Valpak
by Reconomy

Data management and insights.

Reducing compliance costs and enhancing environmental performance

An introduction.

Does your company face challenges in gathering and compiling compliance data submissions due to complex supply chains?

Summary

Businesses such as large brand holders, manufacturers, wholesalers, and resellers must comply with a range of producer responsibility legislation, which includes packaging waste, waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) and waste batteries, and with reforms to the UK Packaging Waste Regulations underway, in the form of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), compliance costs will increase significantly.

Key business sectors that are likely to be obligated under producer responsibility legislation include retailers of electrical and electronic equipment (EEE), stationery, pharmaceuticals, clothing, DIY/construction, and high street department stores.

If your company is affected, you will need to make accurate data submissions for each of its environmental obligations. These submissions will also need to demonstrate year-on-year improvements in accuracy to the appropriate environment agency.

Gathering, collating, and submitting this data can be a complex, resource intensive and time-consuming process, and to add to the burden new EPR legislation will require obligated businesses to now obtain granular data to meet more complex and frequent reporting requirements.



Environmental compliance.

Are you responsible for supply chain management or environmental compliance in your company?



If so, it is important that you understand the range of environmental producer responsibility legislation that your company may be obligated to comply with.

Compliance is important as failure can result in enforcement action, ranging from official warnings through to prosecutions, with the potential for significant fines and the withdrawal of your products from marketplaces.

A significant additional risk of noncompliance is damage to your brand and reputation, and the associated negative impacts on your staff, customers, shareholders, and ultimately your profit.

Confidence that your compliance is being met mitigates against any brand and reputational damage. Visibility across your supply chain can also help to minimise your exposure to risk. You should be aware of any gaps in information across your supply chains so you can take the appropriate corrective actions. It is important to demonstrate auditable due diligence for compliance across your supply chain.



Data accuracy.

Does your company need to gather, collate, and submit large amounts of data across your supply chain to meet your producer responsibility obligations?

Compiling accurate data submissions within complex supply chains requires technical expertise to gather detailed weights information across multiple product lines and suppliers. Data accuracy is imperative to ensure your compliance obligations are met, as well as ensuring the correct compliance fees are paid.

You will need to allow sufficient time for all aspects of your data submission process. This includes collecting and analysing data, collecting packaging and product weights, and collecting data across multiple sites, divisions, or entities.

The types of data that must be collected varies considerably according to the producer responsibility legislation you may be obligated under, from basic weight information for your primary packaging, packaging type, recyclability, and polymer types, to line-by-line breakdowns of all your packaging elements, measured by weight in grams and material type.

Packaging EPR Regulations.

Your company or group may be required to contribute towards the cost of recovery and recycling of the packaging it owns, manufactures, fills, supplies, imports, or places on the market.



The UK Packaging Waste Regulations were introduced in 1997 with the aim of reducing the amount of packaging waste going to landfill. This legislation has now been reformed and replaced by the Packaging

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Regulations. Your business is obligated under Packaging EPR if it has a physical presence in the UK and handles more than 25 tonnes of packaging or packaging materials and has an annual UK turnover that exceeds £1 million.

Examples include supplying packaging around products to customers, such as toys, clothes, groceries or B2B products.

Your business is obligated if it supplies packaged goods onto the UK market which carry its brand, if it fills unbranded packaging, if it supplies empty packaging for others to use, or if it imports packaged goods. For example, filling own brand bottles, or packing goods into unbranded carrier bags for customers.

The Packaging EPR Regulations is a separate requirement to waste management or disposal of packaging waste. Even if your business already recycles its own waste, it still needs to ensure it is registered under the Producer Responsibility Regulations.

Packaging data collection

To ensure your company meets its packaging waste obligations you must collect and report on a range of data. Below are six easy steps to help you get started.

1. Confirm who you need to report for - if your company is part of a group, other related entities may also need to collect and report data.
2. Identify which items need to be included in your data submission - some items can be excluded, e.g., packaging which is marked with another UK brand.
3. Identify the packaging that:

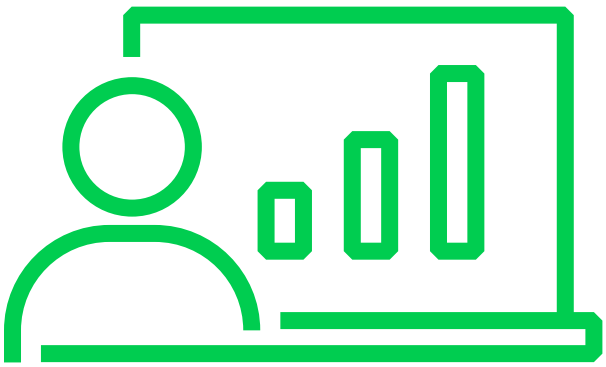
   a. Is marked with your business's brand

   b. Your business supplies empty to other businesses that have a t/o £2m and supply <50t packaging

   c. Your business imports

   d. Your business leases out for others to use

   e. Is sold via an online marketplace your business operates.
4. Confirm which layers of packaging you need information for - e.g., does this data need to be split by primary, secondary and transit layers. Also, confirm if it used for e-commerce sales.



