

PlanetPak™ Packaging System

The “green” alternative to traditional 55-gallon fiber drums

PolyOne’s PlanetPak™ Packaging System is the 21st century, sustainable alternative to the traditional 55-gallon fiber drum. PlanetPak addresses environmental concerns, is safer and easier to handle, saves space in the warehouse and on the production floor, and can reduce overall usage costs.

Better for the Environment

A typical 55-gallon drum includes not only fiber but also metal bands, rings and a clasp. In the United States alone, 50 million fiber drums are produced each year. Often, their final resting place is a landfill because they are difficult to recycle given the inherent challenges of separating the metal and crushing the remaining fiber.

PlanetPak offers a better solution. The PlanetPak package contains no metal bands or supports and is made from corrugated linerboard, which is produced from recycled materials and can be recycled or incinerated. The design allows for quick collapsing into a flat unit for removal, disposal and movement through one recycling system. Often this recycle stream can be turned into a revenue-generation stream.

Increased Material Handling Safety: The PlanetPak Packaging System is safer and uses better ergonomics than traditional fiber drums. The customized hand cart, for example, enables material handlers to move the package without strain or injury.

Improved Space Utilization: PlanetPak’s design makes more efficient use of space during transport, storage and disposal compared with cylindrical fiber drums. PlanetPak packages fit corner to corner, edge to edge. Once the contents have been consumed, the package easily flattens for recycling or disposal.

Reduced Costs: Choosing PlanetPak over traditional fiber drums can reduce costs in several ways:

- Lower labor costs result from avoiding the need to separate metal components from fiber drums and from the more efficient in-plant transportation.
- The reduced danger and associated risk of injury mean less lost work time, workers’ compensation claims and associated legal costs.
- Storage costs are reduced because PlanetPak packages are 5” shorter than drums, which may allow for more efficient space utilization.
- And PlanetPak allows for easy recycling and potential generation of income and avoids costly disposal charges for large volumes of empty drums.



Three Patent-Pending Components

PlanetPak Package: The package component of the PlanetPak system can hold from 200 to 300 pounds of material, the same as a 55-gallon fiber drum. The sturdy and durable corrugated linerboard enables PlanetPak to be stacked up to three pallets high. If tamper-resistance is required, specialty tamper-indicating tape can be applied.



Customized Pallets: Customized pallets are the foundation of the PlanetPak system. There are two options: standard-size and single-size.

The standard-size pallet meets basic pallet parameters – 44” x 44” x 5”. Key to the design are 1-inch-high support rails which elevate the packages off the pallet. This pallet is used when two to four Planet Pak packages are being shipped and delivered together. The single-size pallet is one-fourth the size of the standard pallet and measures 22” x 22” x 5”; it is used when a single package is delivered. Heat-treated versions of the pallet are available upon request.



Specialized Hand Cart: The enabler in this system is a specially designed hand cart, with adjustable tines that provide access to the package through the openings in the pallet’s unique rail system. A retractable safety belt provides for safe, easy and secure movement of the package from the pallet to the work area. Alternatively, the tines can be adjusted so a forklift can be used to move the packages to the work area.



Contact your PolyOne representative today to learn how you can make a positive impact on the environment, your material handlers and your bottom line.

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