

Recycling Information

Leaflet 4: Corrugate / card board

Environmental summary

The main constituent of corrugated fibre board is paper. It forms the inner and outer facings between which the corrugated centre or 'fluting' of the board is sandwiched. The adhesive used in manufacture is starch based usually from maize (corn) or wheat. Flexographic inks are used which are predominately water based. No heavy metals or dangerous solvents are used in these inks. Some corrugated products incorporate other components e.g. metal stitches, polythene films, plastic fittings.

Ecological information

Corrugate board is not known to present any toxicological hazard. It is readily biodegradable and will not bioaccumulate in the environment.

Disposal considerations – options:

Recycling: The most effective and safest method; recycling corrugated board should where ever possible be carried out. To assist in this process some kind of mechanical baler designed specifically to deal with compressing and binding corrugate should be employed. The use of a baler will provide benefits: reduction in volume; material storage; ease of handling; cheaper and less costly to transport. It is good practice to flatten and remove any tape from the corrugate before depositing into the baler. This will aid the recycling process.

Incineration: Acceptable if incorporated with energy recovery.

Landfill: Should be a last resort. Because corrugate decomposes it will release methane which is many times more aggressive as a greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide.

Which ever method is adopted always dispose in accordance with national or regional regulations.

References

A Safety Data Sheet (SDS) can be requested for this product, please contact us by telephone or through our website.

The heavy metal content of corrugate / card board is well within the limits permitted under the European legislation 'The Packaging (Essential Requirements) Regulations 2006'.