibility, the party subject to system participation has agreed that the system (PRO) will ensure that during the reference year at least the equivalent of the specific EPS participation volume be transferred for high-quality recovery. The system has categorised the packaging as recyclable.

Evidence must be produced as follows:

- certificate issued for the EPS recycling plant(s) as the final recipient pursuant to the VerpackDG, certifying high-quality, mechanical EPS recycling;
- verifiable documentation demonstrating that packaging subject to system participation in a volume in line with the specific participation volume has been collected, as well as verifiable documentation of the corresponding volumes delivered to the certified EPS recycling plant(s).

Example 2:

A producer packages goods in transparent PET-A monolayer trays. All packaging characteristics comply with the process-specific criteria under Sections 3.2 and 3.3, for example labels made from PP have been applied with wash-off adhesives. The participation volume is 600 tonnes p.a. The system has categorised the packaging as recyclable. The system has committed to transferring a corresponding volume of PET trays for high-quality mechanical recycling in the reference year. To this end, the system has entered into an agreement with a PET recycling plant that produces PET pellets from these trays and has been certified for the 328-2 fraction with a mechanical recovery rate of 100%.

Evidence must be produced for:

- in the case of the 328-2 fraction, a delivery volume of at least 2,000 tonnes (equivalent to a maximum of 600 tonnes of trays)
- actual existence of the equivalent in trays
- transfer for high-quality mechanical recycling (facility certificate)