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STATEMENT OF PAPER CHARACTERISTICS - BIODEGRADABILITY AND COMPOSTABILITY – EN 13432:2000

Applicable to;

- Australian Paper Virgin Bleached and Unbleached Food Contact Packaging grades;
- Excluding High Wet Strength (HWS) grades

These products have not been laboratory assessed according to European Standard:

- *EN 13432:2000 – “Packaging: requirements for packaging recoverable through composting and biodegradation”*

Interpretation of this standard has identified:

A.1 - Chemical Characteristics

- Volatile solids are >50%
- Heavy metal and other toxic and hazardous substances do not exceed the limits as listed in Table A.1 of Annex A.

A.2 - Biodegradability

- Individual Significant Organic Constituents >1%:
 - Paper Pulp - classified as a Material of Natural Origin
 - Modified Starch – possible Material of Natural Origin
- Total portion of all other organic constituents without biodegradability <5%

The assessment of A.1 and A.2 suggests that the above product would comply with the biodegradation component of the standard.

A.3 - Disintegration

- Disintegration of packaging component is to be tested in the form in which it will ultimately be used.

A.4 - Ecotoxicity

- It is important to use the compost derived from the disintegration test.

Compliance to EN 13432:2000 – “Packaging: requirements for packaging recoverable through composting and biodegradation” is not possible without detailed laboratory testing. However, this paper product is likely to comply with both the biodegradability and compostability elements of the standard.