

# Lists of plastic packaging in the Contribution levels

**In force from 1.1.2020 and updated as at 26.11.2019**

**(supplemented on 3.2.2020 with a number of clarifications)**

## Terminology and definitions

- **Biodegradable and compostable plastic bags:** plastic bags certified by accredited bodies meeting the biodegradability and compostability requirements, as established by the European Committee for standardisation and in particular by the EN 13432 standard implemented with the national UNI EN 13432:2002 standard (Art. 218, paragraph 1, letter dd-septies) of Legislative Decree 152/2016).
- **Reusable plastic bags pursuant to Art. 226-bis of Legislative Decree 152/2006:** ...omissis...
  - a) reusable plastic bags with handles outside the useful size of the bag:
    1. with thickness of the single wall exceeding 200 microns and containing a percentage of recycled plastic of at least 30 per cent supplied, as transport packaging, in stores that sell foodstuffs;
    2. with thickness of the single wall exceeding 100 microns and containing a percentage of recycled plastic of at least 10 per cent supplied, as transport packaging, in stores that sell only goods and products other than foodstuffs;
  - b) reusable plastic bags with handles inside the useful size of the bag:
    1. with thickness of the single wall exceeding 100 microns and containing a percentage of recycled plastic of at least 30 per cent supplied, as transport packaging, in stores that sell foodstuffs;
    2. with thickness of the single wall exceeding 60 microns and containing a percentage of recycled plastic of at least 10 per cent supplied, as transport packaging, in stores that sell only goods and products other than foodstuffs. ...omissis..."
- **Mineral fillers:** any type of mineral filler (e.g. calcium carbonate, talc, titanium dioxide, glass fibre, etc.) added in bulk to the plastic packaging, even if used as a paint, pigment, colouring agent and ink component.
- **Palletising film:** any type of film (extensible, shrink, protective, etc.) used for packaging goods (from raw materials to finished products, including machinery and machine parts), with the function of containing/protecting them or allowing their handling, transport, and delivery within an industrial/commercial circuit, regardless of the presence or otherwise of the "pallet".
- **Shrink film for over-wrapping:** film used as is with mere heat treatment that shrinks it around several sales units. Applications on individual sales unit or that require heat welding or further processing (e.g. labels, sleeves, bags and other types of flexible packaging, also if sold in spools) are therefore excluded.
- **Packaging from the Commerce & Industry circuit (C&I):** packaging intended to become waste, typically at the facilities of production and/or distribution companies. This mainly concerns secondary and tertiary packaging or transport packaging.
- **Packaging for the Household circuit:** packaging intended to become waste, typically at the location of domestic users. This is mainly primary packaging intended to flow into urban solid waste and similar.
- **Monopolymer:** packaging consisting exclusively of a single polymer. It can consist of several different layers paired together, as long as each layer is composed of the same polymer as the other layers (e.g. flexible packaging made by pairing different layers of the same polymer, such as PP).
- **Multilayer:** packaging consisting of different polymers paired together, with or without the interposition of adhesives to form a single structure consisting of multiple different layers, including polymers used to make barrier layers (e.g. EVOH)
- **Sortable black:** colouring agent which enables black packaging to be recognised by means of near-infrared (NIR) optical readers, such as the colouring agent without carbon black.
- **UNI EN 13432:2002 standard:** "Requirements for packaging recoverable through composting and biodegradation. Test scheme and evaluation criteria for the final acceptance of packaging".



