



A Permanent Solution for Circularity in Europe LCA Highlights Metal Packaging's Long-Term Progress

The story of metal packaging in Europe is one of consistent, measurable progress.

The latest Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)¹ reinforces this positive trend. It is the most comprehensive LCA conducted for the European metal packaging industry, covering 1.5 million tonnes of steel cans and 1 million tonnes of aluminium cans produced by MPE corporate members.

The results show significant advances compared with the previous LCA²:

- **Climate change impact reductions:**
 - Aluminium beverage and aluminium food can manufacturing **reduced GHG emissions by an average of 31%**.
 - Steel aerosol can manufacturing achieved a 14% reduction.
 - Tinplate production in Europe achieved a 10% reduction.
- **Energy efficiency improvements:**
 - Steel general line can manufacturing reduced electricity consumption by 18%.
 - Aluminium beverage can manufacturing reduced electricity consumption by 6% and heat demand by 15%.
 - Steel food can manufacturing reduced electricity consumption by 5%.
 - Steel aerosol can manufacturing reduced heat demand by 10%.
- **Material efficiency and lightweighting:**
 - Aluminium food cans are 19% lighter.
 - Steel general line cans are 13% lighter.
 - Steel aerosol cans are 10% lighter.
 - Aluminium beverage and steel food cans maintained optimised lightweight profiles.

High-quality recycling remains one of metal's greatest strengths. A 1% rise in recycling rates reduces the carbon footprint by an average of 1.4% across metal packaging formats.

Steel and aluminium are permanent materials that can be recycled forever without losing quality, making them essential to Europe's climate ambitions and long-term economic resilience. As Europe advances its next phase of climate and environmental legislation, metal packaging provides clear evidence that circular systems can perform at scale.

Metal packaging delivers both quality for consumers and true circularity for Europe, **a success story built on permanent materials that must be protected and strengthened.**



1 - 2025 MPE Life Cycle Assessment Report, based on 2023 production data

2 - 2022 MPE Life Cycle Assessment Report, based on 2018 production data



MPE is the united voice of Europe's rigid metal packaging industry (steel and aluminium), bringing together manufacturers, suppliers, and national associations (metalpackagingeurope.org). We position and support the positive attributes and image of metal packaging through joint advocacy, marketing, sustainability and technical initiatives.

The European metal packaging industry produces over 200 billion units annually across 650 manufacturing sites, directly employs more than 60,000 people and plays a vital role in the Circular Economy, supporting numerous value chains and applications, including beverages, food, chemicals, aerosols and others.



Metal Packaging Europe SNC

Rue de Treves 59-61
1040 Brussels
Belgium

E info@mpe-eu.com
T +32 2 897 04 90
W www.metalpackagingeurope.org