



National Standards Authority of Ireland

IRISH STANDARD

I.S. EN 13427:2001

ICS 13.030.99  
55.020

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

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EUROPEAN STANDARD

EN 13427

NORME EUROPÉENNE

EUROPÄISCHE NORM

September 2000

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English version

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

Emballage - Exigences relatives à l'utilisation des normes 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 4 June 2000.

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.

CEN members are the national standards bodies of Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom.



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## Foreword

This European Standard 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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by March 2001, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by March 2001.

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

This standard provides the procedure for applying a series of standards and reports prepared under Mandate M 200 rev.3 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]. The requirement for this standard was confirmed in 1997

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## 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”.

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. The 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 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. Of these, the CEN Report relates to the presence and concentration of noxious and hazardous substances 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 the EN ISO 14000 series.

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