



Consorzio Nazionale Recupero e Riciclo
degli imballaggi a base Cellulosica

GLOSSARY

Cellulose fraction of household waste: paper and board thrown away by households, shops, department stores, offices, and collective users, such as schools, hospitals, barracks, boarding houses, etc.

Cellulose: the structural base of the fibres obtained from vegetable sources; it accounts for about half of the wood substance and is the main raw material for the production of most paper and board types.

Composite packaging: a thick sheet of paper or cardboard, "combined" with a plastic sheet or aluminium foil – or both – to produce a brick-packaging or **tetrapack** (a four-sided polyhedron) – waterproof and therefore fit to contain fluids; especially used to "pack" fruit juice, milk, mineral water without gas and, in some cases, wine (**e.g. beverage cartons**).

Composting: a biological process that promotes the fermentation of waste, containing a main organic share, to obtain **compost**, a blend rich of minerals and organic matter used for farming purposes.

CONAI Environmental Fee (Contributo Ambientale CONAI, or CAC): the form of funding by which **CONAI** allocates to manufacturers and users the costs for the **separate collection, recycling, and recovery** of waste resulting from **primary, secondary, and tertiary packaging**.

Deink: a process by which dry ink particles are separated from paper in order to recycle and reuse printed paper in the white-paper manufacturing process.

Energy recovery: "the use of combustible packaging waste to produce energy by direct incineration with or without other waste, while recovering heat" (*Legislative Decree 22/97*).

Incineration: a process aimed at disposing of waste by combustion, possibly with heat or energy **recovery**. Also referred to as **thermal destruction** or **thermal valorization**.

Multi-material packaging: packaging made up of multiple independent components.

Osservatorio Nazionale Rifiuti: an entity established in compliance with article 26 of Legislative Decree 22/97 within the Ministry of the Environment in order to ensure the implementation of the same Decree, with special reference to a number of objectives, including a reduction in the quantity and dangerousness of waste; the efficacy, efficiency, and cost-effectiveness of waste; packaging and packaging-waste management, as well as public health and environmental protection.



Consorzio Nazionale Recupero e Riciclo
degli imballaggi a base Cellulosica

Packaging waste management: the management activities specified in article 6, subparagraph 1, letter d) of Legislative Decree 22/97.

Packaging Waste: Packaging turns into waste when the holder separates it from the contained products or goods and decides to dispose of it.

Packaging: “the product, made up of materials of any nature, used to contain and protect certain goods, from raw materials to end products, to allow their handling and delivery from the manufacturer to the consumer or user, and to define their look, as well as the disposable items used for such purpose” (*Legislative Decree 22/97*).

Paper mill: an industrial plant for paper and board manufacturing.

Paper: a material in sheets with a more or less porous texture and a regular thickness, made up of fibrous particles, usually of a vegetal origin (cellulose fibres), few millimetres long, intertwined with each other and stuck together to create a fibrous material obtained by draining water with suspended fibres through the meshes of a cloth and subsequently drying the thin layer of material thus obtained. Paper is manufactured from fibrous materials - whose nature determines the end product's basic features - with the addition of mineral powder, glue, dyes, and various supplements. Paper is primarily distinguished from **board** for its weight expressed in grams per square metre. Paper as such has a maximum weight of 150 g/m². Products weighting 150 to 250 g/m² may be either paper or **cardboard**, while those weighing 400 to 600 g/m² are half-way between cardboard and board.

Prevention: with reference to packaging management, “the reduction, in particular through the development of non-polluting products and technologies, in the quantity and environmental damage both of raw materials and of substances used for packaging and contained in packaging waste, and of packaging and packaging waste during the manufacturing process, as well as during marketing, distribution, use, and post-consumption management” (*Legislative Decree 22/97*).

Primary or sales packaging: “a packaging conceived so as to produce, on the point of sale, a sales unit for the end user or consumer” (*Legislative Decree 22/97*).

Recovered paper: paper, cardboard, and board recovered after use and/or production scraps used for retransformation into paste for paper production.

Recycling: “the repeated processing, in the production phase, of packaging waste to restore its original function or for other purposes; includes **organic recycling** but not **energy recovery**” (*Legislative Decree 22/97*).



Consorzio Nazionale Recupero e Riciclo
degli imballaggi a base Cellulosica

Reuse: with reference to packaging management, any operation “by which a packaging unit, conceived and designed to perform a minimum number of transfers or cycles during its life, is filled again or reused for the same purpose, with or without the support of ancillary products available on the market that allow to fill the same packaging; such reused packaging becomes packaging waste” (*Legislative Decree 22/97*).

Ronchi Decree: Legislative Decree 22/97. Among other things, it set the 1997-2000 packaging recycling and recovery targets for our country.

Secondary or multiple packaging: “a packaging conceived so as to produce, on the point of sale, the grouping of a certain number of sales units, whether sold to end users or consumers as such or only used to allow smooth shelf replenishment on the point of sale. It may be removed from the product without changing its properties” (*Legislative Decree 22/97*).

Separate Waste Collection: a system aimed at collecting urban waste together into homogeneous groups in view of reusing, **recycling**, or raw-material recovery.

Sorting plant: a plant where impurities are removed, materials are sorted, and **recovered paper** is pressed.

Substance: the weight of paper expressed in grams per square metre.

Tertiary or transportation packaging: “a packaging conceived so as to allow the smooth handling and transportation of a certain number of sales units or of **multiple packaging units** in order to prevent handling or transport-related damage; containers for road haulage and railway, sea, and air transportation are excluded” (*Legislative Decree 22/97*).

Waste-based compost: product obtained by **composting** the organic fraction of urban waste. Compost is a conditioner (a kind of fertilizer) that improves the yield of farming land.

Waste-based fuel (Combustibile da Rifiuti, CDR): fuel obtained from urban waste.