



BITS ON SUSTAINABILITY

Recyclability and the ATICELCA Method

As Fedrigoni we decided to test the recyclability of our paper products following the Aticelca 501/19 method because it is one of the most rigorous, science-based technique and in line with current regulations (**UNI EN 13430:2005** from Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive 94/62/EC).



What the Aticelca method is

The Aticelca 501/19 system is a voluntary assessment method for measuring the **level of recyclability** of any paper and cardboard product through a lab simulation of the steps in the industrial recycling paper process, from pulping to the production of the new paper sheet. The assessment outcome allows producers and users of cellulosic-dominant materials to report the recyclability level of their materials or products based on **science-based measured data**.

As part of its ESG strategy to 2030, Fedrigoni has set the target of **100% of products assessed according to the Aticelca 501/19 system**. This will ensure that only papers with a third party verification of recyclability are supplied to the market.

The Aticelca test: recyclability levels

ATICELCA 501 System allows the type of products undergoing lab testing to be assigned a 4-level classification: level A+, level A, level B, and level C (where A+ has the highest level of recyclability). Should the product fall into one of these recyclability classes (A+, A, B, C), it can be collected in the paper stream and recycled in paper mills; the company is authorized to use the "Recyclable with Paper - Aticelca® 501" label for commercial purposes as well.

Bits on sustainability are written by Fedrigoni's Sustainability Team and are part of the Group commitment to spread the culture of sustainability.

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A+	The waste obtained during the recycling process is less than 1.5% .	
A	The waste obtained during the recycling process is less than 10% .	Efficiently and cost-effectively recyclable with paper when used in blends with other secondary fibers sourced from separate paper collection through currently widely available papermaking technologies.
B	The waste obtained during the recycling process is less than 20% .	
C	The recycling process of products classified as C level results in up to 40% waste and a considerable contribution in terms of macrostickies and cellulose fibres agglomerates.	Products recyclable with paper when used mixed with other secondary fibres, obtained from the separate collection of paper, through the predominantly paper production technologies.

The compliance with Aticelca 501/2019 means that the paper or cellulose based materials are suitable to be recycled with the available recycling technology, as requested by the Essential Requirements of Packaging in Europe and stated by the UNI EN 13430:2005.

Note that any substantial modification of the original product requires a new evaluation to confirm or change the level of recyclability.

Sources:

- [Group Code of Ethics](#)
- [Group Sustainability Policy](#)
- [Group Sustainability Report](#)
- [Recycling, biodegradation and compostability. How to choose](#)
- [Aticelca](#)
- [Packaging waste statistics](#)

Definitions:

Recyclability

When the fibers contained in paper and paper products can be used to produce new paper having suitable quality for the market, cost-effectively and efficiently through widespread technologies.

Aticelca

Is the Association of technicians and experts working in the paper industry. Established in 1967, Aticelca aims to provide its members with technical and scientific know-how to enhance methods for papermaking and raw materials for paper industry.

Making it Happen. Making a difference
Making Progress

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