

TR 109:2023+C1:2024
(ICS 13.020.20; 55.040)

TECHNICAL REFERENCE

Sustainable packaging guiding framework and practices

Incorporating Corrigendum No.1

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Sustainable packaging guiding framework and practices



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

ISBN 978-981-5118-73-5

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Foreword

This Technical Reference (TR) was prepared by the Working Group on sustainable packaging set up by the Technical Committee on Circularity of materials under the purview of the Environment and Resources Standards Committee.

It incorporates Corrigendum No.1, January 2024 denoted by  .

This TR provides a guiding framework for companies to adopt more sustainable packaging-related practices such as reduction, collection for re-use and/or recycling, use of recycled content in packaging material and improved recyclability of packaging in line with the objective of the Mandatory Packaging Reporting (MPR) requirements. Under the MPR scheme, producers of packaged products such as brand owners, manufacturers and importers, as well as retailers (e.g. supermarkets), submit packaging data and 3R plans annually. The 3R plans that companies submit include details on the key initiatives, key performance indicators (KPIs) and targets.

There is currently no chemical recycling facility in Singapore for plastics. As of the writing of this TR, a solution is currently being studied by the local environmental agency and industry partners.

This TR is a provisional standard made available for application over a period of three years. The aim is to use the experience gained to update the TR so that it can be adopted as a Singapore Standard. Users of the TR are invited to provide feedback on its technical content, clarity and ease of use. Feedback can be submitted using the form provided in the TR. At the end of the three years, the TR will be reviewed, taking into account any feedback or other considerations, to further its development into a Singapore Standard if found suitable.

It is presupposed that in the course of their work, users will comply with all relevant regulatory and statutory requirements. Some examples of relevant regulations and acts are listed in the Bibliography. The Singapore Standards Council and Enterprise Singapore shall not be responsible for identifying all of such legal obligations.

In preparing this TR, reference was made to the following publications:

1. ASTM D7611/D7611-21 Standard practice for coding plastic manufactured articles for resin identification
2. ISO 6707-1:2020 Buildings and civil engineering works – Vocabulary – Part 1: General terms
3. ISO 115270:2008 Plastics – Guidelines for the recovery and recycling of plastics wastes
4. ISO 14021:2017 Environmental labels and declarations – Self declared environmental claims
5. ISO 17088:2021 Plastics – Organic recycling – Specifications for compostable plastics
6. ISO 21067-1:2016 Packaging – Vocabulary – Part 1: General terms
7. Packaging Partnership Programme 3R Guidebook for Packaging, A Guide to Help You Develop and Implement Packaging 3R Plans and Initiatives
8. A Global Language for Packaging and Sustainability, A Framework and a Measurement System for Our Industry, June 2010

Permission has also been obtained from the following organisations for the reproduction of materials from their publications into this standard:

1. American Society for Testing and Materials
2. Consumer Goods Forum
3. International Organization for Standardization
4. National Environment Agency
5. Singapore Manufacturing Federation (Packaging Partnership Programme).

Acknowledgement is made for the use of information from the above publications.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this TR may be the subject of patent rights. Enterprise Singapore shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all of such patent rights.

NOTE

1. *Singapore Standards (SSs) and Technical References (TRs) are reviewed periodically to keep abreast of technical changes, technological developments and industry practices. The changes are documented through the issue of either amendments or revisions. Where SSs are deemed to be stable, i.e. no foreseeable changes in them, they will be classified as "mature standards". Mature standards will not be subject to further review unless there are requests to review such standards.*
2. *An SS or TR is voluntary in nature except when it is made mandatory by a regulatory authority. It can also be cited in contracts making its application a business necessity. Users are advised to assess and determine whether the SS or TR is suitable for their intended use or purpose. If required, they should refer to the relevant professionals or experts for advice on the use of the document. Enterprise Singapore and the Singapore Standards Council shall not be liable for any damages whether directly or indirectly suffered by anyone or any organisation as a result of the use of any SS or TR. Although care has been taken to draft this standard, users are also advised to ensure that they apply the information after due diligence.*
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Sustainable packaging guiding framework and practices

1 Scope

This Technical Reference (TR) specifies guidelines, criteria and best practices for implementing the 3R (Reduce, Re-use, Recycle) for business-to-business and business-to-consumer packaging, taking into consideration practices that are sustainable in Singapore's context. It covers the life cycle of packaging, starting from upstream packaging design to downstream end-of-life management that are applicable across industries. This TR also covers relevant case studies and references such as communication with consumers on proper management of packaging at disposal.

While adopting the recommendations of this TR is voluntary, provisions have been made to cover all consumer and business packaging, including secondary and tertiary packaging, but excludes primary packaging that comes into contact with medicines.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this TR.