- **Opacity:** "Opaque PET containers must prevent reading if placed in contact on a horizontal plane with a white printing sheet with black capital letters, body 5 mm (verdana font- reading via reflected light and not via transparency)" (UNI 11038-1 standard).
- **Polylamine mainly in plastic material:** packaging consisting of various non-separable materials in which the plastic material is prevalent in terms of weight (e.g. plastic bags coupled with aluminium).
- **Rolls, tubes and cylinders for industrial use:** those around which a flexible material is wound that does not require further processing steps (e.g. palletising film), not intended for the consumer.
- **Bags for industrial use:** film spools (flat or bubble extrusion - tubular) or single bags/small bags (with open valve/mouth) for the packaging of products that are used in the production cycle of companies and therefore not intended for the household circuit.
- **Main types of plastic polymers:**
  - **HDPE:** High-density polyethylene, with the following abbreviation (UNI EN ISO 1043-1) and numbering for identification of the material (Decision 97/129/EC): HDPE 2.
  - **PE:** Polyethylene, in abbreviated form (UNI EN ISO 1043-1): PE.
  - **PET:** Polyethylene terephthalate, with the following abbreviation (UNI EN ISO 1043-1) and numbering for identification of the material (Decision 97/129/EC): PET 1.
  - **PETG:** Polyethylene terephthalate copolyester, in abbreviated form (UNI EN ISO 1043-1): PETG.
  - **PLA:** Poly(lactic acid) or polylactide, in abbreviated form (UNI EN ISO 1043-1): PLA.
  - **PP:** Polypropylene, with the following abbreviation (UNI EN ISO 1043-1) and numbering for identification of the material (Decision 97/129/EC): PP 5.
  - **PS:** Polystyrene, with the following abbreviation (UNI EN ISO 1043-1) and numbering for identification of the material (Decision 97/129/EC): PS 6.
  - **PVC:** Polyvinyl chloride, with the following abbreviation (UNI EN ISO 1043-1) and numbering for identification of the material (Decision 97/129/EC): PVC 3.
  - **EPS:** Polystyrene or sintered polystyrene foam.
  - **XPS:** Polystyrene or extruded polystyrene foam.

### Notes and general clarifications

- **"Packaging" is meant as** - in a broader sense - any packaging component (or ancillary element of it) autonomously subjected to a CONAI Environmental Contribution.
- To facilitate selection and recycling operations and improve the quality of secondary raw materials ("end of waste") obtained from recycling processes, **companies are invited to minimise the printed or painted packaging surface area, where possible.**
- **Polylaminated packaging mainly in plastic material and multilayer packaging** (with the exception of the cases indicated in the reduced CAC lists) hinder recycling and therefore fall under Level C.

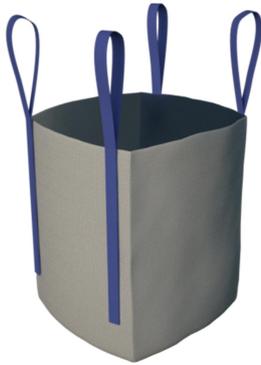
*This document is the English translation of a Conai document. In cases of disputes, the original Italian text shall prevail.*



**LEVEL A - Packaging with an effective and consolidated industrial sorting and recycling chain, mainly from the C&I circuit**



**Liners, bags for industrial use, caps to cover pallets/Big Bags, film for palletising, shrink film for over-wrapping, bubble wrap, and other air cushions - made of monopolymer, non-foam and non-metallic/metal painted PE**



**Big Bags and similar fabric Bags for industrial use**



**Water dispensers bottles and their caps**



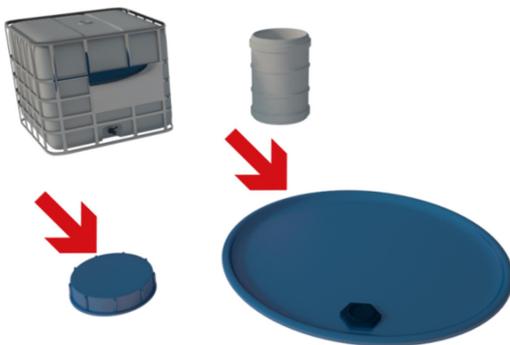
**Crates and industrial/agricultural Boxes/Large Boxes, including those indicated in the Conai Circular of 02/07/2012, in NON-foam material**



**Bottle baskets, including those indicated in the Conai Circular of 02/07/2012**



**HDPE Drums and IBC Tanks with capacity of 30 litres or more**



**Caps, closures and lids for drums and IBC tanks**



**Interlayers**



**Pallets**



**Rolls, tubes and cylinders around which flexible material is wound already subject to Contribution, as per Conai Circular of 27/06/2013, for industrial use**



**Cans - over 5 litre capacity**

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**Raw materials for self-production of the packaging indicated above also fall into Level A.**



**LEVEL B1 - Packaging with an effective and consolidated sorting and recycling chain, mainly from the Household Circuit**



PET bottles, jars and detergent bottles and the like - monopolymer, transparent or coloured transparent, without covering label/direct printing (instead of the label) - and preforms for production of the same



PET bottles, jars and detergent bottles and the like - monopolymer, transparent or coloured transparent, with a covering label (so-called sleeve) in plastic but with perforations/punching to facilitate removal and accompanied by instructions that invite the consumer to proceed in this sense - and preforms for production of the same



HDPE bottles, detergent bottles and the like, cans and other rigid containers - up to 5 litres capacity - with colour other than black, without covering label and without mineral fillers. Mineral fillers are tolerated provided that the density remains below 1 g/cm<sup>3</sup> (grams/cubic centimetre).