5. Identify whether the businesses you supply packaging and packaged items to directly are the end users of the packaging.
6. Source your packaging weights information - these can be obtained manually or requested from suppliers.
7. Report your packaging weights data in tonnes and by material.

WEEE and Waste Batteries Regulations.

Your company or group may be required to finance the cost of collection, treatment and recycling or re-use of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) and batteries.

WEEE

The WEEE Regulations were introduced in 2007 with the aim of reducing the amount of electrical and electronic equipment going to landfill.

If your company manufactures electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) under your own brand, re-brands EEE that was manufactured by another company, or imports EEE into the UK you are obligated as a producer.

If your company sells EEE to household consumers, you are obligated as a distributor.

Batteries

The Waste Batteries Regulations were introduced in 2009 with the aim of reducing the number of used batteries going to landfill.

If your company manufactures batteries, or imports batteries or products containing batteries, you are obligated as a producer.

If your company sells more than 32kg of batteries to end users per year (excluding batteries sold within equipment) you are obligated as a distributor.



WEEE and battery data collection.

To ensure your company meets its WEEE and batteries obligations you must collect and report on a range of data. Below are four easy steps to help you get started.

1. Identify which items need to be included in your data submission - some items can be excluded, e.g., UK supplied WEEE or batteries.
2. Source your WEEE and batteries weights information - these can be obtained manually or requested from suppliers.
3. Scope your WEEE and batteries - e.g., which of the 10 EU categories should your WEEE be reported in, or what chemical type of batteries do you produce?
4. Report your WEEE and batteries weights data in tonnes and by material.

Case study.



Founded in Sweden in 1918 as a mail order business, Clas Ohlson is an international retail company which has expanded to over 6 countries and 200 stores.

Due to the large number of product lines, and a desire to promote sustainability through their actions, one of the company's top priorities was to achieve accuracy in their compliance data submissions.

Our Data Management team used an Environment Agency approved methodology to calculate Clas Ohlson's UK obligation. We also identified and incorporated any ongoing business changes, allowing their compliance to be continually maintained.

The Valpak service gave Clas Ohlson complete confidence that they would meet their compliance requirements, allowing them to focus on their key business activities.

Dynamic weights database.

Our Data Management service is underpinned by the UK's largest product and packaging database. This enables us to produce efficient and accurate compliance data, helping organisations with complex supply chains to ensure compliance.

This dynamic custom-built software and weights database is the largest in the UK, holding over 50 million SKUs with unique packaging metrics.

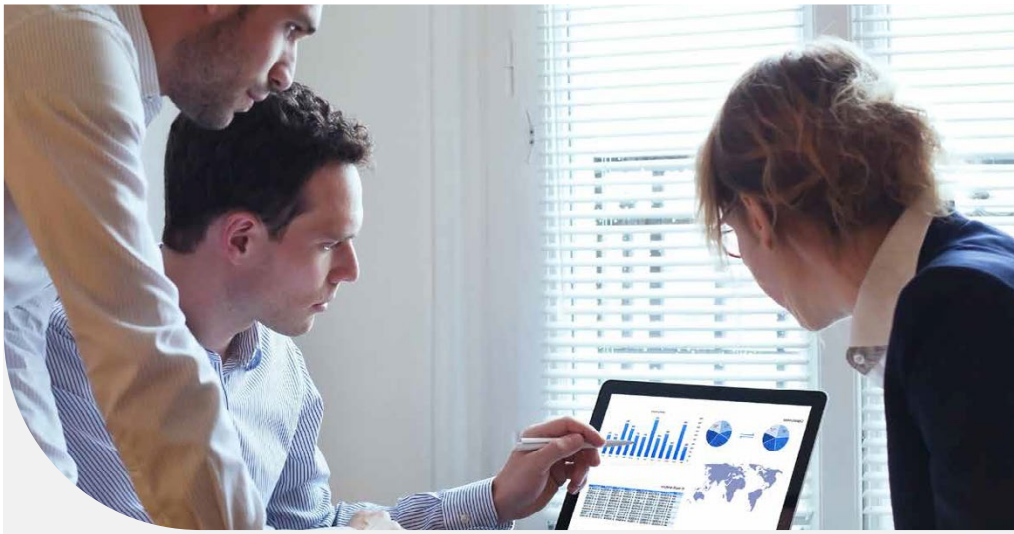
Last year our Data Management team added over 5.71 million new SKUs to this database, produced over 3,500 customer reports and contacted over 25,000 suppliers.

This unique platform allows for efficient cleansing, formatting, and archiving of your supplier data, which our team can then use to produce packaging compliance or bespoke packaging metric reports using Valpak's approved methodology.

Our database provides unrivalled visibility across your supply chain, allowing you to clearly communicate your data management requirements to your suppliers.

