

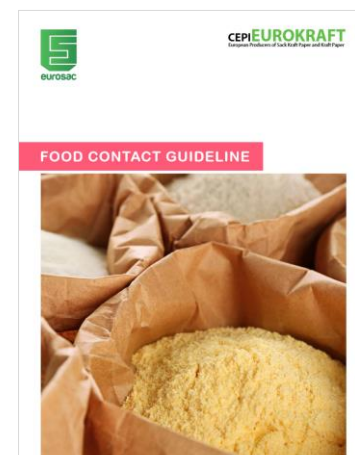
## **EUROSAC launches new food contact guideline for paper packaging**

**Paris/Stockholm, 17 June 2020: When producing paper sacks for food, European manufacturers face many legal requirements regarding the protection and hygiene of the stored food. To support manufacturers in meeting all regulations and providing the necessary information for food contact compliance to the food producer, the European Paper Sack Research Group (ESG), a collaboration between EUROSAC and CEPI Eurokraft, have launched an update of their food contact guideline. It summarises the relevant regulations at both EU and national levels and gives an overview of the procedures required to collect, evaluate and document all necessary information. Furthermore, it states under which conditions migration testing and the issuing of compliance documents is required.**

Paper sacks for food products can be constructed in different ways and with different materials. While some paper sacks are made entirely of paper, other sacks have layers of plastic or aluminium added as a barrier towards moisture, oxygen or fat. Glue and/or ink are also part of the final construction. All these materials as well as the type of food that will be packed in the sack – whether it is fatty on the surface, contains fat, is dry or is moist – need to be taken into account to fulfil food contact requirements. The same is true for the conditions of use, the storage time and the temperature. Information on these aspects from all suppliers is a prerequisite.

“Food safety is of the utmost importance to our industry. With our updated guideline, we want to clarify the responsibilities for meeting food contact requirements linked to materials, paper sacks and food during the lifetime of the sack in relation to the existing legal regulations,” explains Catherine Plitzko-Kerninon, General Delegate of EUROSAC. “The guideline gives an overview of the most important regulations and explains how, and under which circumstances, they have to be fulfilled and which steps are necessary to take.”

To facilitate the process of ensuring compliance with the legislation for European paper sack manufacturers, the document contains a recommended procedure to ensure food contact compliance, called “ESG/Key Seven Steps”. There are different approaches depending on the composition of the sack. All of them start with collecting information on the intended use for the paper sack and compliance statements as well as other required documents from the suppliers. In addition to this, the information on substances of concern should be summarised, which then concludes if tests on the migration of these substances are required. The final step, after any required testing, is to write a document of compliance.



The ESG food contact guideline supports paper sack manufacturers in meeting food contact regulations.



Furthermore, the comprehensive annex includes in-depth information on specific matters such as recycled materials for food contact, testing conditions and an overview of the existence of national legislation and recommendations in different countries as well as links to the respective website information.

The new guideline can be downloaded on the websites of [EUROSAC](http://www.eurosac.org) and [CEPI Eurokraft](http://www.cepi-eurokraft.org).

For more information, please visit the EUROSAC or CEPI Eurokraft websites:

[www.eurosac.org](http://www.eurosac.org)

[www.cepi-eurokraft.org](http://www.cepi-eurokraft.org)

or contact:

Catherine Pnitzko-Kerninon, General Delegate, EUROSAC

Tel. +33 (0)1 4723 7558 • [Catherine.kerninon@eurosac.org](mailto:Catherine.kerninon@eurosac.org)

*Note to editors:*

**CEPI Eurokraft** is the European Association for Producers of Sack Kraft Paper for the Paper Sack Industry and Kraft Paper for the Packaging Industry. It has eleven member companies representing a volume of 3.0 million tonnes of paper produced in twelve countries. [www.cepi-eurokraft.org](http://www.cepi-eurokraft.org)

**EUROSAC** is the European Federation of Multiwall Paper Sack Manufacturers. The federation represents over 75% of European paper sack manufacturers. Its members operate in 20 different countries. They produce more than 5 billion paper sacks per year, representing 650,000 tonnes of paper converted in 60 plants. Sack manufacturers from all continents and bag manufacturers also contribute to the federation as corresponding members, and more than 20 suppliers (paper, film, machine or glue manufacturers) are registered as associate members. [www.eurosac.org](http://www.eurosac.org)

