



PRESS RELEASE

Continued growth of beverage carton recycling in 2009

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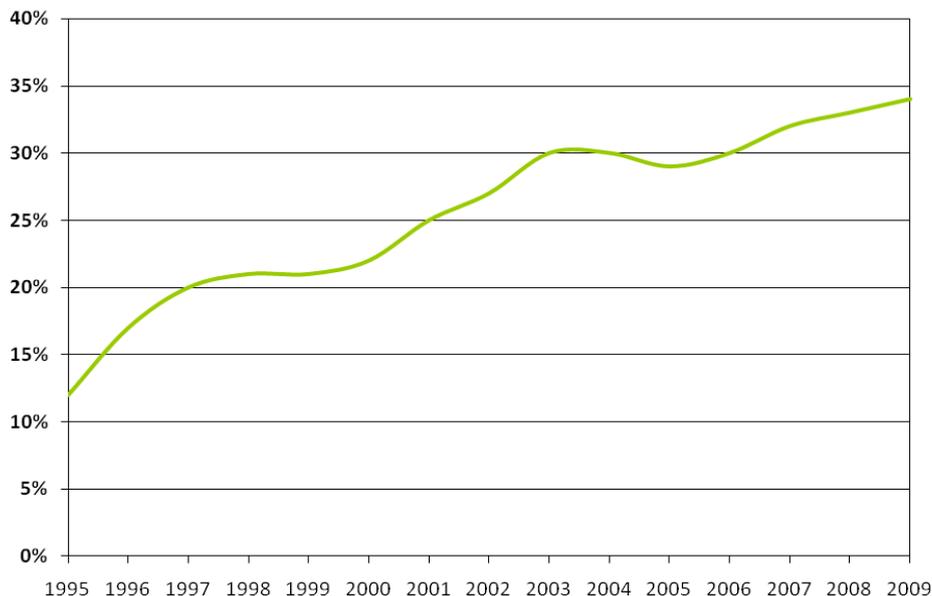
Beverage carton recycling continued its long term growth trend in 2009, achieving an average 34% recycling rate in Europe, according to latest industry-wide figures. This represents some 340.000 tonnes, or over 12 billion used beverage cartons recycled in paper mills.

“We have increased the recycling rate in 2009 from 33% in 2008 despite the depressed economic environment”, says Christian Verschueren, ACE Director General. “We have managed to stay on course with our objective, to continuously increase recycling of cartons across Europe”.

“Several countries including Belgium, Germany, Luxembourg, Spain and Norway recycle 50% or more of all beverage cartons put on the market” he points out. “Continued progress was also made in Czech Republic, Hungary, Italy, Portugal and the UK, although starting from a lower base”.

Beverage cartons are recyclable and the industry is committed to improvement in this key area of sustainability. Recycling beverage cartons lengthens the life of the materials contained therein, whilst also reducing their environmental impact and increasing the efficient use of our natural resources.

1995-2009 BEVERAGE CARTON RECYCLING RATES





Note to editors

About ACE

ACE – the Alliance for Beverage Cartons and the Environment - is the European ambassador and knowledge hub for beverage carton manufacturers and their EU paperboard suppliers, studying and communicating the environmental value of cartons as a renewable, recyclable and low carbon packaging solution.

ACE members include beverage carton producers Tetra Pak, SIG Combibloc and Elopak; they develop, manufacture and market systems for the processing, packaging and distribution of food, and produce packaging material at 23 plants in Europe. About 98% of the paperboard used by ACE members in beverage cartons in Europe is produced by Stora Enso in Skoghall (Sweden) and Imatra (Finland), and Korsnäs in Gävle and Frövi (Sweden), who are also members of ACE. These paper mills and the beverage carton manufacturers in ACE together employ close to 30,000 people worldwide.

For further information please visit the ACE website at www.beveragecarton.eu
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