

Packaging Materials, Essential Requirements

Restricted Heavy Metals and Other Substances of Very High Concern

Packaging Material Data Collection and Reporting

Written by: Robert Sanders [15APR2009](#) STSM, Corporate Packaging and Env. Compliance
Approved by: N. Jenkins-Kennedy [15APR2009](#) Director, Global Logistics Operations Support

Reviewed by: Anne Brinkley [15APR2009](#) Corporate Environmental Affairs
Bill Green [15APR2009](#) Packaging Engineering, EC Release
Doug Smith [15APR2009](#) Global Logistics Operations Support
Mark Maresh [15APR2009](#) Global Logistics Operations Support
Susan Li Kreiser [15APR2009](#) Toxicology and Chemical Management
Erich Guenter [15APR2009](#) Global Logistics, Europe
Mike Heaser [15APR2009](#) Packaging Procurement GCM

PN 5897660 Page 1 of 12	EC 844576 June90	EC 840682T Dec91	EC C25116 June93	EC F84029C Nov00	EC G48433 June06	EC G48655 Aug06	EC L81024 Aug08	EC L80800A Apr09
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Table of Contents

1.0 Introduction	3
1.1 Abstract	3
1.2 Purpose	3
1.3 Scope and Objectives	4
1.5 Terms and Definitions	4
2.0 Requirements	5
3.0 Supplier Responsibility	7
4.0 IBM Responsibility	8

For convenience, new additions in this edition (EC L80800A) are colored blue.

Summary of Key Changes (EC L80800A):

- Added the new EU restriction on the biocide Dimethyl Fumarate (DMF) which may be an ingredient in some types of silica gel desiccants. See section 2.0(e) on page 5.
- Removed the restrictions of formaldehyde in composite wood packaging previously required by California. Packaging has since been exempted from the California Airborne Toxic Control measure. Refer to spec. 37L8024 for all matters related to wooden packaging.

PN 5897660 Page 2 of 12	EC 844576 June90	EC 840682T Dec91	EC C25116 June93	EC F84029C Nov00	EC G48433 June06	EC G48655 Aug06	EC L81024 Aug08	EC L80800A Apr09
----------------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	--------------------	--------------------	---------------------

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 Abstract

This specification establishes packaging and reporting requirements for IBM products, parts and assemblies including those supplied by OEM/CM suppliers. It is largely based on European Union Directive 94/62/EC (Article 11) also described as “the essential requirements” and specifically CEN Technical Report 13695-2 (2004) which addresses heavy metals compliance in packaging materials. Where appropriate, IBM will establish additional requirements consistent with its environmental objectives and policies.

In addition, it includes the reporting requirements for substances of very high concern (SVHC's) candidates as they are referred to in the REACH Regulation in the European Union. Articles, including packaging, that contain >0.1% by weight of an SVHC candidate are subject to communication requirements and may be subject to notification requirements under REACH.

What is REACH? - a European regulation on the Registration, Evaluation and Authorization of Chemicals. In effect since 1st June 2007. Goal is the harmonization of the legislation on chemicals throughout the EU. Does not only apply to chemicals, but also to preparations and substances in articles.

Important: This specification and related requirements must NOT be confused with Restrictions on Hazardous Substances (RoHS) for electronic products. These are separate and distinct directives with unique requirements. However, this specification requires compliance with the relevant packaging aspects of the China RoHS regulation which combines packaging and product requirements and the REACH Regulation.

1.2 Purpose

This engineering specification (ES 5897660):

1. Identifies the elements and compounds that are restricted **in packaging materials**, and stipulates their maximum **cumulative** concentration levels.
2. Details the reporting obligations for compliance with the legal requirements (for example, information regarding participation in consortia and available collection and recycling systems to fund take back and recycling schemes, and other similar requirements)..

Compliance with the requirements herein will be enforced as a condition of purchase per IBM purchase contracts, Statements of Work (SOWs) and/or Standard Goods Agreements either for the supply of parts or subcomponents or for the purchase of packaging materials for the shipment and distribution of IBM products and integrated solutions. When the requirements of this specification conflict with applicable governmental regulations or legislation, the more stringent requirements shall take precedence.

