

## SUPPLIER COMMITMENTS: GUIDANCE AND FURTHER INFORMATION

# Waste and Efficiency

**'As a supplier, you commit to reducing waste by removing unnecessary packaging, eliminating avoidable single use plastic and working towards making your products and packaging reusable, as recyclable as possible, simple for our customers to recycle and compatible with the UK recycling infrastructure.'**

The concept of 'making more while using less raw material' lies at the heart of a circular economy (see link below). Applying circular thinking to the key areas of a product's life cycle will make the product more efficient and resilient, whilst reducing its environmental impact.

As our supplier, we need your help to put a circular economy into practice. Specifically, we want you to consider some key actions at different stages of the product and packaging life cycle:

## Design

- Review the type and quantity of packaging used.
- Make recycled materials your first choice, avoid the use of raw materials where possible.
- By April 2022, where you supply us plastic packaging it must contain a minimum of 30% recycled content and this must be fully evidenced.
- Design your products and packaging to be reusable where possible and always recyclable at the end of life.
- Provide packaging which meets product integrity, essential legal requirements, recycling criteria whilst limiting waste for our customers.

## Manufacture

- Ensure that manufacturing sites can evidence recycled plastic content in any plastic packaging you supply to us. Evidence must meet HMRC requirements.
- Make sure your manufacturing site can demonstrate an improvement programme to reduce, eliminate, reuse and recycle manufacturing waste.

## Recycle

- Provide advice and guidance to our customers on how your products and packaging should be handled at end of life:
  - Clearly label each material with recycle symbols.
  - Ensure that the polymer of each plastic is clearly marked.

## → Useful Links

- [What is circular thinking?](#)
- [Packaging \(Essential Requirements\) Regulations](#)