



4<sup>th</sup> April 2023

As a responsible supplier, we would like to make our customers aware of some details regarding our packaging products. This is a legal requirement under the Environment Agency's Packaging Waste Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Regulations.

### **Return and collection systems**

There is no return system for our packaging. Customers should consult with their local authority or an accredited waste service provider for details on local recycling availability and waste collection systems.

### **Our role in reusing and recycling packaging and packaging waste**

Recycling helps to save energy, avoid landfill and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Where possible, we reuse our packaging. This is done in many ways, including:

- Reusing inbound cardboard cartons and pallet boxes
- Reusing inbound wooden crates and pallets
- Breaking down unusable crates and pallets to provide 'stiffening material' for long items such as door locks
- Shredding unusable cardboard and paper items for use as packing material

We are also in the process of re-designing the packaging of many own-brand items in order to negate the need to put them into additional outer cartons for onward shipment.

Any packaging material that cannot be re-used in any of the ways described above is sent away for recycling or disposal (whichever applies) by an accredited waste service provider.

### **Our customers' role in reusing and recycling packaging and packaging waste**

Recycling helps to save energy, avoid landfill and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Where possible, our customers should reuse our packaging. If you have to dispose of it, we encourage you to recycle as much as possible, using an accredited waste service provider.

All of our cardboard is recyclable. Our VBH/Q-secure/greenteQ packing tape can also be recycled. Most of our plastic packaging used at despatch (e.g. tape) contains at least 30% recycled material.

We are unable to confirm that 100% of the plastics used for packaging at the factories (e.g. inner bags for handles, cylinders etc.) can be recycled, so this should be disposed of as waste. We will continue to work with the factories to improve upon this situation in the future.

### **What recycling symbols on packaging mean**

Please visit <https://www.recyclenow.com/how-to-recycle/recycling-symbols> to find out more about what recycling symbols mean.



### **How to get copies of waste strategy guidance**

For more information on how your business should manage its waste, please refer to the government advice at <https://www.gov.uk/dispose-business-commercial-waste>

We hope that this information is of use to you and that it demonstrates our determination to recycle as much material and possible and, consequently, put as little material into the waste system as possible.

Our aim is to continue on that path and to work with our factories and third party suppliers to use more material that is recyclable and less non-recyclables in factory packaging.

We will communicate any progress that we make on this when we can.

In the meantime, thank you for buying your hardware from VBH, and for handling our packaging materials responsibly.