PN 5897660 Page 3 of 12	EC 844576 June90	EC 840682T Dec91	EC C25116 June93	EC F84029C Nov00	EC G48433 June06	EC G48655 Aug06	EC L81024 Aug08	EC L80800A Apr09
----------------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	--------------------	--------------------	---------------------

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1.3 Scope and Objectives

1. This IBM Engineering specification (ES 5897660) applies to all packaging materials used in protecting, handling, or marketing of IBM products, parts and supplies including those manufactured by an Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM), or Contract Manufacturer (CM) even if not specifically referenced in other detailed packaging specifications.
2. It is important to note that IBM separately maintains environmental and / or related requirements for materials and parts for use in IBM products in other specifications, contracts or procurement documents. Those items are not within the the scope of ES 5897660.
3. This specification (ES 5897660) establishes baseline environmental requirements for all packaging materials. ES 5897660 implements IBM's environmental policy objectives and contains some, but not all, major legal requirements for packaging materials. Compliance with the requirements in ES 5897660 alone may not satisfy the supplier's responsibilities to IBM since ES 5897660 does not encompass all legal environmental requirements in various countries around the world for packaging materials. In general, ES 5897660 contains restrictions on certain substances and chemicals in packaging. If a packaging component or subcomponent is not specifically listed here, but serves the purpose of packaging for protection of a part or product, then it should be considered within scope unless clearly defined in government legislation or related directives to be out of scope.

Packaging Components

- Banding / Strapping
- Chipboard
- Corrugated Fibreboard
- Dunnage and Wrapping Materials
- Foam Cushioning
- Film / Foil
- Paper / Paperboard
- Pallets and Crates of all material constructions (solid wood, plywood, plastic, metal, etc.)

Packaging Subcomponents

- Coatings
- Glue
- Inks
- Labels
- Adhesive Tape
- Hardware: nails, nuts, bolts, screws, and so on

1.5 Terms and Definitions

OEM / CM	Original Equipment Manufacturer / Contract Manufacturer. Companies that may be involved in building IBM logo products, parts or subassemblies.
Package	A container providing a means of marketing, protecting, or handling a product; including a unit package, an intermediate package, and a transport shipping container as defined in EU Directive 94/62/EC. All the individual items that compose a package are considered packaging components.
Packaging Components	Packaging materials which can be easily separated by hand or by simple mechanical means during the waste management process.
Packaging Subcomponents	Packaging materials which generally cannot be easily separated by hand or by simple mechanical means. They are considered to be a part of the packaging component to which they are permanently attached.

PN 5897660 Page 4 of 12	EC 844576 June90	EC 840682T Dec91	EC C25116 June93	EC F84029C Nov00	EC G48433 June06	EC G48655 Aug06	EC L81024 Aug08	EC L80800A Apr09
----------------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	--------------------	--------------------	---------------------

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2.0 Requirements

- a. No packaging component or packaging subcomponent used for IBM parts or products shall contain **lead (Pb)**, **cadmium (Cd)**, **mercury (Hg)**, **hexavalent chromium (Cr6)**, or brominated flame retardants (including PBB, PBDE, TBBA, TBBPA, and HBCDD) as part of its final composition in excess of a **sum concentration level of 100ppm** (0.01%) by weight.

*Example: If a packaging component is analyzed and found to have 10ppm of lead, 20ppm of Cadmium, and 80ppm of Hexavalent Chromium then this item would not be compliant since the **sum concentration** is 110ppm (over the 100ppm limit).*

- i) All packaging components and subcomponents (as defined in section 1.5) must comply with the 100ppm limits individually. That way, no matter how much or how many of them are used, in any combination, it would be impossible for the overall concentration to exceed 100ppm in the final package assembly.
- ii) There shall be no intentional introduction of any of the restricted substances into packaging components and subcomponents for the purpose of achieving a specific desired function, performance or appearance.
- b. Although allowed by International Plant Protection quarantine regulations to combat pest migration, do not use **Methyl Bromide** for fumigation purposes. Exceptions to this policy are allowed only if MB is specifically mandated by law and no other remedy is available (example Heat Treatment or alternative materials that do not require treatment). However, there is no requirement to measure packaging components or subcomponents for the presence of Methyl Bromide in their construction.
- c. Do not use **Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC)** for packaging components and subcomponents. While PVC is inert, its use in disposable packaging is a concern to many clients and therefore IBM has elected to not use PVC for packaging applications. The most common uses of PVC in packaging are flexible wraps and semi-rigid trays. Exception: PVC may be used for destructible tamper evident labels if equivalent performance cannot be achieved with alternative materials. Such labels are sometimes used for document authenticity and the amount of PVC used in this way is extremely small.
- d. Do not use any **fully Halogenated Chlorofluorocarbons (CFC's)** or **Hydrogenated Chlorofluorocarbons (HCFC's)** in the manufacture of packaging. These substances have been used as expansion agents for plastic foams. CFC's and HCFC's have been prohibited for IBM packaging since 1990 via specification 1041126. That specification (1041126) has been obsoleted, and its requirements replaced entirely by this mention herein.
- e. Do not use materials which contain the biocide **Dimethyl Fumarate (DMF)** (CAS Number 624-49-7) in concentrations greater than 0.1mg/kg. This substance is a skin irritant and is now banned in Europe if above the stated threshold. The purpose of DMF is to retard mold growth and therefore is known to be an ingredient in some types of silica gel desiccants or on its own in 100% concentrations. Reference: EU Commission Decision [2009/251/EC](#) (link).

