

Future of food packaging

OP Kiertotalousseminaari

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Huhtamaki



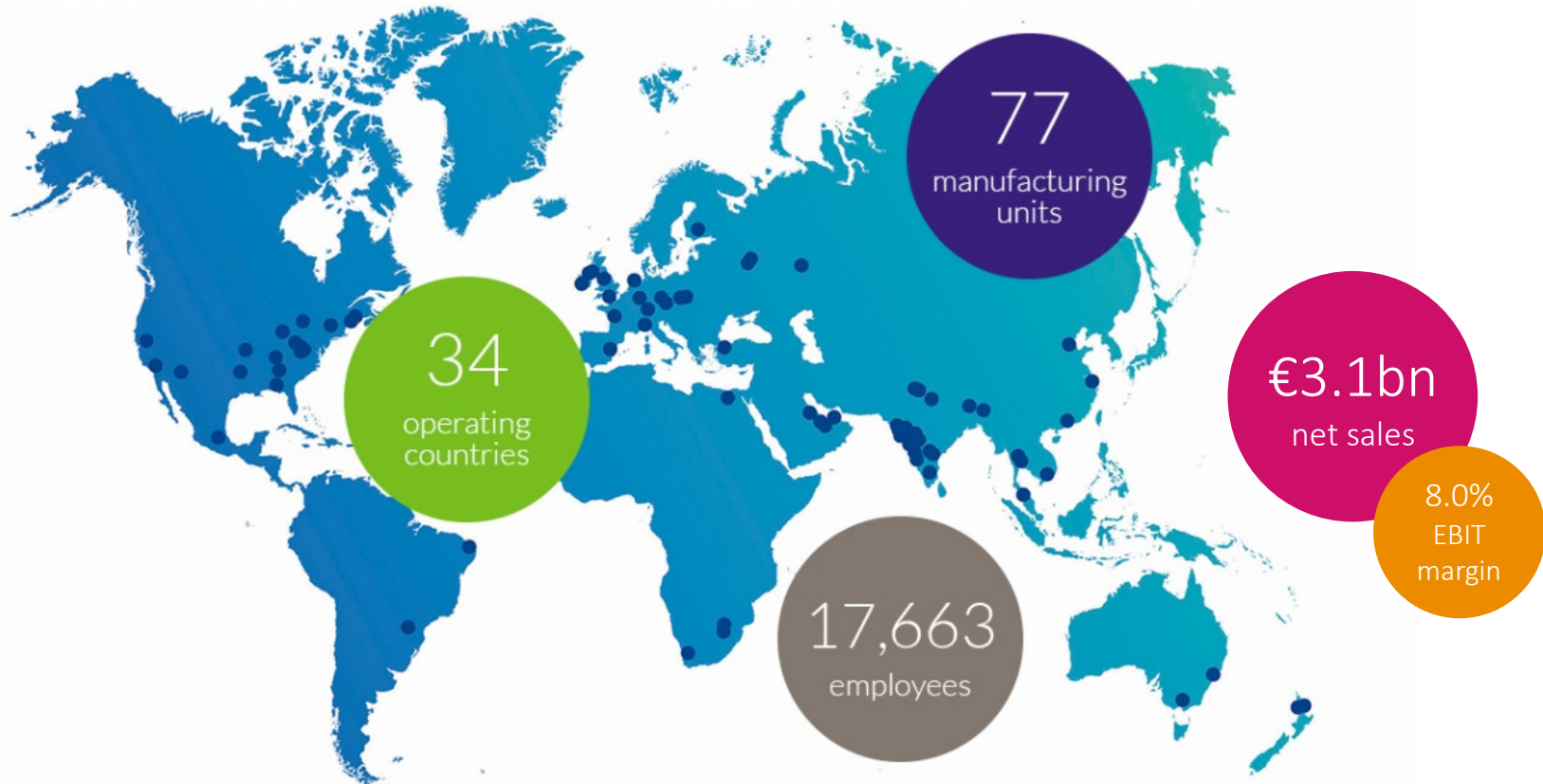
Content



Briefly on Huhtamaki

1. Food packaging business
2. Trends and drivers in food packaging
3. Answering the trends – case examples
4. Summary

Huhtamaki



Our business is consumer food and drink packaging

Food-on-the-go

Pre-packed food



Convenience

Short shelf life

