

Food packaging regulation in EU and its developments

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The author describes the purpose in the European Union of the rules on the materials in contact with food with particular regard to the law on plastics. He describes the main rules on regulated plastics (not all the national rules on plastics have been harmonized) and the reasons for these choices mentioning among other things, the development of GMP and rules on the control of European law.

Later he develops briefly some recent standards on:

1. "Active and Intelligent Packaging"
2. "Recycled plastics"
3. "Nano substances"

The author mentions also the content of various documents currently under preparation at European Commission which intend to assist the national governments and industry for a correct application of European legislation on plastics

Finally the author remarks also the absence of a European law on various materials such as paper, inks, adhesives, metals, rubber etc.) and indicates the approach to be followed in such situation by industry to export in Europe.

Biography

Luigi Rossi was for 30 years an official of the European Commission (EC). His graduate degree is in Chemistry and, until 31 January 2006, he was responsible in the EC for the sector of "Food Contact Materials". Until 1990, he also spent part of his time working as a researcher in the Superior Institute of Health (ISS) in Rome, involved in research on analytical chemistry, migration of substances from food contact materials, and occupational health. He also acted for about 10 years in Italy as Secretary and Member of the Italian Committee on Toxicology. He is the author of more than 100 scientific and regulatory publications and he has participated in numerous Conferences, Symposia, and Round Tables all over the world. As of now, he is engaged as an "Strategic Advisor" to Keller and Heckman LLP, with the aim of assisting K&H staff in the interpretation of EU and national laws and European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) guidelines for the authorization of food-contact substances in EU and, finally, to progress in world harmonization of food-contact laws.

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