# europe recycles enough STEEL PACKAGING in 2011 TO fill a freight train stretching from new york to berlin

APEAL (the Association of European Producers of Steel for Packaging) releases the latest European steel recycling figures. In 2011, 2.6 million tonnes of steel packaging were recycled to make new steel products, corresponding to an average European rate of 74%.

2011 reinforces the long term trend for steel as the most recycled packaging material in Europe. Indeed the last 20 years have seen a threefold increase in packaging steel recycling thanks to a combination of steel’s infinite recyclability, the ease with which magnetic steel can be recovered and recycled, and an understanding of the resource and emissions savings to be gained.

A tonne of recycled steel saves over one and a half its weight in CO2 emissions. In 2011 European households saved emissions equivalent to flying 15.7 million times from Lisbon to Helsinki.

A tonne of recycled steel uses 70% less energy. In 2011 households across Europe saved the equivalent of almost half Belgium’s annual electricity consumption.

Steel remains the most recycled packaging material in Europe. Plastic, beverage cartons, aluminium and glass demonstrate rates of 33%, 37%, 67% and 70% respectively (according to latest available data).

The methodology and data sources used for the calculation of the European steel recycling rate have been once again reviewed independently by the energy and waste specialist consultancy, Eunomia, who confirm the credibility of APEAL’s methodology and data.

 “These figures show just how much of an impact we can have on reducing emissions through recycling and better use of resources” said Dr Filip Kaczmarek, Member of the European Parliament, commenting on APEAL’s 2011 recycling figures. “This is an excellent example of how each and every one of us can make a big difference in our fight against climate change and towards greater resource efficiency.”

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *APEAL Communications:* Patricia MobbsCommunications ManagerE-mail: p.mobbs@apeal.be [www.apeal.org](http://www.apeal.org) [www.steelforpackaging.org](http://www.steelforpackaging.org) | *For more information:* Miguel AnayaQuality & Environment AssistantE-mail: m.anaya@apeal.be[www.apeal.org](http://www.apeal.org) [www.steelforpackaging.org](http://www.steelforpackaging.org) |

**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.

**About Eunomia**

Eunomia is a UK-based consultancy, recognised as a leader in understanding the direction and trajectory of environmental policy in areas such as waste management and resource efficiency.

**About Dr Filip Kaczmarek**

Dr Kaczmarek is a member of the European Peoples Party (EEP) in the European Parliament (EP) and a member of the EP ENVI (Environment, Public Health and Food Safety) Committee. He has his constituency in the Poznan region of Poland.

Attachments:

Attachment 1: 2011 Recycling rates for all packaging materials

Attachment 2: Recycling rates for 27 EU countries + Norway and Switzerland

Attachment 3: APEAL Statistical Credibility Assessment 2013, from Eunomia