



Tool Box Talk

Focus on Performance

Packaging Waste

Sust. 12

What?

Envirowise research found that between 5 and 50% of the waste from a construction project is from materials used to support, package and protect products and materials delivered to site.

Packaging includes reusable or recyclable materials such as paper, cardboard, timber, plastics and some metals.

Why?

Interserve have committed to the Government's 'Halving Waste to Landfill' initiative and are seeking to minimise the amount of waste sent to landfill. Waste disposed to landfill uses up the Earth's natural resources and can lead to pollution.

Reducing the amount of packaging waste sent to landfill reduces costs, improves profitability and demonstrates to our clients and other interested parties that we implement sustainable construction methods.

How?

- Send packaging back to the supplier for reuse.
- Reuse packaging such as pallets and cardboard on-site if possible.
- Place waste in the correct waste segregation bin (where provided).
- Take extra care when moving and storing goods to avoid damaging them, and don't remove packaging before it is safe to do so.
- Keep the site tidy and organised. This will help with waste identification and segregation, and also remove slip and trip hazards.
- Don't mix different wastes in the bins/skips - this can increase removal costs and make recycling difficult.
- Don't allow pallets and other packaging containers to get damaged to enable continued reuse.
- Don't over-order products as they may come with additional packaging.

Source: Envirowise GG606



Questions

1. What packaging materials might you reuse on site?
2. What initiative has Interserve signed up to?
3. Why shouldn't you mix different waste types if separate bins are provided?

If you have any queries regarding the content of this tool box talk please contact your Sustainability Advisor or Line Manager.