

DualPakECO®

Packaging with Purpose

Frequently Asked Questions



Made with certified compostable ecovio® by BASF



What coating is on DualPakECO® trays?

DualPakECO® trays are made with certified compostable ecovio® from BASF. ecovio® is a fully compostable biopolymer. It is composed of ecoflex® and PLA (polylactic acid). This fully compostable and bio-based polymer offers an excellent barrier against liquids, grease, minerals oils and aromas and offers several advantages required for food packaging. ecovio® is a unique compostable biopolymer available exclusively to Confoil and is used to create DualPakECO® paperboard trays.

Are DualPakECO® trays home compostable? What is the difference between commercial composting and home composting?

At this time, DualPakECO® is not certified home compostable. Home composting means packaging can be added to domestic composting systems. The breakdown of packaging takes longer and requires different certification (the home composting standard in Australia is known as AS5810-2010).

How does the AS4736-2006 standard differ to the EN1342 European standard?

In Australia, for a material to be certified as compostable, it must comply with the AS4736-2006 standard. The AS4736-2006 standard provides the criteria against which materials that are to be biodegraded in industrial aerobic composting facilities, are assessed. This standard is like the European EN13432 standard but has an additional requirement of a worm test. This is the highest standard of compostable testing currently available in the world.

Why be verified by the ABA (Australasian Bioplastics Association)?

ABA certified materials carrying the looped seedling logo have been independently tested in a laboratory and comply with Australian Standard 4736-2006. The ABA does not endorse labelling of materials unless the performance of the material at end of life is defined that is, "certified" compostable. It is also important to note the AS4736-2006 is a voluntary certification.

What do claims about biodegradation mean?

The term biodegradable as a term is meaningless as it does not communicate the following:

- Under what conditions does biodegradation occur?
- Does biodegradation really take place?
- What are the by products of the biodegradation, if any actually occurs?
- Are there any environmental or ecotoxicity questions related to the by products if biodegradation occurs?
- When does the biodegradation occur and how long does it take?

In summary, only certification to an internationally recognised standard or specification confirms that biodegradation occurs without negative consequences environmentally or ecologically.

What does source separation mean and what are the benefits?

“Source separation” refers to sorting waste at the time the waste is generated; for example, placing organic waste into a dedicated organics bin or a Food Organics and Garden Organics waste bin (FOGO) rather than a general waste bin. Source separation can also reduce the associated cost of sending waste to landfill and produce a more homogenous waste which is easier to process into suitable recycled organics products such as compost, soil conditioners and mulches.

Do DualPakECO[®] trays need to be rinsed or cleaned before being placed in the organics waste bin?

No, DualPakECO[®] trays do not need to be rinsed or cleaned – the more food residue left on trays, the better!

Are DualPakECO[®] trays also recyclable?

Yes, DualPakECO[®] trays are also recyclable. However, they must be rinsed cleaned - no food residue left on trays.

What about PFAS? Are DualPakECO[®] trays PFAS free?

PFAS stands for poly-and perfluoroalkyl substances, denoting a group of man-made chemicals. There are no intentionally added PFAS substances in DualPakECO[®] trays, confirmed by the ABA certification process.

Are DualPakECO[®] trays ovenable, microwavable?

Yes, DualPakECO[®] trays are both ovenable (oven safe up to 180°C for 40 minutes, trays are not to be placed near oven heating elements) and microwavable. Note, we advise customers to undertake independent testing trials.

Can DualPakECO[®] trays be custom printed?

Yes, you can custom print DualPakECO[®] trays.

How many colours can be printed on DualPakECO[®] tray?

DualPakECO[®] trays can be printed up to 5 colours.

Are the inks used to print on DualPakECO[®] trays compostable or friendly to the environment?

Yes, as part of achieving the AS4736 certification, the inks used for printing are certified compostable.

Do you need to use a compostable film with DualPakECO[®] trays?

No, you do not need to use compostable sealing films with DualPakECO[®] trays. We will soon be able to offer a compostable sealing film option.

Is your current range of sealing films compostable?

Our current range of sealing films are not certified compostable to the AS4736-2006 standard.

Is your normal range of DualPak[®] trays still available?

Yes, our normal range of DualPak[®] trays are still available.

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Issued May 2023