# PREVENT & SAVE

## **Reduced Output Packaging**

By avoiding certain packaging or minimising it you can also help to reduce packaging waste. It is however important to consider primary, secondary and tertiary packaging as a holistic system as a change to one can have a detrimental impact on the other and can actually result in an increase in packaging waste and cost. Well managed trial protocols are essential here to understand the impact of your changes on all areas of the supply chain.

Here are some of the benefits of reducing output packaging in a controlled manner:

- Reduces the amount of packaging waste placed on the Irish market while maintaining quality.
- Reduces the cost of purchasing packaging.
- Reduces producer responsibility fees.
- Increases storage space available.
- Provides a more positive consumer perception.

There are a number of options to help reduce packaging on outgoing finished products including downgauging/ lightweighting of materials, eliminating certain packaging or substituting it for something lighter in weight or by maximising the efficiency of your pallet to reduce transport costs and reduce tertiary packaging.

# Material Substitution & Reduction -The AK Environmental Approach

## **PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION**

Repak Member Abco Kovex Ltd are a leading European manufacturer, importer and distributor of packaging materials and machinery in the UK and Ireland. The company's goal is to provide complete packaging solutions to industry. Working with Packaging Technologists, Environmental Officers and Production Managers, Abco Kovex strive to cut cost with up to date solutions resulting in less packaging materials being used to protect their customer's products throughout the shipping process.

'AK Environmental' is a step by step approach to improve pack stability through the introduction of global up to date solutions that increasing performance, reduce consumption and use less packaging materials in the market place. The ultimate result of this innovative approach is a leading packaging company helping to protect the environment.







- Reduced polymer, timber and paper consumption.
- Increased production throughput, resulting in reduced downtime through innovative engineered machines and consumables.

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- Increased pack stability for both long and short-term shipping for Air, Sea or Road channels.
- Reduced damages and returns.
- Significant savings on both material yield and cost achieved.
- Significant reductions in packaging waste.

### **ISSUES ENCOUNTERED**

- Scientific Analysis on present machines and consumables recorded and qualified
- An overall understanding of customer requirements gained from production through to delivery.
- Feasibility study and controlled trials conducted.
- The introduction of new applications discussed and possible risks mitigated.
- Pack configurations revisited in order to maximise potential yields.

### **FURTHER INFORMATION**

For further information on AK Environmental and Abco Kovex's range of packaging solutions please contact Cormac Herrity at **cherrity@abcokovex.com** or visit **www.abcokovex.com** 





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