



Packaging solutions

UL's holistic approach to packaging for all consumer products industries



According to Esko's Packaging Trends 2022 report, packaging represents an essential component of any product as it gains increased attention among stakeholders, including manufacturers, retailers, supply chain partners and consumers. Driven by the growth of e-commerce, global supply chain complexity and changing consumer preferences, product packaging represents a critical element of delivering safe products to market and building on customer loyalty. However, in a world facing threats like climate change and limited natural resources, we must strive for sustainable as well as functional packaging.

Imperative: Protect

Developing a holistic packaging program can help you protect:

- Shipped goods
- Consumers
- The environment
- Your brand reputation

UL offers end-to-end packaging testing solutions to address packaging performance, sustainability and chemical content challenges. Consider us the ideal partner to accompany you on your path toward safety, compliance and an increasingly sustainable approach. We offer performance and mechanical testing to specific standards like ISTA and ASTM D4169, packaging chemical analysis and sustainability solutions.



Industries we can help



Toys and juvenile products



Food contact



Pet products



Furniture



Personal care and beauty



Textile, apparel and footwear



Food and beverage



Premium and promotional products



Household cleaning products



General merchandise



Medical devices



Over-the-counter (OTC) medications



Dietary supplements



Private label



Cannabidiol (CBD)



Electrical and electronic products

Let UL evaluate your comprehensive packaging program



Do you need to assess your packaging's physical-mechanical performance?

UL's performance testing helps you avoid the most common packaging failures, including physical/material defects and labeling failures. We offer customized testing for your brand requirements, including testing according to:

- ISTA series
- Amazon APASS – ISTA 6 Amazon SIOC test (Tier 1 or 2) or ISTA 6 Amazon Overbox (Tier 3)
- Custom profiles
- ASTM D4169, Standard Practice for Performance Testing of Shipping Containers and Systems
- TAPPI T810, Bursting Strength of Corrugated Board



Does your packaging come in contact with food?

If so, you must ensure that chemical migration does not increase risk to human health or alter food composition. UL offers a series of chemical analysis, testing and advisory services such as:

- Global migration to different food simulants
- Specific migration and determination of the total content for various substances, e.g., vinyl monomer, formaldehyde, melamine, bisphenol A, volatile organic compounds
- Specific migration of heavy metals or primary aromatic amines (PAA)
- Sensory testing
- Labels and warnings assessment
- Risk assessment
- Testing protocol development for your target markets
- Supply chain management solutions and related documentation



What about chemical safety?

Packaging materials contain chemicals either intentionally to achieve specific performance goals or unintentionally due to contamination or impurities. UL provides a wide portfolio of chemical testing, performing tests in line with your target markets' current legislation. In our global network of chemical laboratories, we test:

- Heavy metals according to Packaging Directive 94/62/EC
- Short-chain chlorinated paraffins (SCCP) and flame retardants according to Persistent Organic Pollutants (POP) Regulation 2019/1021
- Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH), phthalates, dimethyl fumarate, flame retardants according to REACH Regulation 1907/2006
- Substances of very high concern (SVHC) on the Candidate List of substances subject to notification and communication obligation according to REACH Regulation 1907/2006



How can more sustainable packaging contribute to your circularity strategy?

Packaging has an enormous impact on the environment. The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have gained unprecedented adoption among companies worldwide. The SDGs urge companies to focus their attention on the sustainability and performance of their product packaging. Sustainable packaging plays a critical role in achieving several SDGs, including SDG No. 12, Responsible Consumption and Production; SDG No. 14, Life Below Water; and SDG No. 15, Life on Land. In addition, you may want to communicate your sustainability efforts with your end consumer in a transparent way. UL offers:

- Environmental Claim Validation for recycled content, recyclability rate and more
- UL Environmental Product Declaration (EPD)
- Product Carbon Footprint Verification Program to verify that the carbon footprint of packaging meets industry standards such as ISO 14067
- ECOLOGO® Certification for plastic packaging

For more information or to request a quote, contact us today at sustainabilityeu@UL.com or UL.com/packaging.



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