



# **Sustainable Packaging Solutions with Paper Sacks**

## The Paper Sack is Part of the Bio-Based Economy

A sustainable development is based on renewable resources. Paper sacks are made of close to one hundred percent natural and renewable fibres and ongoing research e.g. in biobarriers will reduce the non-renewable components even further. A large amount of the energy used to produce sack kraft paper and paper sacks is bio-energy. Paper sacks are thus already part of the bio-based economy.

### A Carbon Absorbing Value Chain

European Kraft paper is sourced from sustainably managed forests. In growing forests, trees absorb CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere and release oxygen (O<sub>2</sub>) during photosynthesis. This is the reason why forests are called the "lungs of the earth". Thanks to the photosynthesis, carbon is captured in the trees and stays stored in products made out of the wood and fibres, like the paper sack. The positive impact of forest carbon sequestration and carbon stored in paper sacks is more than compensating the impact of the fossil carbon released during the production process of the paper sack. This is also thanks to the efforts done by the industry to largely reduce its fossil fuel consumption by replacing it with bio-based renewable energy sources.

### **Resource Efficiency**

The high strength and performance of Kraft paper provides an excellent raw material for the production of paper sacks and makes paper sacks a very resource efficient packaging solution. A small amount of sack material protects 100-250 times the amount of product packed within the paper sack. As R&D continues to improve the strength and performance of this impressive product, the package ratio will get even better. Last but not least: Recycled Kraft paper provides excellent fibres for the European paper and board industry.

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