Food safety

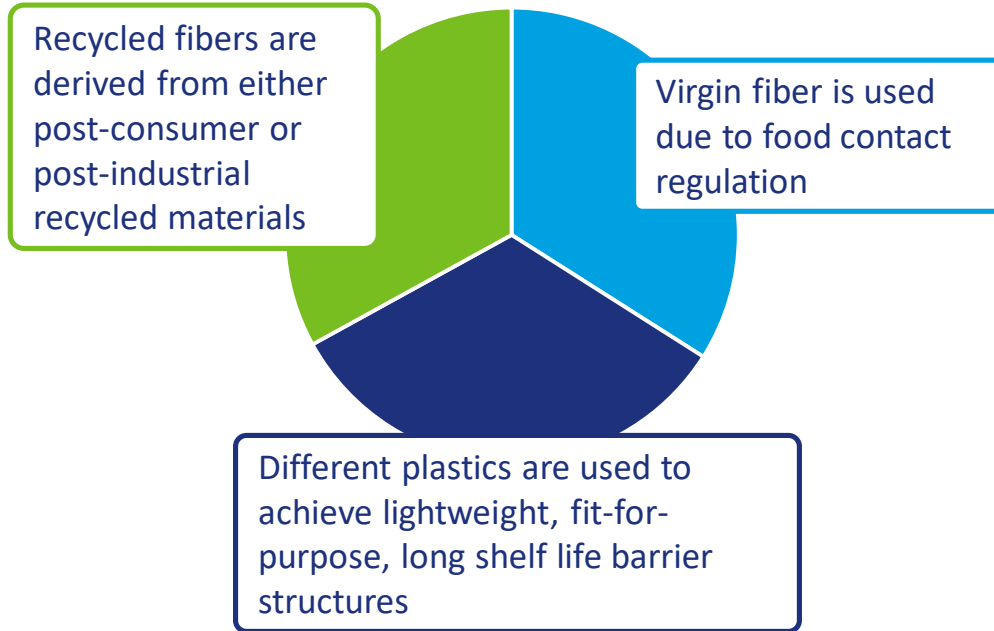
Long shelf life

Food waste prevention

Our packaging protects food and drink products, delivering them to consumers safely and in good condition, helping to reduce waste.

Our raw materials

2/3 of raw material we use is renewable



All main paper packaging units have PEFC, FSC or SFI Chain of Custody certification to ensure that the fiber is traceable and comes from sustainably managed forests.