PN 5897660 Page 5 of 12	EC 844576 June90	EC 840682T Dec91	EC C25116 June93	EC F84029C Nov00	EC G48433 June06	EC G48655 Aug06	EC L81024 Aug08	EC L80800A Apr09
----------------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	--------------------	--------------------	---------------------

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- f. **REACH Substances of Very High Concern (SVHC) Candidates:** Packaging components used for IBM that contain more than 0.1% by weight (>1000ppm) of any of the substances of very high concern candidates listed in Table 1 on page 6 are subject to communications requirements, and in some cases to notification requirements under REACH. All packaging components that contain more than 0.1% by weight of any of these substances must be reported to IBM procurement. The report should include a list of the IBM part numbers affected, the name and CAS number of the SVHC candidate and % by weight used within the article (packaging component). Refer to Appendix B for reporting process details.

Important: It is IBM's intention to avoid the use of SVHC candidates for packaging applications in concentrations above 0.1% (>1000ppm). However, they are not expressly prohibited at this time until we learn more about viable substitutes and the effect this will have on material attributes, availability, cost and performance.

Table 1: REACH Substances of Very High Concern (SVHC's) Candidates. (List is subject to change).		
Description / Name	CAS Number	Potential Uses in Packaging*
Anthracene	120-12-7	
4,4'- Diaminodiphenylmethane	101-77-9	In the creation of Polyurethane foam, hardener for epoxy resins and adhesives.
Dibutyl phthalate (DBP)	84-74-2	Plasticizers, paper coatings, inks, resins and adhesives
Cyclododecane	294-62-2	creation of Polyesters, Nylon, lubricants, cleaning agents
Cobalt dichloride	7646-79-9	humidity indicator cards, desiccants
Diarsenic pentoxide	1303-28-2	Wood preservatives
Diarsenic trioxide	1327-53-3	Wood preservatives
Sodium dichromate, dihydrate	7789-12-0	Metal finishing / plating, pigments in paints/plastics.
5-tert-butyl-2,4,6-trinitro-m-xylene (musk xylene)	81-15-2	
Bis (2-ethyl(hexyl)phthalate) (DEHP)	117-81-7	Plasticizers, paper coatings, inks, resins, and adhesives
Hexabromocyclododecane (HBCDD)	25637-99-4	Flame retardant in PS and PU foam
Alkanes, C10-13, chloro (Short Chain Chlorinated Paraffins)	85535-84-8	Plasticizers, rubber
Bis(tributyltin)oxide (TBTO)	56-35-9	antifungal agents, pigments, foaming agents, paints
Lead hydrogen arsenate	7784-40-9	Biocide for wood
Triethyl arsenate	15606-95-8	Biocide for wood
Benzyl butyl phthalate (BBP)	85-68-7	Plasticizers, inks, adhesives
* if other uses in packaging become evident, please advise IBM so that this listing can be improved.		

PN 5897660 Page 6 of 12	EC 844576 June90	EC 840682T Dec91	EC C25116 June93	EC F84029C Nov00	EC G48433 June06	EC G48655 Aug06	EC L81024 Aug08	EC L80800A Apr09
----------------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	--------------------	--------------------	---------------------

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3.0 Supplier Responsibility

This specification is applicable to suppliers of packaging materials to IBM, their suppliers, and vendors performing work for IBM.

