



JOINT NEWS RELEASE

Cooperative Test Affirms Corrugated Common Footprint and “Compatible RPCs” have Similar Performance in Mixed Loads

INDIANAPOLIS, IN and WASHINGTON, DC (October 18, 2003) - Recent field and laboratory trials sponsored jointly by the Corrugated Packaging Alliance (CPA) and the Reusable Pallet and Container Coalition (RPCC) showed that Corrugated Common Footprint (CCF) containers and “Compatible” Returnable Plastic Containers (RPCs) were similar in performance, when mixed together on a pallet in the redistribution of produce, as when shipped as 100-percent CCF or 100-percent RPC loads. “Compatible RPCs” include those which meet the International Corrugated Case Associations (ICCA) guidelines such that they share a common footprint and tab/receptacle locations so they fit together with the CCF.

The tests were conducted utilizing both field shipping trials and laboratory simulation by Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, (Virginia Tech.) The goal was to assess the shipping integrity of mixed unit loads containing both CCFs and RPCs with “Compatible” tabs and receptacles in the transport of produce from distribution centers to retail stores.

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