1. Food packaging



Food packaging enables our way of life

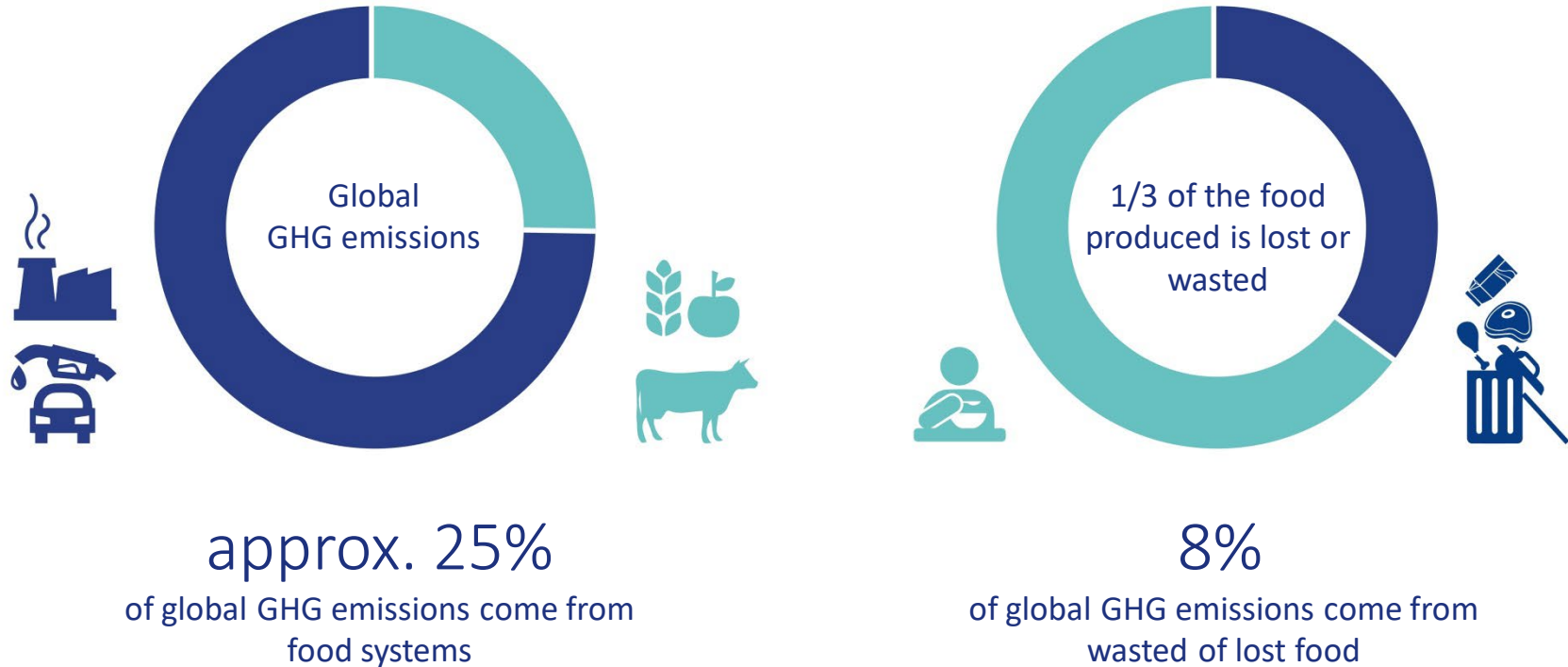


Thanks to packaging, people can safely consume food that is produced elsewhere, even on-the-go

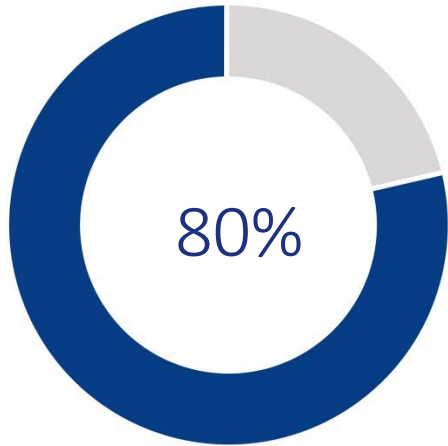
Different materials are needed for different purposes – our aim is optimal packaging, designed for circularity

Packaging reduces the overall greenhouse gas emissions by reducing food waste

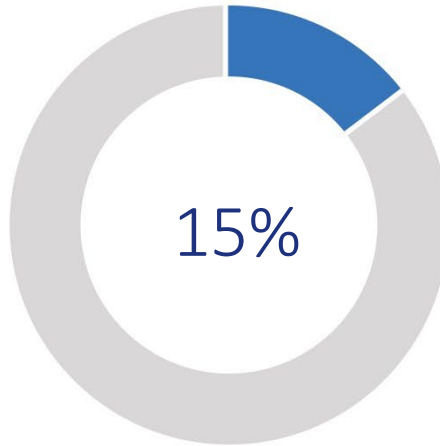
Food is a major contributor to climate change



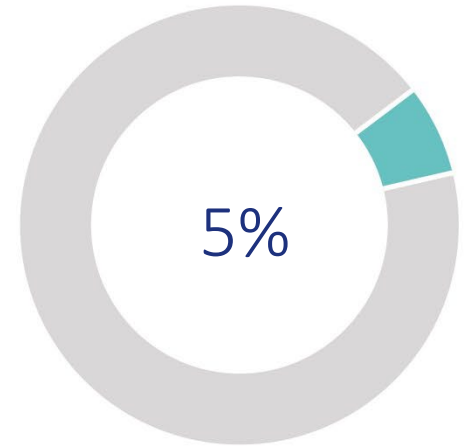
Packaging accounts for approx. 5% of food's CO₂ footprint