HDPE bottles, detergent bottles and the like, cans and other rigid containers - up to 5 litres capacity - with colour other than black and with covering label but with perforations/punching to facilitate removal and accompanied by instructions that invite the consumer to proceed in this sense and without mineral fillers. Mineral fillers are tolerated provided that the density remains below 1 g/cm<sup>3</sup> (grams/cubic centimetre).

**Raw materials for self-production of the packaging indicated above also fall into Level B1.**



**LEVEL B2 - *Packaging with an industrial sorting and recycling chain in the process of consolidation and development - from the Household and/or C&I Circuit***



**Reusable bags, compliant with current legislation (Art. 226-bis of Legislative Decree 152/2006)<sup>1</sup>**



**Bags (light and ultra-light) meeting the requirements established by the UNI EN 13432:2002 standard, in compliance with current legislation (Art. 226-bis and 226-ter of Legislative Decree 152/2006)**



**HDPE bottles, detergent bottles and the like, cans and other rigid containers – up to 5 litres capacity – with sortable black colouring agent and without mineral fillers. Mineral fillers are tolerated provided that the density remains below 1 g/cm<sup>3</sup> (grams/cubic centimetre)**

<sup>1</sup> Existing exclusion of reusable bags, so-called cabas, compliant with the provisions of current legislation (with external handles, more than 200 microns thick and containing at least 30% of recycled material) from the Environmental Contribution confirmed.



**Mechanical dispensers**  
(e.g. spray pumps, triggers, etc.)



**Labels - covering (so-called sleeves) or non-covering - not glued - in monopolymer PE, monopolymer PP or multilayer PE/PP, without mineral fillers, with colour other than black and non-metallic/painted with metals, with perforations/punching to facilitate removal and accompanied by instructions that invite the consumer to proceed in this sense. Mineral fillers are tolerated provided that the density remains below 1 g/cm<sup>3</sup> (grams/cubic centimetre).**



**Non-foam and non-metallic/metal painted monopolymer PE flexible packaging without mineral fillers in a colour other than black - other than that in Level A. Foam structures up to 2mm thick and mineral fillers are admissible provided that the density of the latter remains below 1 g/cm<sup>3</sup> (grams/cubic centimetre).**  
(e.g. film for garments, film for professional use, protective film, range IV bags, etc.).



**Non-foam, non-metallic/metal painted monopolymer PP or multilayer PE/PP flexible packaging, without mineral fillers, in a colour other than black and intended for the Household circuit.**

**Foam structures up to 2mm thick and mineral fillers are tolerated provided that the density of the latter remains below 1 g/cm<sup>3</sup> (grams/cubic centimetre).**

*(e.g. pasta bags, sweets bags, etc.).*

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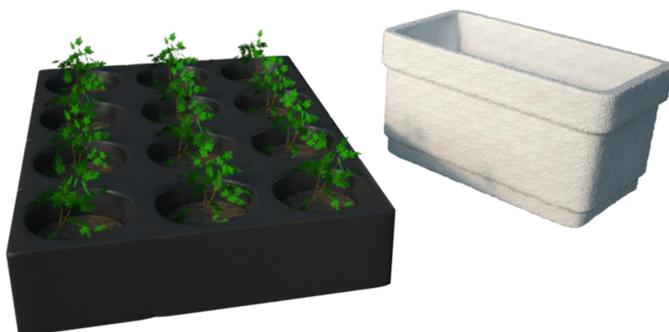


**Non-foam rigid packaging in monopolymer PP or monopolymer PE, in a colour other than black, without mineral fillers, other than that of Level A, B1 and C.**