This resource, when combined with our technical expertise, allows us to operate more effectively and with greater accuracy. On average our clients report efficiency and cost savings of at least 30%

Cost savings of at least 30%



Product Data Hub

Our Product Data Hub is an online tool that allows us to efficiently gather packaging data from your suppliers.

The hub is equipped with a comprehensive set of automated checks to guarantee the accuracy of all data being collected for your dataset.

The Product Data Hub enables us to collect a wide range of metrics including:

- Packaging weights
- Material types
- Recycled content percentage and evidence
- Detailed data required for EPR reporting

This tool will help you to future proof your business's data ready for theintroduction of EPR Regulations by collecting data on for example sustainability, lamination, certification, and recyclability.

Data Insight Platform

Our dynamic weights database drives our Data Insight Platform – an online tool that provides visibility of the packaging handled by your company, highlighting opportunities to reduce waste and save money.



This Platform can help you monitor your company's environmental impact by allowing you to analyse packaging data and produce tailored environmental reports.

It also provides insight into the recyclability of materials, packaging types, and the material composition used in your company's packaging. This can help reduce waste, improve packaging design, and reduce compliance costs.

In addition, our Sustainable Supply Chains Platform allows you to monitor your supply chain, review the impact your suppliers have on your obligations, and build and support wider CSR objectives.

Other opportunities the Data Insight Platform can provide includes driving continuous improvements by identifying trends, monitoring progress, and improving the accuracy of your cost forecasts.

Our Data Management team can provide training on how to use the Platforms or can manage this service on your behalf.

Data benefits.

With over 25 years' experience, Valpak offer unmatched expertise in data gathering across complex supply chains, helping to reduce the burden of calculating packaging, WEEE and batteries compliance submissions.

As well as meeting your data reporting obligations, our support can realise significant cost and time savings for your company.

Our technical ability and experience make us experts in handling large volumes of data across diverse business sectors. We can manage all your packaging, WEEE and batteries data submissions, giving you more time to focus on your core business activities, reducing your compliance costs.

The Data Management services we deliver also provide companies with an improved understanding of the packaging they handle, allowing them to reduce or improve packaging design, as well as supporting broader CSR objectives. This is further supported by our additional

Packaging Analysis, WhatIf Modelling and Packaging Technology Consultancy services. Download a copy of our Packaging Analysis white paper to find out more.

We offer data quality assurance, with safe and confidential data storage secure to ISO 27001



92% of Valpak Data Management customers are satisfied with the service they receive, with 47% reporting they are highly satisfied.

Reported benefits of using Valpak Data Management include...

> *Valpak has helped GPA navigate a complex process with expert proficiency.*
>
> GPA Global

> *I don't think we would have been able to carry out our submission without Valpak's industry and regulatory knowledge and support.*
>
> Pour Moi

> *Valpak has offered friendly and professional support during the submission process, with no question too small.*
>
> Craft Gin Club

> *Time saving and leveraging Valpak knowledge.*
>
> Johnson & Johnson

> *Valpak's greatest asset is their people, who pay consistent attention to customer service.*
>
> Euro Garages

> *Time saving is significant - we can't imagine doing all this without Valpak.*
>
> Reckitt Benckiser

> *Gaining valuable and exacting information relevant to our business.*
>
> Burt's Bees

> *Saving time and staff resources.*
>
> Bodycare



Case study.

Arla Foods is a Danish-Swedish multinational cooperative. It is the fifth biggest dairy company in the world and the largest producer of dairy products in Scandinavia and United Kingdom.

Arla Foods approached us to take away the burden of data collection and collation, as they discovered it would be more economically viable to outsource this task. This is due to the nature of the business, as they produce, import, and export a wide range of dairy products from multiple sites. These factors mean it is difficult and time-consuming to keep track of data and packaging material flow.

Our Data Management team took on Arla's data collection by carrying out weighing days as well as using packaging specifications from Arla's manufacturing process.

We also created a formula, which translated Arla's system into sales quantities of unit of a product. Doing so improved the accuracy of Arla's data submission and made the data collection and collation process more efficient. We also entered Arla's product data into our Insight Platform which means that Arla's packaging breakdown is now visible, easy to digest and analyse.

By using our Data Management Service, a huge amount of work has been taken off Arla's hands. All they need to do is send our team their bulk sales data, along with any packaging changes. We then take care of the submission, including checking the weights, sourcing weights, investigating year on year changes in the submission and working out what activities they perform on their packaging.

"Valpak has been instrumental in transforming our compliance with the various Packaging Waste Regulations. The support, tools, and service from the team of experts at Valpak has been first class and a breath of fresh air both in terms of reporting, submissions and PRN purchasing. We look forward to many more years of building the partnership.

Valpak's Data Management team is made up of over 125 technical experts who can provide a range of data consultancy services and support.

Philip Crum - Head of Data Insights
Emma Rukin - International Data Manager
Olivia Candy - EPIC Database Manager

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For a free consultation to assess your data management needs please contact us

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