

FIT FOR FUTURE PPWR 2030

POLIFILM

PACKAGING AND PACKAGING WASTE REGULATION THE CHANGES AT A GLANCE

FILMS AND PACKAGING OF THE FUTURE

The demand for more **environmentally friendly and recyclable packaging** is gaining increasing societal importance, particularly due to the **European Plastic Strategy**. The **PPWR** (Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation) is a **European Union regulation** aimed at **reducing packaging waste** and **improving the recyclability of packaging**. This regulation mandates that, **by 2030, all packaging must be recyclable** and contain a **minimum percentage of PCR** (post-consumer recycled) material. This affects all types of plastic packaging, from non-food packaging to food packaging.

CLASSIFICATION OF RECYCLABILITY ACCORDING TO PPWR FROM 01.01.2030

The new regulations **introduce recycling classes** for packaging, which will be **categorized into classes A, B, and C**. These classes evaluate packaging based on its recyclability, with class **A representing the highest recyclability and class C the lowest**. The packaging industry must adapt to these classifications, as they will increasingly influence market approval and consumer acceptance. **By 2030, producers must prove recyclability according to the following recycling class values: A (minimum 95%), B (minimum 80%), and C (minimum 70%)**. From 2038 onwards, only classes A and B will be permitted. Additionally, there are requirements for the **minimum recycled content in packaging** (see table).

MANDATORY MINIMUM RECYCLATE CONTENT ACCORDING TO PPWR FROM 01.01.2030

	PACKAGING	2030	2040
1	PET (main component), contact sensitive*	30 %	50 %
2	CONTACT SENSITIVE, all except PET*	10 %	25 %
3	BEVERAGE BOTTLES	30 %	65 %
4	ALL PLASTIC PACKAGING, except 1-3 previously	35 %	65 %

* e.g. for food



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THE LAMINATION FILMS OF THE FUTURE

The **new PPWR regulations** bring profound changes, not only for the flexible packaging market. Traditionally, **laminates composites have been made from different materials** to combine the best properties, such as **printability, barrier protection, rigidity, or sealing performance**. These complex structures have so far made **recycling difficult** or even impossible. New composite structures with various films **made from the same plastic** meet the requirements of the PPWR and **can be recycled in the future**. **POLIFILM** offers film solutions made from **PE and PP**, which can be used in any layer of the composite – **with barrier protection, if needed**. Our specialized products include, for example, **our all-in-one solution** made from a **single PP film**, which can be used for the production of directly printed pouches with zippers or spouts, as well as our RLTF films (Room Temperature Lamination Films) that can be laminated without adhesive.

As a **specialist in lamination films**, we offer a well-thought-out portfolio of **PET replacement films**, including specialized products like our **POLIPURE MDO-PE films with EVOH barrier**, which are tailored to modern printing and production techniques and meet even the most complex requirements for mono-material, packaging. With this, we provide a suitable, **sustainable alternative** for nearly every application.

A key component of this transformation, driven by the PPWR, is the obligation for **lamination films to contain a minimum percentage of post-consumer recycled (PCR)** content in the future. This means that companies must incorporate **recycled plastics**, such as those recovered from household waste, into their products. The challenge lies in maintaining the **quality and functional properties** of the films, **despite the use of PCR**, while continuing to meet all food safety requirements. For this reason, extensive efforts are being made to develop recyclates from **chemically recycled waste** that are suitable for direct contact with food and meet the necessary legal requirements. The use of such raw materials is already possible today through the mass balance approach (ISCC Plus certification throughout the supply chain).





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THE PACKAGING FILMS OF THE FUTURE

The **packaging film** market is also significantly influenced by the **PPWR**. The regulations not only require an **increase in the recycled content** but also aim to reduce the overall volume of plastic packaging. Packaging film manufacturers are faced with the challenge of making their products easier to recycle while simultaneously reducing the use of virgin materials. A key focus is the **integration of recycled content** into packaging films.

Starting from **2030**, all packaging films for **non-contact-sensitive applications must contain at least 35% PCR** content.

POLIFILM has proactively responded to these developments and already **offers packaging films** that comply with the new legal requirements. These films are not only recyclable but also contain a **high percentage of PCR material (in some cases, even more than 80%)**. Customers are encouraged to familiarize themselves with these new products early and secure their future needs. The market for sustainable packaging films will grow significantly in the coming years, and it is foreseeable **that the availability of PCR materials will be limited**.

Overall, it is clear that the **PPWR** presents significant challenges for the plastic packaging industry. Companies that adapt early to the new requirements have the opportunity to thrive in a **changing market** and benefit from the new regulations. **POLIFILM** is here to support its customers as a reliable partner, helping them **comply with the new legal requirements**. Our specialists are happy to provide advice.

CONTACT

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