**Mineral fillers are tolerated provided that the density remains below 1 g/cm<sup>3</sup> (grams/cubic centimetre). Any covering labels, whether or not perforated/punched, are also tolerated.**

*(e.g. bottles, buckets, containers, trays, jars, etc.)*

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**Seed trays and food crates in foam PS (EPS) intended for the C&I circuit**

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**Hard caps, closures, and lids  
other than those in Level A**

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**Raw materials for self-production of the packaging indicated above also fall into Level B2.**



**LEVEL C – Packaging with experimental sorting/recycling activities in progress or not sortable/recyclable with current technologies**

*All types of packaging not present in the previous lists must be considered to belong to Level C and, therefore, the illustrations shown next to each macro item (rigid packaging, flexible packaging or poly laminated packaging mainly in plastic) are to be considered by way of example and not limited to.*

**RIGID PACKAGING**



Opaque PET bottles, jars and detergent bottles and the like and preforms for production of the same



Bottles, jars, detergent bottles and the like, cans and other rigid containers with covering label (so-called sleeve) in plastic and preforms for production of the same, other than those in Level B1 and B2



PET bottles, jars and detergent bottles and the like - multilayer with polymers other than PET- and preforms for production of the same



PET bottles, jars and detergent bottles and the like with direct printing on the same (instead of the label) and preforms for production of the same



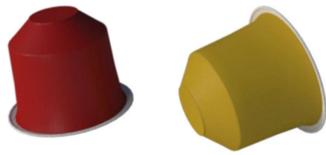
Bottles, jars, detergent bottles and the like, cans and other rigid containers made with polymers other than PET and PE (e.g. PS, PLA, PVC, PETG, etc.) and preforms for production of the same



Black, non-sortable bottles, detergent bottles and the like, cans and other rigid containers - up to 5 litres capacity - and preforms for production of the same

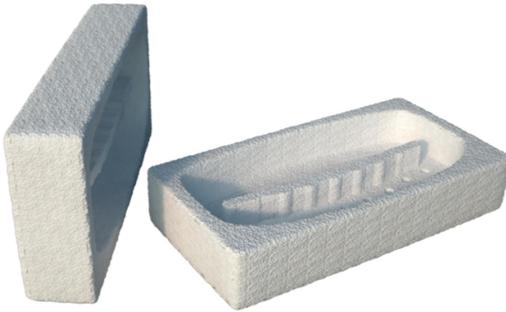


Bottles, jars and detergent bottles and the like with glued or welded metal components and preforms for production of the same



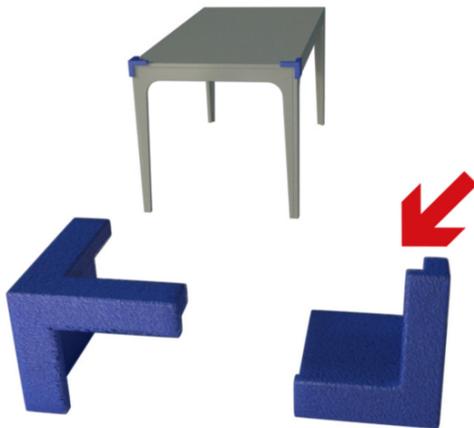
**Emptied beverage system capsules  
(Conai Circular of 07/10/2014)**

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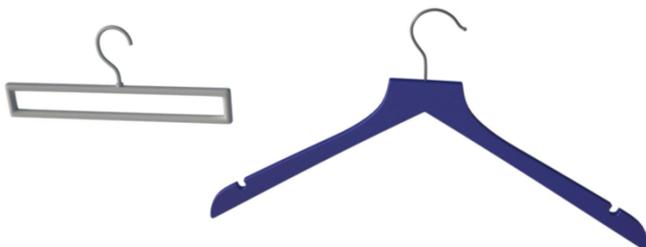
**Crates in foam material other than  
those in Level B2**

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**Protective elements in foam or  
rigid material, regardless of  
polymers**

