

Business Resource Efficiency Checklist - Packaging optimisation 5 of 6

Packaging optimisation by material or energy recovery

	Investigate further	Implement now	Comments
Material recovery			
See checklist on compostability/biodegradability			
Energy recovery			
Is your packaging likely to be heavily contaminated by residual product? If so, it may be beneficial to send the packaging for incineration at an energy from waste facility.			
Would your packaging generate more energy than is needed to drive the combustion process? To be sure of this 'calorific gain', the net calorific value must be at least 5MJ/kg.			
Have you checked your packaging against the CEN standard? This includes a formula for calculating the net calorific value of a pack consisting of various materials.			
Does your packaging consist of more than 50% (by weight) of inorganic material (e.g. ceramic, glass, clay, metals)? If so, this may be declared energy recoverable if it can be shown that there is calorific gain.			
Does your packaging consist of over 50% (by weight) of organic materials (e.g. wood, cardboard, paper, starch, plastics)? If so, in most cases, it isn't necessary to make any calculations because under the CEN standard this type of packaging can automatically be considered energy recoverable.			
Is your packaging made from thin-gauge aluminum foil (up to 50µm thick)? If so, in most cases, this also does not require any calculations for the above reasons.			

Name	
Date	
Signature	

We hope that you have found this checklist helpful on your route to greater resource efficiency. Don't forget that WRAP is here to help you to improve resource efficiency and save you money. Visit the website at www.wrap.org.uk or contact the WRAP Resource Efficiency Helpline on 0808 100 2040 for further information.

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