Food production



Transport and distribution



Packaging

Food packaging materials

Plastic

- Excellent barrier: improves food hygiene and safety and reduces food waste by increasing the shelf life of food items
- Light weight; reduces the environmental footprint of transportation when compared to other packaging materials
- Recyclable when right sorting and infrastructure in place
- Material, energy and cost efficient to produce
- Versatile, see-through material



Paper, paperboard & other fiber-based packaging

- Renewable, recyclable, compostable
 - suitable for several end-of-life treatment options
- Need for a barrier layer to hold liquid, fat, oxygen and aroma
 - plastic, bio-plastic, chemical



Metal (tin, aluminum, steel)

- Widely recyclable
- Heavy, does not degrade
- Good barrier, durable, cheap, non-toxic
- Vulnerable for corrosion (oxidation)



Foil

- Great barrier to light, oxygen, moisture and bacteria
- Not-see-through, easily torn
- As monomaterial widely recyclable
- Strong and resilient material, does not degrade



Glass

- Endlessly recyclable but value of recycled material low
- Heavy and space-consuming, breakage
- Does not degrade

Packaging structures and their implications for recycling

Monomaterials



Structure examples

Printable material & barrier for food hygiene and safety

Plastic, metal, glass

Implications for recycling

Easy to recycle when monomaterials recyclable (for example from plastics PET and PP are, whereas PLA and PS are not)

Coated monomaterials



Printable material, heat retention
Barrier for food hygiene&safety

Paperboard

Plastic

Possible to recycle when materials are sortable and separatable in the recycling process (for example paper cup with plastic barrier can be recycled in dedicated recycling plants)

Multimaterials with multilayers



Printable material
Barrier for food safety, aroma, and longer shelf life
Sealing media

Plastic or paper

Aluminum

Plastic

More difficult to recycle if multilayers hard to separate. Challenge also in sorting materials, as sorting technology (infra-red) understands only the top layer/wrap/sleeve/label.

The issue with plastics is its "end of life pathway"



2. Trends and drivers in food packaging



Five drivers that shape megatrends and consumer behaviour

Population change



Demographic shifts reshape consumer lifestyles and purchasing decisions

Shifting economic power



Shift of emerging and frontier markets

Technology



Rapid uptake of new technologies accelerates the rate of change

Environmental shifts and pressures



Competing demands and supply constraints create pressure on environmental resources

Changing values



Beliefs about the world are evolving, shaping priorities, perceptions, attitudes and motivations

Four new global consumer segments



Fitness enthusiast (27 % of consumers)

- Regularly exercises
- Consumes six portions of fresh food daily
- Prefers outdoor activities during travel



“Good-for-me” seeker (17 % of consumers)

- Closely reads nutrition label on food and beverages
- Prefers products that are natural and organic and from trusted organisations



Eco-conscious consumer (16 % of consumers)

- Worried about climate change
- Looks for clean labels and sustainable product features



Leisure traveller (13 % of consumers)

- Takes domestic /international trips often
- Spends money on experiences rather than things

Key strategies of global packaged food companies



Snacking and meeting health concerns:
reflected in snacks' and on-the-go meal solutions' dominance in the market



Growing need for external certification:
sustainability and environmental footprints from trustworthy sources



Investments towards technology:
growing AI and increasing food personalisation

Food packaging –towards renewable materials and circularity

Environmental shifts and pressures

Changing values



Battle against plastics
and littering

Resource scarcity

Climate change

Experience

Substituting plastics where
possible

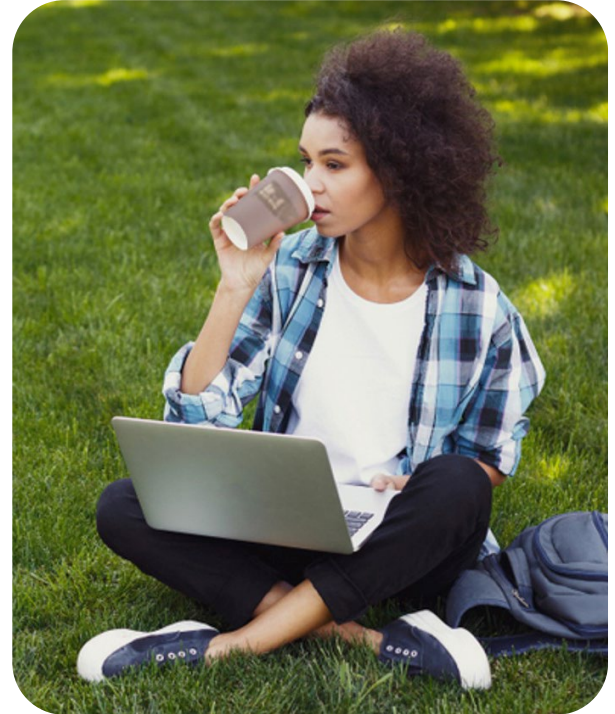
Moving towards circularity
and closing the loop