1. Suppliers of packaging materials, who are distributors and not manufacturers, shall ensure that their source manufacturers are in compliance with this specification.
2. Suppliers of packaging materials, who are manufacturers, shall ensure that their source manufacturers and materials suppliers are in compliance with this specification. Suppliers of packaging materials, must provide IBM with certification documentation ensuring compliance with this specification.
3. OEM suppliers who manufacture, distribute or remarket IBM logo products, parts or supplies must provide IBM with certification documentation ensuring compliance with this specification.
4. IBM will request compliance certifications and test data from its first tier packaging suppliers. A web based tool (ESI Packaging) has been established for this purpose and will be communicated separately. Refer to Appendices A and B for compliance reporting process requirements.
5. Those suppliers in turn will need to request certifications and data from their suppliers and so on as many tiers as necessary to get to the first source manufacturer of the packaging material (see Appendix A).
6. The certification process itself is subject to change based on industry norm or convention. For instance, if standardized methods for compliance certification are adopted universally, then this method shall be adopted herein as part of this specification.
7. Blanket packaging commodity certifications are allowed as per the description that follows. For instance, Supplier A makes only corrugated fibreboard materials. They have tested their process and determined that all of their corrugated materials meet the requirements of this specification. They may submit a blanket certification covering all corrugated fibreboard materials purchased by IBM or its OEM/CM partners on our behalf. A separate certification for each carton part number is not required. This is a practical approach considering that there are far fewer packaging commodities than there are individual packaging components. Conversely, if the testing demonstrates that the material is NOT compliant, then we will need to know all IBM part numbers that are affected by the non-compliant material.
8. At the Government and Client level, they may want to know that the packaging of a specific product they are purchasing from IBM is in compliance. Therefore, extrapolation from packaging commodity compliance to a product's package compliance is presumed when every individual packaging commodity is certified by the Supplier(s) to be in compliance.
9. As specified in IBM Procurement Agreements, Statements of Work (SOWs) and Standard Goods Agreements, Suppliers are obligated to provide packaging material types and amounts. For example, corrugated paper, EPS [expanded polystyrene],

PN 5897660 Page 7 of 12	EC 844576 June90	EC 840682T Dec91	EC C25116 June93	EC F84029C Nov00	EC G48433 June06	EC G48655 Aug06	EC L81024 Aug08	EC L80800A Apr09
----------------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	--------------------	--------------------	---------------------

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wood, and so on used in their package assemblies for each product contained in any IBM Customer Solution put on the market or shipped directly to a Customer. Details on how this data can be provided can be found on the following website link:

<http://www-03.ibm.com/procurement/proweb.nsf/ContentDocsByTitle/United+States-Information+for+suppliers#packaging>

Suppliers should contact IBM Purchasing at the appropriate manufacturing or distribution location with any questions concerning this specification

4.0 IBM Responsibility

Refer to Appendix A for an illustrated example

1. ISC Packaging Procurement and/or ISC Packaging Engineering organizations having purchasing or design responsibility (respectively) for IBM, OEM, CM built products, supplies, and packaging materials will establish audit processes (with support of IBM Corporate Environmental Affairs, Corporate Packaging and IBM Corporate Audit if necessary) to ensure and track compliance with this specification.
2. OEM / CM Procurement: This responsibility includes the packaging for OEM / CM products, parts and supplies. The IBM buyer responsible for the OEM / CM relationship must ensure that their suppliers are registered on ESI Packaging (see Appendix B) and are fulfilling their obligations to provide the necessary data and certifications of compliance.
3. Services and Solutions (IGS) Procurement: When IBM procures products by another manufacturer to bundle with IBM Logo products for sale to a client, IBM may then be considered liable for compliance of the entire sales offering including the non-IBM logo'd items. The IBM buyer responsible for bringing these non-IBM logo products into the solution must ensure that their suppliers are registered on ESI and are fulfilling their obligations to provide the necessary data and certifications of compliance.

Example 1: IBM sells a complete IT solution to a client which involves IBM servers as well as third party (non-IBM Logo) printers, computers, and software. Technically, since IBM brought the solution to market, IBM is considered to be responsible with regard to EU Directive 94/62/EC compliance for the entirety including the third party products. In this case, Services (IGS) PROCUREMENT is responsible for obtaining a certification from the supplier(s) for their respective pieces of equipment, for instance, a Lexmark printer or Lenovo ThinkPad.

