

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FEFCO launches Testing methodology for printed corrugated board in food contact

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The European Federation of Corrugated Board Manufacturers (FEFCO) has issued the FEFCO Testing methodology for printed corrugated board in food contact.

At EU level there is no specific regulation for paper and board. The general requirements for all food contact materials set out in the Framework Regulation (EC) 1935/2004, and in Regulation (EC) 2023/2006 on good manufacturing practice for materials and articles intended to come into contact with food are applied to paper and board, including corrugated board. To close this gap FEFCO developed a methodology for compliance testing of printed corrugated board used in food applications. The methodology proposes a two-step approach combining an officially approved simulant for paper and board in food contact and testing with real food as a confirmation. The purpose of the document is to give a usable methodology tool to the corrugated producers and their suppliers when evaluating compliance with the EU legislation.

Eleni Despotou, FEFCO Director General said “FEFCO has developed the testing methodology to support its members and to create a common basis for communication between corrugated manufacturers and suppliers to ensure the safety of packed food products.”

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Note to the editors

FEFCO (European Federation of Corrugated Board Manufacturers) represents the interests of the European Corrugated Board Manufacturers. Headquartered in Brussels, FEFCO has 17 Association members, all European national corrugated packaging organisations. The role of the Federation is to investigate economic, financial, technical and policy issues of interest to the corrugated packaging Industry, to analyse all factors which may influence the industry, and to promote and develop its reputation.

Europe's corrugated industry in Europe makes about 50 billion square metres of board per year, enough to cover Denmark. It has 373 companies, 646 plants and accounts for around 100,000 jobs. Corrugated cardboard packaging is circular by nature: it is based on a renewable resource; it is recyclable and recycled in reality. The average box weight decreased by 9% between 1996 and 2018 and contains on average 89% recycled material.