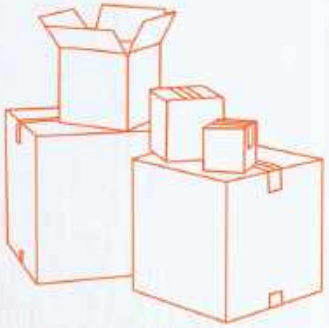
Independent Can Company

www.independentcan.com

SUPERIOR STEEL ✓

Packaging made from tin-plated steel fills all three categories of sustainability in a way that no other package can claim. Because of their beauty and **reusability**, tins are collected, refilled or displayed in homes and establishments. They are part of the gift and therefore require no secondary packaging. If a tin can ever makes it into the waste stream, it can be **separated by a magnet**. It is also **biodegradable**. The life cycle of a steel package is **infinite without loss of quality**. Many other claims of recyclability are just a temporary life cycle extension, with the second life inevitably ending in the landfill. Because tin extends product **shelf life** and adds **shelf appeal**, it is clearly the best packaging choice. According to the Steel Recycling Institute, global steel recycling has reached its highest level of 88%.



PAPERBOARD PACKAGING ✗

Products made of paper or cardboard are easily contaminated by food residuals. The paper fibers become soiled and the package must be thrown away, as the recycling process cannot separate out the oils. Most waxes or coatings that are used to give the paper more structure impair the recyclability of the product. Adding foils, valves and closures made from other materials or poly barriers render the paper package entirely unrecyclable.

COMPOSITE CANS ✗

These cans have an extremely limited lifecycle. Most recycling centers do not accept them due to the fact that the metal end cannot be separated from the paperboard body.

PLASTIC BAGS AND CONTAINERS ✗

Plastics are made from the fossil fuel petroleum. This material is only temporarily diverted from the landfill when it is recycled into secondary products (i.e. textiles, toys, furniture, etc.). Once those are discarded, the plastic's life cycle is over. Only some plastics are recyclable; none of them biodegrade. Only 9% of all plastics are recycled.

BIOPLASTICS ✗

Bioplastics cannot be recycled with regular plastics. If they are not properly disposed of, they can release toxins into the environment. They can only biodegrade in a commercial composting environment due to the heat required to break them down.

⊘ PACKAGES COMPRISED OF MULTIPLE MATERIALS ARE DIFFICULT, IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE TO RECYCLE.