

## **Solid Waste**

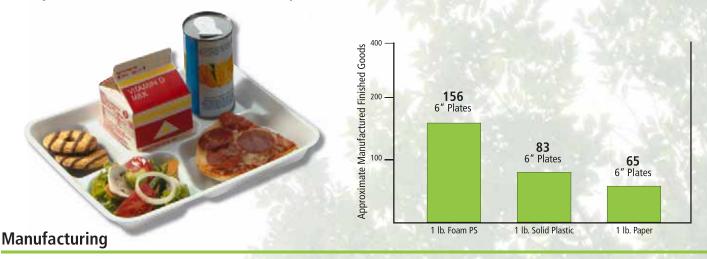
- All packaging materials represented 31.2% of municipal solid waste generated in 2005. Paper and paperboard packaging represented 15.9%, while plastics packaging represented only 5.6% of that municipal solid waste.<sup>3</sup> All polystyrene packaging typically comprises less than 1.0% of municipal solid waste that is generated.
- Landfills are designed to minimize releases into the air, groundwater, and soils. For that reason, today's landfills
  attempt to eliminate contact with air, water, and sunlight, thereby retarding, if not altogether eliminating,
  decomposition of landfill contents. Plastics do not biodegrade in landfills.





## Pactiv Polystyrene Foam Food Packaging & The Environment

Facts you should know about Pactiv, its products, and the environment



- All materials selected for use in these products meet stringent U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) standards for use in food contact packaging and are recognized as safe for use.
- Materials used to manufacture Pactiv's foam foodservice packaging products are considered to be neither ozone depleting nor contributing to global warming.
- The manufacture of all polystyrene, to make both durable and packaging products, uses a fraction of 1.0% of the nation's natural gas and petroleum.<sup>1</sup>
- The manufacture of polystyrene foam foodservice products, such as cups, plates, and hinged lid containers, produces less emissions and waste, requires substantially less energy, than the manufacture of comparable coated bleached paperboard products.
- These products are 95% air. Similar product performance with solid plastic or paper may require four times more material.<sup>2</sup>
- No chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) are used in the manufacturing of any of the company's foam food packaging products.

## **References for Additional Information**

- The following web pages of the Society of the Plastics Industry (SPI), the American Plastics council (APC), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) can be accessed for more information.
- http://www.polystyrene.org (see "Polystyrene Facts" and "Polystyrene and the Environment")
- http://www.plasticsindustry.org (see "Outreach and Education")
- http://www.plasticsinfo.org/top\_level/faqs.html
- http://www.epa.gov/garbage/pubs/msw05rpt.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Source: Municipal solid Waste in the United States: 2005 Facts and figures (U.S. EPA October 2006)



These guidelines are supplied to assist you in determining the proper use of Pactiv products. They are based upon testing and published guidelines and are reliable in most applications. However, because every food supplier's recipes, ingredients, processes and supply chain is unique, these guidelines are not a substitute for product testing. Confirmation of product acceptability under your specific conditions of use must be done by you.



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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Source: "Petroleum Supply Annual—1997, "U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration, June 1998 and "Annual Energy Review—1997, " U.S. Department of Energy Information Administration, July 1998.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Source: www.polystyrene.org (see "Polystyrene Facts")