Example 2: Several tiers down the supply chain of a packaging commodity a wood crate with permanent metal fasteners are audited for compliance purposes. As those fasteners cannot be removed by hand or by simple mechanical means they are considered part of the package, e.g. crate. In this case, some calculations would be required to determine the relative weight of the fasteners compared to the wood in order to determine compliance status.

PN 5897660 Page 8 of 12	EC 844576 June90	EC 840682T Dec91	EC C25116 June93	EC F84029C Nov00	EC G48433 June06	EC G48655 Aug06	EC L81024 Aug08	EC L80800A Apr09
----------------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	--------------------	--------------------	---------------------

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- *Outcome 1: Calculations determine that the overall crate is below 100ppm even though the permanent fasteners were found to be above 100ppm individually. As a consequence, the crate would be deemed legally compliant according to EU Directive 94/62/EC; however, a mitigation plan to bring the permanent fasteners into compliance with the 100ppm limit would be required to meet IBM requirements for individual packaging subcomponents (per Section 2.a).*
- *Outcome 2: Calculations determined that the crate would exceed the 100ppm limit for heavy metals. In this case, the entire crate would NOT be eligible for shipment and alternative packaging would have to be put into place immediately.*

See Figure in Appendix A for explanation of the general approach. Scope is not limited only to those commodities illustrated; it applies to any packaging material or packaging supply organizational structure.

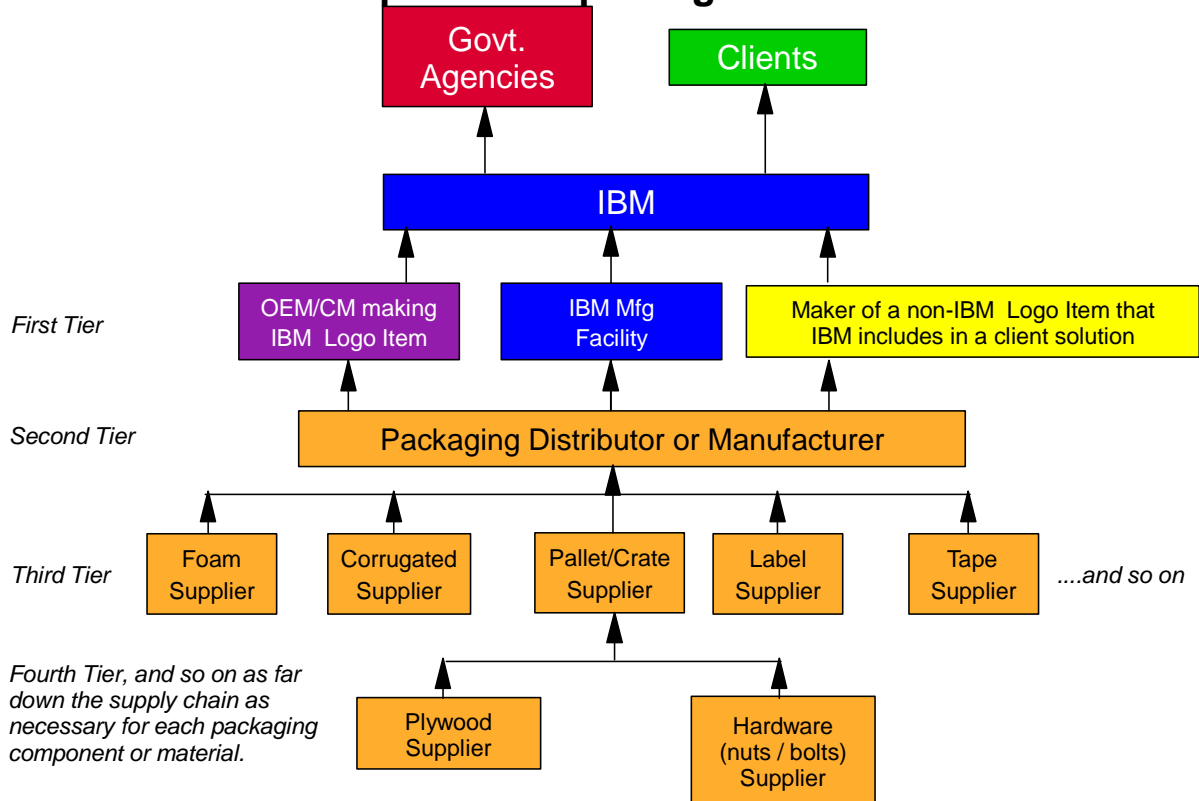
Important: At this time there is no officially sanctioned or standardized certification forms or specific testing methods established for compliance with the EU 94/62/EC Directive. Therefore, it is simply necessary to perform the testing using generally accepted industry methods and document the way it was conducted and the results. Furthermore, those documented results must be available upon request in the event of an audit. IBM will require proactive affirmation of compliance status, to be recertified on an annual basis, and the scope by which that certification applies (type of material, where used, and so on). See Appendix B for compliance reporting process requirements.

