

## PACKAGING WASTE

### FAST FACTS:

- All Lyreco transit packaging is made from 100% recycled cardboard
- The volume of the order determines the size of the transit packaging box
- Lyreco use zero infill packaging
- Lyreco reduced glue consumption on transit packaging by 45% in 2009
- Consumer awareness of packaging and reduction became very high in 2010 due to advertising campaigns by well known brands
- Packaging on some products is extremely necessary to protect from damage, maintain integrity or to increase lifespan (especially edible product).

## WHAT WE DID

**2005:** Introduction of box cutting technology to reduce the boxes down to a manageable size before fitting the lid, saving an average of 22% based on the box size that would have been sent. Off cuts are then bailed and recycled.

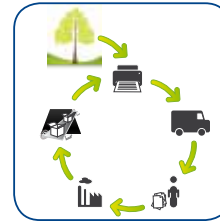
**2009:** Innovation from a Building Services Engineer altered the glue pattern when boxes are made, from a continuous line to a stitch pattern. This reduced consumption by 47% and 15 tonnes per year.

**2010:** Packaging trials with a bio-degradable plastic envelope to replace our smallest box size. Feedback from customers was positive and in 2011 this will go live for customers in Dublin.

**2010:** Our main office furniture supplier designed cardboard packaging for reuse after installation at customer premises. Currently reuse is 4 – 7 times. All packaging is returned via a backhaul network.

**TIMESCALE:** Ongoing

**AIM/OBJECTIVE:** To reduce packaging



### MEASUREMENT METHODS:

All transit packaging purchased and shipped is accounted for via our CI Methods team.

### ROLES/RESPONSIBILITIES:

- CI Methods are responsible for tracking purchases by weight, quantity and costs
- Building Services were responsible for changes to machinery
- QSE assisted on the project team

### BENEFITS:

- Reducing packaging waste is highest up the waste hierarchy and therefore best to reduce environmental impacts
- Smaller boxes mean we can fit more onto a pallet and into a delivery vehicles (subject to weight limitations), helping to optimise van routes.
- Less packaging pleases customers and helps to reduce waste to landfill or waste for recycling
- Buying less packaging and glue has financial benefits

### WHERE WE ARE NOW:

- In 2011, Lyreco in Ireland will replace padded envelopes with biodegradable packaging envelopes on Dublin routes in order to reduce their packaging footprint
- Lyreco UK will continue to review 'buffer' levels on transit packaging in order to optimise the volume of boxes sent
- In 2010, Lyreco introduced the option of PakBak to some customers. This allows customers to send back transit packaging to Lyreco for recycling as part of a normal collection process

