

09 March 2010

The Sustainable Packaging Coalition®, a project of the nonprofit institute GreenBlue®, is pleased to announce that UPS has selected the SPC's COMPASS® software application to support the environmental evaluation portion of their Eco Responsible Packaging Program. COMPASS uses transparent industry average life cycle data to assess and benchmark the impacts of a package design and materials across a comprehensive set of impact metrics. Incorporating COMPASS into the Eco Responsible Packaging Program will provide UPS customers with a comprehensive environmental assessment of their packages, in addition to damage prevention and cube utilization. As UPS handles nearly 4 billion packages annually, the adoption of COMPASS is a significant opportunity to improve on the environmental impact of transport packaging. UPS has demonstrated impressive leadership by selecting COMPASS in order to better understand and inform future packaging designs.

About COMPASS®

- ❖ COMPASS (Comparative Packaging Assessment) is a web-based application that allows packaging professionals to compare the environmental impacts of packaging scenarios using a life cycle approach.
- ❖ COMPASS helps packaging designers to make more informed material selections and design decisions early in the development process.
- ❖ COMPASS can help companies to benchmark packaging based on a common methodology using industry average data for primary packaging materials.
- ❖ COMPASS assesses packages on resource consumption, emissions, and attributes such as material health, recycled or virgin content, sourcing and solid waste.
- ❖ COMPASS was developed by the Sustainable Packaging Coalition® (SPC), a project of the nonprofit institute GreenBlue®, and is informed by stakeholder expertise from the packaging supply chain as well as life cycle analysis experts and academia.

Why COMPASS?

- ❖ COMPASS offers the credibility of a well informed and rigorous development process. Its metrics and methodologies were developed through consensus by some of the best-informed members on packaging and sustainability within the industry. It has been peer reviewed by a variety of stakeholders, including the U.S. EPA, and adopted by some of the largest global consumer packaged goods (CPG) companies.
- ❖ COMPASS provides a common platform to inform the environmental impact piece of the Eco Responsible Packaging Program by employing publically accepted methodologies and industry average data.
- ❖ COMPASS introduces the concept of life cycle thinking. It uses data that cover the impacts of raw material extraction, primary material production, conversion of material into packaging and end-of-life management of materials.
- ❖ COMPASS provides flexibility by reporting on a range of criteria, allowing users to understand the tradeoffs of material selection and select options that best fit their company's sustainability objectives.
- ❖ COMPASS evaluates the recyclability of a package using the latest U.S, European, and Canadian recovery figures for packaging materials.