

## **Packaging - Terminology - Basic terms and definitions**

Packaging - Terminology - Basic terms and definitions

## EESTI STANDARDI EESSÕNA

## NATIONAL FOREWORD

<p>Käesolev Eesti standard EVS-EN 14182:2003 sisaldab Euroopa standardi EN 14182:2002 ingliskeelset teksti.</p> <p>Käesolev dokument on jõustatud 18.02.2003 ja selle kohta on avaldatud teade Eesti standardiorganisatsiooni ametlikus väljaandes.</p> <p>Standard on kättesaadav Eesti standardiorganisatsioonist.</p>	<p>This Estonian standard EVS-EN 14182:2003 consists of the English text of the European standard EN 14182:2002.</p> <p>This document is endorsed on 18.02.2003 with the notification being published in the official publication of the Estonian national standardisation organisation.</p> <p>The standard is available from Estonian standardisation organisation.</p>
--	---

<p><b>Käsitlusala:</b> This European Standard provides a glossary of preferred terms applicable to Packaging generally, each accompanied by its definition.</p>	<p><b>Scope:</b> This European Standard provides a glossary of preferred terms applicable to Packaging generally, each accompanied by its definition.</p>
---	---

**ICS** 01.040.55, 55.020

**Võtmesõnad:** basic terms, definition, definitions, packages, packaging, packaging material, packing, surveys, terminology, vocabulary

ICS 01.040.55; 55.020

English version

## Packaging - Terminology - Basic terms and definitions

Emballage - Terminologie - Termes de base et définitions

Verpackung - Terminologie - Grundbegriffe und  
Definitionen

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 8 November 2002.

CEN members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration. Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the Management Centre or to any CEN member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN member into its own language and notified to the Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

CEN members are the national standards bodies of Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom.



EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION  
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION  
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

**Management Centre: rue de Stassart, 36 B-1050 Brussels**

## Contents

	page
Foreword.....	3
Introduction .....	4
1 <b>Scope</b> .....	5
2 <b>Normative references</b> .....	5
3 <b>Terms and definitions</b> .....	5
<b>Annex A</b> (informative) <b>Terms defined in the "Packaging and Packaging Waste" Directive</b> .....	7
A.1 <b>Rationale</b> .....	7
A.2 <b>The twelve</b> (Directive defined) <b>terms</b> .....	7
A.3 <b>Term in Commission Decision of 28 January 1997</b> .....	9
<b>Annex B</b> (informative) <b>List of equivalent terms in English, French and German</b> .....	10
<b>Rationale</b> .....	10
<b>List of equivalent terms</b> .....	10
<b>Bibliography</b> .....	11

## Foreword

This document (EN 14182:2002) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 261, "Packaging", the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by June 2003, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by June 2003.

This document contains annexes A and B, which are informative.

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

## Introduction

The preparation of a definitive terminology is difficult in any field of activity but for packaging the task has been made more complex by developments, in Europe, in the field of packaging and the environment. These have led to a European Community Directive on Packaging and Packaging Waste (94/62/EC) which itself has introduced terms and definitions that are not always in line with those in common use. That directive covers all packaging placed on the Market of the European Union, wherever it is produced or used and all packaging waste arising. In annex II it lists essential requirements relating to the manufacture and composition of packaging as well as those specific to its reuse and recovery (whether as materials, in the form of energy or through biodegradation including composting). It defines twelve basic terms that are employed in the Directive.

Therefore, in addition to establishing a list of basic terms and definitions that assists in applying a whole range of packaging standards, this European Standard seeks to identify any variation and clarify the twelve basic terms of the Directive.

In any pan-European document language difference can, in extreme cases, impede conceptual understanding. This European Standard endeavours to take account of situations where direct, word for word, translation of a term originated in one of the three official CEN languages may not result in the conveying of a similar concept in one or both of the others. The working language used in the development of this standard was English and the terms included were identified and defined in that language before being translated into French and German. To assist understanding, a section containing other language equivalents, for terms where such conceptual blurring is believed to be a significant possibility, is included as annex B.

It is envisaged that, wherever practicable and appropriate, the terms incorporated in this European Standard will be employed in the application of the CEN Packaging Standards. In the event that the precise usage in a particular standard differs from that envisaged and defined in this standard, it is incumbent upon those drafting that other standard to identify and define their required usage. In default, the terms and definitions incorporated in this European Standard ought to apply.

## 1 Scope

This European Standard provides a glossary of preferred terms applicable to Packaging generally, each accompanied by its definition. Annex A (informative) identifies and explains twelve fundamental packaging terms employed in the framing of the European Community Directive relating to packaging and packaging waste and which were also defined within that directive. It also includes a term from the Commission Decision on the Identification System for Packaging Materials. A list of equivalent terms, in the three official CEN Languages, is provided in Annex B (informative).

## 2 Normative references

Not applicable.

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this European Standard, the following terms and definitions apply.

### 3.1

#### **packaging**

see A.2.1

### 3.2

#### **packaging chain**

sector of the overall economy involving all economic operators concerned with the packaging and/or distribution of goods

### 3.3

#### **unit load**

single item or assembly of items designed to enable these to be handled as a single entity

### 3.4

#### **module**

reference measurement to which the dimensions of the components of the packaging and distribution system can be related arithmetically

### 3.5

#### **modular coordination**

dimensional coordination, employing modules and application rules, of technical components, the arrangement and function of which are dimensionally matched to each other in a system

### 3.6

#### **area module**

defined rectangle used as an increment in a standardized modular system

### 3.7

#### **barrier**

layer or ply of material introduced to packaging so as to provide a physical obstacle to the passage of particular media (e.g. liquids, light, gas, micro-organisms)

### 3.8

#### **brimful (or water) capacity**

maximum volume of a container when filled to the brim