

PRESS RELEASE

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APEAL IS CONCERNED BY THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION'S DECISION TO WITHDRAW THE REVISED CIRCULAR ECONOMY PACKAGE

APEAL (the Association of European Producers of Steel for Packaging) is extremely concerned by the new European Commission's withdrawal of the revised Circular Economy Package announced last July by the previous European Commission.

APEAL has long shared the opinion that all EU member states should expand their efforts to reach higher recycling targets for all packaging materials, in the interest of recognising waste as a resource whose recovery and reinjection into the EU economy contributes to resource efficiency, emissions reduction and the circular economy.

Alexander Mohr, secretary general of APEAL, commented "We at APEAL have for many years now promoted higher recycling rates and zero steel packaging to landfill. Our industry objective has long been 80% steel recycling by 2020. If Europe is to move towards a more resource efficient future, legislation will be crucial in pushing all materials across all EU member states to improve their performance."

"Steel is currently the most recycled packaging material in Europe, 74% in 2012. We will continue to put resources into ensuring that the full benefits of steel as a sustainable packaging material are understood across Europe and we look forward to an equally, if not more ambitious, new proposal from the Commission ", he added.

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About APEAL

APEAL - the Association of European Producers of Steel for Packaging is a federation of four multi-national producers of steel for packaging (ArcelorMittal, Tata Steel Packaging, ThyssenKrupp Rasselstein, U.S. Steel Košice). In total these four companies employ over 200,000 workers in Europe. Founded in 1986, APEAL represents today about 95% of the total European production of steel for packaging.

About Steel for Packaging

Steel is a unique packaging material, combining exceptional performance capabilities with unrivalled environmental credentials. Strong, formable and long-lasting, steel offers numerous benefits for the safe packaging of a wide variety of products.