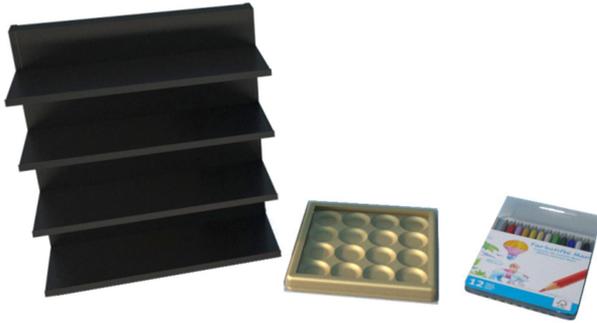
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**Hangers for clothes, linen and  
other goods (Conai Circular of  
7/10/2013), with different  
characteristics than those provided  
for rigid packaging in Level B2**

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## Lists of plastic packaging in the Contribution levels



Display packaging (e.g. displays, blisters, thermoforms and plaques), with different characteristics than those provided for rigid packaging in Level B2

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Strapping and bands for packaging use of any shape, polymer, or size

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Rolls, tubes and cylinders around which flexible material is wound (Conai Circular of 27/06/2013), other than those for industrial use of Level A

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Disposable plates and cups, with different characteristics than those provided for rigid packaging in Level B2

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Tubes

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## Lists of plastic packaging in the Contribution levels



**Containers in extruded foam (e.g. XPS)**



**All other rigid packaging with different characteristics than those provided for rigid packaging in Level A and Level B2**



**FLEXIBLE PACKAGING**



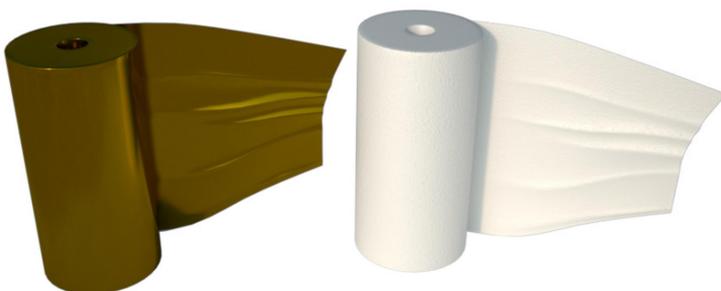
Shopping bags, bags and small bags other than those of Level A and Level B2



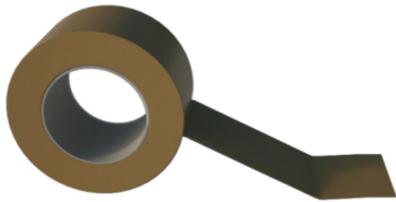
Woven/non-woven garment covers and linen bags with characteristics different from those envisaged for the flexible packaging of Level B2



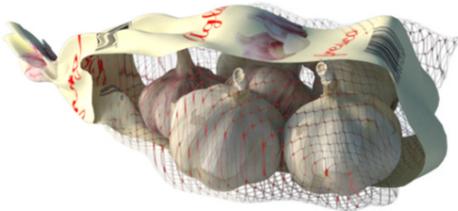
Labels - covering and non-covering - with different characteristics than those provided for Level B2 labels



Flexible packaging intended for the C&I circuit with different characteristics than those provided for flexible packaging in Level A (not in PE and/or foam and/or metallic/painted with metals)



Adhesive tapes

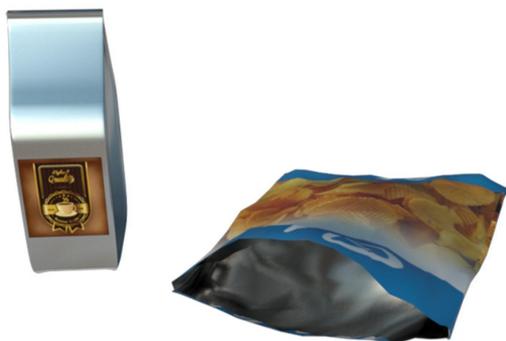


Net and string bags and twine and their relative bands/straps (e.g. for fruit and vegetables), of any shape, polymer or size



All other flexible packaging intended for the Household circuit with different characteristics than those provided for flexible packaging in Level B2 (not in PE and/or non-PP and/or foam and/or black and/or metallic/painted with metals)

**POLYLAMINATES MAINLY IN PLASTIC MATERIAL**



Polylaminates mainly in plastic material of any shape or size

**Any other packaging intended for the C&I and/or Household circuit (and related raw materials for self-production) not expressly included in the lists of Level A, B1 and/or B2, falls into Level C.**