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CALIFORNIA Labelling Laws – 2011

Applies **ONLY** to packaging sold on Retail shelves in California.

California's Laws: Strict laws regulate the marketing and labelling of degradable plastic products sold in California, including those claimed to be “compostable” or “biodegradable”. Environmental marketing claims, whether explicit or implied, must be substantiated by competent and reliable scientific evidence and meet specified standards to prevent misleading consumers about the environmental impact of degradable plastic products, including bags, food service ware, and packaging.

In 2011, legislation was passed the extended restrictions on the use of degradability terms to nearly all plastic products. ([See Public Resources Code \(PRC\) Sections 42355-42358.5](#)). The law requires clear scientific evidence for environmental claims, noting biodegradation is a complex process dependent on physical and chemical structure, environmental conditions, and time.

Please be aware that due to California Labelling Laws, the word “degradable” or “compostable” is not permitted on **Retail Packaging (store shelf) being sold in California**, along with any other wording/claims referring to degradation, such as “Omni-degradable”. Should you wish to over-label the packing where that is present, TekPak Solutions will not be responsible for labels falling off or peeling off. The testing of your label’s adhesion is your responsibility. (Permanent Adhesive is best).

What California is trying to avoid is unsubstantiated claims. Proof can be too lengthy for a package, but this can be shown on a website. It has to be honest and not misleading. TekPak Solutions can supply you with extensive proof of our claims.

As an option, you can use our OmniPlanet logo in it’s place, OR print on the packaging “Go to (insert your website) or use (www.tekpaksolutions.com) for more information on this packaging and we can assist by providing verbiage and proof of claims information to you.

Failure to comply could cause a lawsuit and/or fines by California against your company, which we want to avoid.

Any type of logo or product claims, in affiliation with TekPak Solutions / Omni-degradable®, must be authorized by our company before being applied to our packaging.