

# PLASTIC PACKAGING PROTECTS FOOD AND REDUCES FOOD WASTE

Food waste undermines resource efficiency as it represents not only a loss of the product itself but also the resources that have been used in the manufacturing process, e.g., land, fertilisers/ pesticides, raw materials, ingredients, water, energy, and manpower. In total, the production and consumption of food is responsible for 20 to 30 % of the EU's entire environmental impacts. According to the European Commission, approximately 90 million tonnes of food are still wasted in the EU each year. This means that on average every European citizen wastes 180 kg of food every year.

Plastic packaging has a vital role in reducing food waste as it increases the safety, quality and shelf life of food and protects it from external factors such as damage during transport and handling, deterioration caused by exposure to oxygen or light, spoilage by microbes and absorption of malodours.

The role of single-use packaging from a food safety perspective cannot sufficiently be underlined with regards to fresh products. Many dairy products, for example, need to be kept refrigerated and thus require specific handling at production, in transportation and in the consumer's home. This can only be achieved with the adequate packaging, as provided by the use of plastics, that safeguards the products from external impacts, and remains as light and practicable as possible.

To protect food, PACCOR uses a wide technology and material portfolio with unique intrinsic performance properties. We continuously develop and select the necessary material characteristics to meet the performance required to protect food along the supply chain, including high-barrier films. If such protective packaging were not available, the shelf-life of foodstuffs would be significantly reduced leading to higher wastage.

In addition, PACCOR takes a proactive approach to identify, manage and remove hazardous substances in its products and processes to ensure safe use, ahead of legislation, future-proofing its products against changes in regulations. This ensures that our materials and products can continue to be used by all stakeholders in a safe and cost-effective manner to meet or exceed their needs.

## ABOUT PACCOR

At PACCOR we create innovative and sustainable packaging solutions for the consumer, food and foodservice market. Our overall goal is to protect what is worth being protected: our planet, our partners' products and our employees. We have high expertise in developing and providing valuable rigid plastic packaging products. Our solutions meet current market trends by constantly thinking outside the box. With more than 3,000 dedicated employees in 15 countries, PACCOR is a global player in the packaging industry. Everything we do contributes to the protection and hygienic safety of valuable products. PACCOR leads the transition towards a circular economy. Because we believe this is the best way to achieve real change in the industry and to create shared value for all our stakeholders and society.

More: <https://www.paccor.com/>