PN 5897660 Page 9 of 12	EC 844576 June90	EC 840682T Dec91	EC C25116 June93	EC F84029C Nov00	EC G48433 June06	EC G48655 Aug06	EC L81024 Aug08	EC L80800A Apr09
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Appendix A. Compliance Reporting Structure

Packaging Essential Requirements Heavy Metals, SVHC Candidates and other restricted or reportable substances Compliance Reporting Structure



PN 5897660 Page 10 of 12	EC 844576 June90	EC 840682T Dec91	EC C25116 June93	EC F84029C Nov00	EC G48433 June06	EC G48655 Aug06	EC L81024 Aug08	EC L80800A Apr09
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Appendix B:

Packaging Environmental Compliance Reporting Process

IBM uses the web based Electronics Supplier Interlock (ESI) system for obtaining packaging content and related environmental compliance data from suppliers. The following steps are required to complete the process.

ESI Packaging – Registration Process

In order to access the ESI Packaging web site, suppliers must first establish a user ID and Password via the IBM Registration process through the Global Procurement Supply Portal. Suppliers will not be able to access this web site without an ID and PW.

Step 1. Tutorial (optional but recommended)

A powerpoint presentation available at the following URL will help guide users through the web based process for acquiring a user ID and password for the purpose of getting registered on ESI Packaging. This is in the same web location that this specification resides.

<http://www.ibm.com/procurement/proweb.nsf/ContentDocsByTitle/United+States-Information+for+suppliers#packaging>

Step 2. Obtaining a User ID and Password

Before supplier representatives can enroll as a user of ESI Packaging, first go to the IBM Registration site and obtain a userid and password. Enter the Supply Portal website at:

<Http://www.ibm.com/procurement/esi>

Step 3. Requesting Access to ESI Packaging

After acquiring a user ID and password, re-enter the Supply Portal website at the following URL and follow the instructions shown in the tutorial file or as guided within ESI:

<http://www.ibm.com/procurement/esi>

Step 4. Enter all required packaging and compliance data.

Select the appropriate form from the navigator list on the left side of your screen (Environmental Compliance, Pkg Product Information, etc.) Enter packaging content data and respond to the compliance certification survey. This serves as our paper trail to ensure compliance with this specification and therefore all applicable laws and regulations affecting packaging referenced in this specification.

PN 5897660 Page 11 of 12	EC 844576 June90	EC 840682T Dec91	EC C25116 June93	EC F84029C Nov00	EC G48433 June06	EC G48655 Aug06	EC L81024 Aug08	EC L80800A Apr09
-----------------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	--------------------	--------------------	---------------------

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Appendix C: References and Related Documents

Document	Description
EU Directive 94/62/EC (1994), Article 11	European Parliament and Council Directive on Packaging and Packaging Waste
EU Directive 2004/12/EC	Addendum to EU Directive 94/62/EC
GA21-9261-x (latest level) PN 31L5345	Packaging and Handling, Supplier and Interplant Requirements (IBM's General Packaging Requirements)
EPEAT Criteria	Electronic Products Environmental Assessment Tool
REACH Regulation EC/1907/2006	Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH)
IBM Specification 37L8024	Wooden Packaging -- Materials Selection, Treatment and Marking Requirements
IBM Specification 1041126	Expanded Packaging Materials -- Prohibited Expansion Agents (now obsolete)
EU Decision 2009/251/EC	European Commission Decision to Ban Dimethyl Fumarate

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PN 5897660 Page 12 of 12	EC 844576 June90	EC 840682T Dec91	EC C25116 June93	EC F84029C Nov00	EC G48433 June06	EC G48655 Aug06	EC L81024 Aug08	EC L80800A Apr09
-----------------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	--------------------	--------------------	--------------------------------------

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