

ASSESSMENT & OPTIMIZATION FOR YOUR PACKAGING

Packaging fit for recycling

Packaging must meet many varied requirements. And, due to increased consumer demands, the eco- design of packaging plays a more and more important role. Furthermore, the setting of fees, which are modulated according to the packaging's eco-design, was implemented in the German Packaging Act (VerpackG). Many questions are still open and the implementation, in general, is still in development. However, the Zentrale Stelle Verpackungsregister (Central Agency Packaging Register – ZSVR) has developed a minimum standard for assessing the recyclability of packaging. This has become the basis for discussions concerning sustainable packaging.

As a leading supplier of environmental and chemical compliance solutions, we offer you professional assistance in examining and optimizing the recyclability of your packaging in partnership with the consultancy, Forschgruen.

Forschgruen is an independent management consultancy that offers comprehensive consulting for producer responsibility, the related laws and regulations, as well as other services including packaging consultancy. Forschgruen has operated in Germany, Europe and worldwide for more than 20 years. Their packaging lead, Norma Stangl, is an officially appointed expert who is registered with the ZSVR according to Section 27 of the German Packaging Act. For the assessment and optimization of packaging, Norma Stangl works closely with a network of sorting and recycling companies, as well as packaging designers. Her extensive practical experience also includes advising numerous packaging manufacturers. Forschgruen has its own testing laboratory.

Our service offer, PACK2RECYCLE, is modular and can be individually tailored to meet your needs.

Module 1

“Consulting on questions relating to the recyclability of packaging”

This service focuses on the following subjects:

- General consulting (1 hour) on questions relating to the recyclability of packaging
- Information on the assessment criteria of the ZSVR minimum standard and how to achieve them
- Initial evaluation of your packaging

This offer is especially for customers who prefer personal advice to an online tool. It avoids the errors of judgement or input errors that can occur when using an online tool. We offer a thorough initial evaluation which is based on personal advice. If this advice leads to certification of the packaging (Module 3), then the consulting costs for module 3 are waived.

Module 2

“Assessment of your packaging item(s)’ recyclability according to the ZSVR minimum standard”

This service focuses on the performance of all the required material assessments that are needed to meet the ZSVR minimum standard. This offer is especially for manufacturers that need a confirmation of the recyclability of the packaging used for their commercial customers. The following requirements are considered when assessing the content of reusable materials available for recycling:

This service focuses on the performance of all the required material assessments that are needed to meet the ZSVR minimum standard. This offer is especially for manufacturers that need a confirmation of the recyclability of the packaging used for their commercial customers. The following requirements are considered when assessing the content of reusable materials available for recycling:

- Availability of sorting and recycling infrastructure for high-quality material recycling
- The sorting capability of the packaging as well as the separability of its components, if applicable
- Incompatibilities of any packaging components or substances that may prevent successful recycling based on practical recycling experience

Please note: this module is not applicable to packaging made of paper or paper composites and no detailed expert advice is given. For this service, please select module 3.

Detailed information on the ZSVR minimum standard can be found here:

https://www.verpackungsregister.org/fileadmin/files/Mindeststandard/Mindeststandard_VerpackG_Ausgabe_2022.pdf

The assessment process:

For the assessment, we need 3 - 5 samples of your packaging item(s) as well as the related material specifications from your packaging supplier. Further information may be required if the specifications are not sufficient.

We then issue a certificate that verifies the recyclability according to the ZSVR minimum standard. You receive the result of the assessment in the form of a document containing all the essential evaluations. Moreover, we send you documentation explaining the assessment. The certificate is valid for 2 years. If any relevant changes are made to the packaging during this period, a new assessment will be necessary. Relevant changes relate to the weight or the composition of the material.

Module 3

“Certification of your packaging item(s)’ recyclability“

The certification provides a comprehensive assessment of the packaging’s recyclability. Module 3 includes an individual consultation with the expert. This offer is especially suited for enterprises that want to demonstrate the sustainability of their packaging and prove that their packaging items are suitable for high-quality recycling. In addition to the ZSVR minimum standard, the following criteria are also considered for this certification:

- the supply of the packaging to separated collection by the consumer;
- the actual sorting capability (tests at a sorting plant or technical centre using state-of-the-art separating and sorting technology); and in the case of fiber-based packaging, an examination in accordance with test method PTS-RH 025/2022 as well as
- extensive examination of the recycling and marketing possibilities.

The packaging items always undergo a test sorting process to check the sorting capability and separability. In addition to the recyclability result stated as a percentage figure, concrete suggestions for optimization possibilities are provided to help improve the recyclability.

The certification process:

For the assessment, we need a quantity of samples of your packaging unit(s) to be determined as well as the material specifications from your packaging material supplier to perform test sorting. Further information may be required if the specifications are not sufficient. Once we receive the above-mentioned documents and samples, the certification can start.

Issuing a certificate for the recyclability of the packaging: You receive the result of the certification in the form of a document containing all the essential assessments. Moreover, we send you detailed documentation for the assessment, as well as recommendations for adapting your packaging so that it can be optimized in terms of materials and composition to improve its recyclability.

The certificate is valid for 2 years. If any relevant changes are made to the packaging during this period, a new assessment is necessary. Relevant changes relate to the weight or composition of the material.


Use of the PACK2RECYCLE label:

Manufacturers whose packaging achieves a high level of recyclability – the result of the certification indicates recyclability of 90% or more – can print our **PACK2RECYCLE** label on their packaging. Thanks to a unique ID, the label is traceable and, as it demonstrates a minimum level of recyclability, it is a guarantee that shows your customers that you use recyclable packaging.

Further services: “Sustainable Packaging” WORKSHOP

In this workshop, we offer you an opportunity to understand current sorting and recycling infrastructure. During a visit to a sorting and a recycling plant, you can experience in real life how packaging recycling works, what technical possibilities are available for high-quality recycling, and what are the limits set by the packaging’s design. We look at the recyclability of your packaging and show basic possibilities for optimization.

Would you like to find out more? We can propose a service package individually tailored to your needs.



You need support?
Find out now from our packaging experts:
pack2recycle@landbell.de



Model certificate

Model report



LANDBELL GROUP is an international provider of comprehensive take back, consulting and software solutions for environmental and chemical compliance.

Established as a packaging compliance scheme in Germany in 1995 LAND-BELL GROUP has since evolved into a global service provider.

Today, LANDBELL GROUP operates in 13 countries producer compliance worldwide for various waste streams, helps over 38.000 customers in more

than 60 countries to fulfil their extended producer responsibilities, and collected over 760.000 tonnes of waste batteries, electronics and packaging in 2020.

Specifically in Germany, Landbell AG operates a certified and independent packaging compliance scheme for producers and retailers to meet their legal requirements.