

# REUSABLE TRANSPORT PACKAGING

## Made Circular. Made to Last. Made for the Future.

Companies embracing reusable transport packaging in place of single use packaging are leading the charge in the transition from a linear to circular economy. Instead of wasting resources, companies deploying a reuse system are creating new economic values and cost-savings, building operational resiliences, and reducing their environmental footprints.

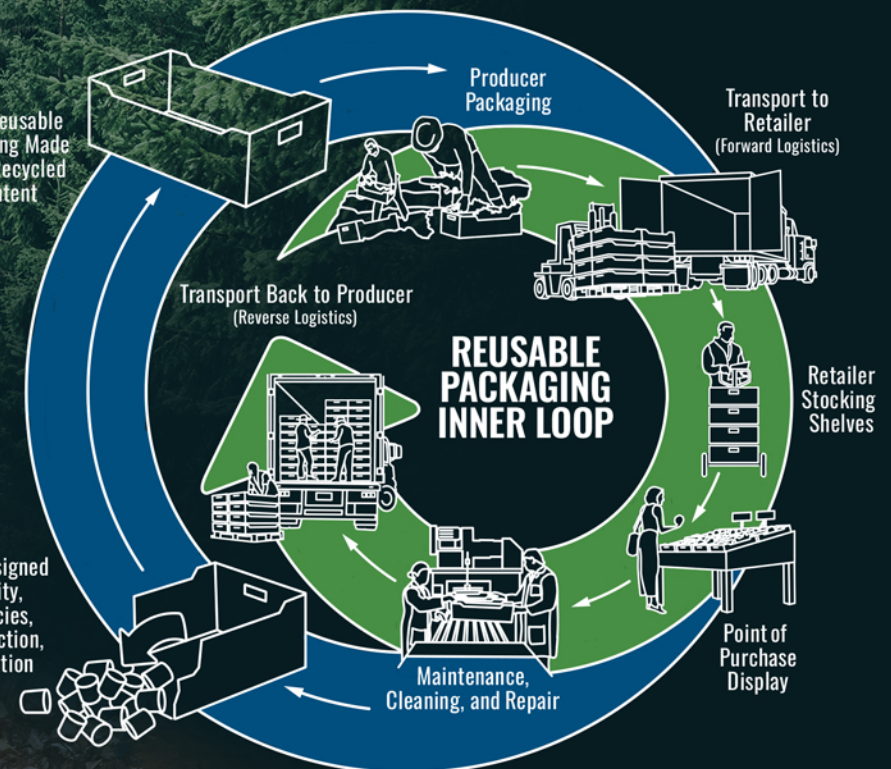
GLOBAL  
REUSABLE  
PACKAGING  
MARKET  
**\$107B**

PERCENT  
OF GLOBAL  
PACKAGING  
MARKET  
**9.7%**

RPA State of the Industry Report 2023

INSTEAD OF 90% OF  
THE PACKAGING MARKET  
BEING SINGLE-USE

IMAGINE IF 90%  
OF PACKAGING WAS  
REUSABLE?



LEARN MORE AT THE REUSABLE PACKAGING ASSOCIATION  
ON HOW REUSE SYSTEMS ACHIEVE CIRCULAR SUPPLY CHAINS  
[Reusables.org](https://Reusables.org)



**Reusable  
Packaging  
ASSOCIATION**



The growth of reusable transport packaging continues to outpace the growth of single use packaging. And rightly so! In the example use case of shipping fruits and vegetables, companies that used reusable plastic containers saved money and saw:

UP TO  
**96%  
LESS  
SOLID  
WASTE<sup>1</sup>**

UP TO  
**80%  
LESS  
WATER  
USE<sup>2</sup>**

UP TO  
**64%  
LESS  
ENERGY  
USE<sup>1</sup>**

UP TO  
**62%  
LESS  
CO<sub>2</sub>e  
(or global warming  
potential)<sup>1</sup>**

UP TO  
**50%  
LESS  
FOOD  
WASTE**

(which is a leading cause  
of GHG emissions)<sup>3</sup>

When assessing Material Circular Indicator (MCI), Material Reutilization Score (MRS), Circular Index (CI), and LCAs independent researchers conclude “the food industry would benefit from the use of reusable crates for transporting bulk fruit and vegetables, as this option was the most economically and environmentally sustainable.”<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Source: ESG report- Advancing through circularity together, IFCO, 2024.

<sup>2</sup> Source: Comparative life cycle assessment of reusable plastic containers and display- and non-display-ready corrugated containers used for fresh produce applications, Franklin Associates, 2017.

<sup>3</sup> Source: Observed with perishable commodities in retail operations, RPA, 2018.

<sup>4</sup> Source: Addressing the circularity and sustainability of different single-use and reusable crates used for fresh fruit and vegetables packaging, Food Packaging and Shelf Life, 2024.

<sup>5</sup> Source: Unlocking a reuse revolution- scaling returnable packaging, Ellen MacArthur Foundation, 2023.

# What could it mean for your company?

Companies that are modernizing their supply chains with reusable transport packaging are gaining advantages for tomorrow:



**Future-proofing their supply chains** by cutting costs and environmental impacts through technology-enabled reuse systems leading to visible and trackable supply chains.



**Improving the bottom line** by lowering packaging costs, cutting waste and shrink, optimizing unit loads, and automating handling.



**Better positioned to gain early adopter advantages** through upcoming regulations like Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and the EU's Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation.<sup>5</sup> Reusable packaging enables regulatory compliance and exemptions from waste management fees.



Reuse allows companies to **prevent waste rather than manage it!**

Companies seeking to measure and report on sustainability goals can leverage reuse systems for data-driven accuracy and performance. At the Reusable Packaging Association, we envision a world where businesses optimize sustainable, resilient, and intelligent supply chains through reusable packaging systems.

Learn More at the Reusable Packaging  
Association and See How Your Business Can  
Benefit from Circular Reuse Systems.

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