KRAFT PAPER PACKAGING

Kraft bags and sacks can be essentially divided into two categories: the paper bags used to carry groceries, and the multiwall sacks that contain anything from flour and cement to donuts and pet food.

Made from a renewable resource

The paper industry maximizes use of the forest resource by making most kraft paper packaging out of wood chips left over from lumber manufacturing. It also uses wood waste (bark and sawdust) as fuel to generate steam and power in the production process.

The forests themselves are a renewable resource, replanted or allowed to naturally regenerate across Canada. Some 80% of Canada’s commercial forest area is public land and the various provinces closely regulate its use to ensure a sustainable resource. Factors taken into consideration include losses due to forest fires, insect infestation, disease and harvesting.

Meeting strength requirements

Kraft is the German word for strong. One of the key performance requirements of kraft paper packaging is that it stands up to the demands of filling, handling and transportation without breaking. The northern softwood fibre which is used in the manufacture of Canadian kraft paper is renowned on world markets for its strength. By meeting strength performance requirements Canadian kraft paper competes successfully on world markets.

By using stronger paper, less fibre (packaging material) is required.

More and More Recovered

Kraft paper packaging is reusable and excellent fibre for recycling into other packaging. Kraft fibre will always be in strong demand by recycling mills because of its strength qualities.

Paper bags can also be used to separate different types of recyclables for easy pick-up at curbside and to collect leaf, yard and food wastes for composting. The bags degrade along with the compost, avoiding costly debagging machinery and labour.