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STANDARD

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55.020

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**PACKAGING - REQUIREMENTS FOR THE USE  
OF EUROPEAN STANDARDS IN THE FIELD  
OF PACKAGING AND PACKAGING WASTE**

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## Packaging - Requirements for the use of European Standards in the field of packaging and packaging waste

Emballage - Exigences relatives à l'utilisation des normes européennes dans le domaine de l'emballage et des déchets d'emballage

Verpackung - Anforderungen an die Anwendung der Europäischen Normen zu Verpackungen und Verpackungsabfällen

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 5 May 2004.

CEN members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration. Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the Central Secretariat or to any CEN member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN member into its own language and notified to the Central Secretariat has the same status as the official versions.

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| <b>Contents</b>   | <b>Page</b> |
|---|-------------|
| Foreword.....   | 3           |
| <b>1 Scope .....</b>  | <b>5</b>    |
| <b>2 Normative references .....</b>   | <b>5</b>    |
| <b>3 Terms and definitions .....</b>  | <b>5</b>    |
| <b>4 Rationale and methodology.....</b>   | <b>6</b>    |
| 4.1 General approach .....  | 6           |
| 4.2 Assessment of environmental impact of the four heavy metals and dangerous substances in packaging .....                             | 6           |
| 4.3 Levels of application .....   | 7           |
| <b>5 Requirements .....</b>   | <b>7</b>    |
| 5.1 Consideration and selection of appropriate assessment procedures .....  | 7           |
| 5.2 Application of selected assessment procedures .....   | 8           |
| 5.3 Documentation of assessment data .....  | 8           |
| <b>6 Procedure .....</b>  | <b>9</b>    |
| 6.1 Objective.....  | 9           |
| 6.2 Application .....   | 9           |
| 6.3 Review of results .....   | 9           |
| <b>Annex A (informative) Relationship between Directive 94/62 and the designated assessment criteria for packaging .....</b>            | <b>10</b>   |
| <b>Annex B (informative) Example format for statement of compliance with this standard .....</b>  | <b>11</b>   |
| <b>Annex ZA (informative) Relationship between this European Standard and the Essential Requirements of EU Directive 94/62/EC .....</b> | <b>12</b>   |
| <b>Bibliography .....</b>   | <b>13</b>   |

## **Foreword**

This document (EN 13427:2004) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 261 "Packaging", the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by January 2005, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by January 2005.

This document supersedes EN 13427:2000.

This document has been prepared under a mandate given to CEN by the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association, and supports essential requirements of EU Directive(s).

For relationship with EU Directive(s), see informative annex ZA, which is an integral part of this document.

This standard provides the procedure for applying a series of standards and reports prepared under Mandate M 200 rev.3 and the second standardisation Mandate M 317, given to CEN by the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association to support the European Parliament and Council Directive on Packaging and Packaging Waste [94/62/EC].

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard : Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom.

## EN 13427:2004 (E)

### Introduction

Packaging is required to conform to a significant range of functional and legal demands. This standard addresses compliance with requirements of the Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive (94/62/EC). This Directive states in the preamble : "whereas in order to minimise the impact of packaging and packaging waste on the environment and to avoid barriers to trade and distortion of competition, it is also necessary to define the essential requirements governing the composition and the reusable and recoverable (including recyclable) nature of packaging".

NOTE The directive 94/62/EC is amended by European Parliament and Council Directive 2004/12/EC of 11 February 2004.

The essential requirements as defined in article 9 and annex II of the Directive, together with the specific restrictions relating to heavy metals contained in article 11, are focused on the environmental impact of packaging after use. This standard and the other five mandated standards and one mandated CEN Report (in two parts) which have been developed to assist the presumption of compliance with the essential requirements are consequently designed to meet this specific aspect.

Compliance with the essential requirements through the use of European Standards, will involve the supplier, in cooperation with all other entities in the packaging chain, in the consideration of this standard in addition to those referred to in the previous paragraph. Although the essential requirements of the directive are focused on the effects of packaging after use, it is necessary that these individual but associated Reports or Standards be addressed prior to placing the packaging and packed products on the market. Account should be taken of the potential change in releases to the environment that will result from introducing the used packaging and packaging waste to the recovery processes.

A CEN Report relates to the presence and concentration of dangerous substances and preparations including the four specified heavy metals, whilst five mandated standards address concepts of source reduction, reuse and recovery. Their application is capable of reducing the impact of packaging disposed of as waste but they are not necessarily simultaneously applicable to the same unit of packaging.

These standardized procedures, which are listed in clause 5 of this standard, can be mutually exclusive in some combinations and circumstances and it is therefore essential that in developing a strategy for the application of any one of these processes its relationship with the others be taken into account. For this reason, although dedicated standards have been developed for five of these concepts and a CEN Report prepared to assist the assessment of heavy metals, this sixth standard has been introduced to govern the relationship between these assessments. Its purpose is to establish the overall methodology for a set of measures that will enable those responsible for the placing of packaging or packed products on the European market to do so with a presumption of compliance with the essential requirements of the Directive.

It is recommended that the procedures and record keeping specified in this standard be applied as part of a formal quality management system such as those specified in the EN ISO 9000 series or an environmental management system such as EN ISO 14001.

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