

PACKAGING WASTE REGISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT

£36,000 Fine For Stationers

A high street stationery firm was fined £36,000 on 10 September for its failure to comply with the Packaging Regulations. The fine is one of the largest meted out under these Regulations.

The Environment Agency is beginning to turn its attention to the office products and stationery industry and the longer that obligated companies put off registering the greater the penalties will be.

Source: BOSS Fed

Is Your Business Liable?

Businesses are liable if the company or the group to which they report:

- Have an annual turnover of over £2 million and
- Handle at least 50 tonnes of packaging each year

Liable businesses must register with The Environment Agency. Failure to do so can result in prosecution and substantial fines.

Many businesses have found that they handle much more packaging than they thought because regulated packaging includes

- not only the packaging that the businesses uses but also the packaging from suppliers that is passed on to customers.
- the packaging handled by other companies within their group

The Benefits of Monitoring Packaging Use.

A system for monitoring packaging use:

- ***Reassurance*** Reassurance that the business is operating within the law.
- ***Legal*** Avoids prosecution and the tarnishing of the business's image.
- ***Financial*** Avoids expensive fines
- ***Compliance*** Demonstrates compliance even if the business is below the current limits
- ***Ease of operation*** Enables the business to easily identify its obligations.



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How We Can Help

An initial visit starts the following process:

- If the turnover of the business exceeds or is likely to exceed £2m then it will be necessary to demonstrate the weight of packaging handled by collecting data.
- The weight of packaging associated with 20% of your turnover is calculated and if this exceeds the 50 tonne limit then the weight of *obligated packaging* is calculated. (There are exemptions)
- The obligation is calculated depending on the business's packaging activity and the current government recovery and recycling targets.
- Guidance is given as to how the obligation can be discharged by :
 - ⇒ setting up a scheme just for your business OR
 - ⇒ joining an industry scheme and deciding which one of the many available.
- Register with the Environment Agency or the selected scheme.
- Develop a system for monitoring packaging usage and for making annual returns.

Christian Environmental Consultants will guide you through this process identifying cost-effective procedures at each stage.

Annual Deadlines

February	Submission of data to the major compliance scheme
April	Registration by all obligated businesses.

**CALL US TO ARRANGE
A NO COMMITMENT VISIT
TO FIND OUT IF YOU ARE LIABLE**

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