Moving towards renewable
materials

Moving towards
naturalness

Consumer food packaging in the future

- Fit-for-purpose and affordable packaging which is safe, hygienic and convenient to use
- Designed for circularity
- Manufactured efficiently from responsibly sourced materials
- Easy to dispose of and recycle after use



Towards circularity of food packaging

Requirements for success:

- ✓ Holistic understanding and close cooperation of the whole packaging value chain
- ✓ Better and more harmonized separate collection and sorting systems
- ✓ Further development of recycling infrastructure and end market for food safe materials
- ✓ Raising consumer awareness on circular economy
- ✓ Governmental support for enabling circular economy



3. Answering the trends – case examples



Case 1: Paper straws provide an alternative to plastic straws

An excellent
high-quality
alternative to
plastic
straws.

Responsible,
sustainable
and certified
to highest
standards and
quality.

Made from
100% PEFC
certified
virgin kraft
paper.

Case 2: Fresh ready meal tray –Recyclable and compostable alternative to black plastic



**Microwave
and oven safe**

**Cooler to the
touch than
plastic**

Natural look

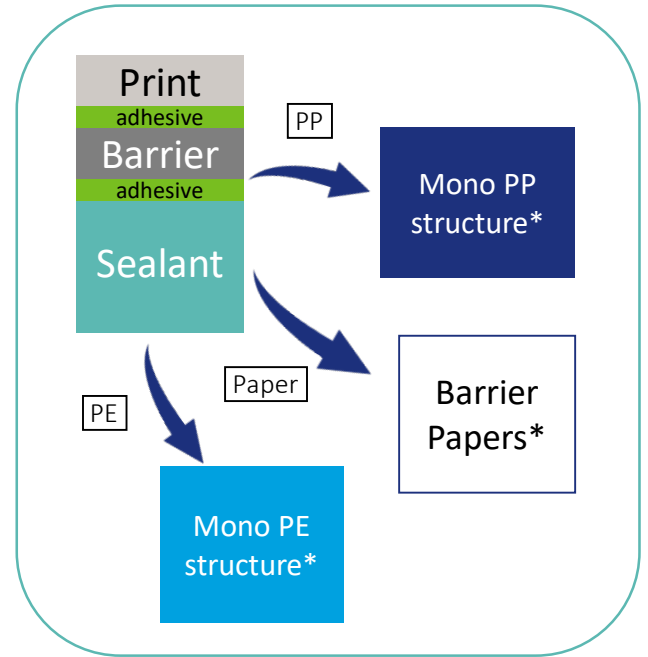
Case 3: Advanced multilayer films substitute other substrates

15%

growth of e-com sales per year. Today, e-com stands for 10% of retail sales globally.



On-going development for improving recyclability:



Case 4: 100% renewable FutureSmart product line for mitigating climate change

Made from plant-based renewable materials



Fossil oil-based polyethylene lining replaced with plant-based PE coating from sugarcane



Paperboard from PEFC certified forests

Suitable for hot and cold beverage, ice cream and food

Case 5: GreenNest – Natural feel and touch

Made from 50 % grass fibers and
50 % of recycled fibers

Grass sourced from nature reserves,
wood fiber FSC certified



Recyclable, compostable

Summary

- Food packaging enables our way of life
- Different materials and structures are needed for different purposes
- Environmental concerns and consumer preferences are driving food packaging industry towards renewable materials and circular economy

Sustainable food packaging in the future:

- Fit-for-purpose and affordable packaging which is safe, hygienic and convenient to use
- Designed for circularity, manufactured efficiently from responsibly sourced materials, easy to dispose of and recycle after use
- Natural look, feel and touch

Thank you!

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