

# Turning PPWR complexity into practical guidance: Afera's new decision trees

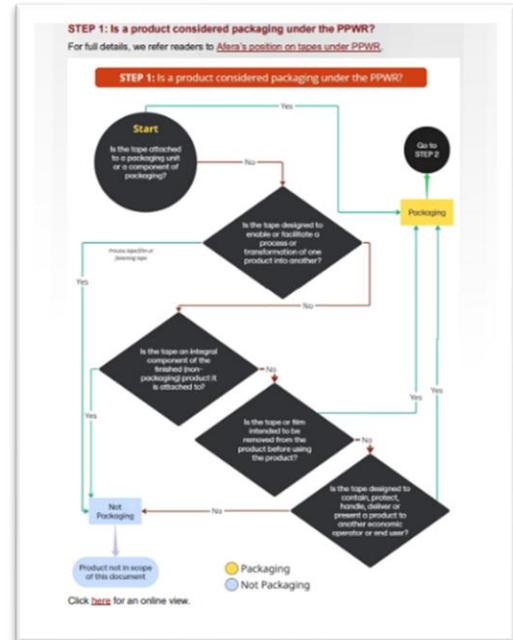
As the E.U.'s Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR) moves closer to application, one question continues to surface across the adhesive tapes value chain: *When is a tape or film considered packaging, and what exactly must it comply with?* To support Members in answering this with clarity and consistency, Afera has developed a structured guidance document built around two practical decision trees.

The document provides step-by-step guidance to help manufacturers and converters determine whether their adhesive tape or film falls within the definition of packaging under the PPWR, and—if so—which categories of requirements apply.

[View decision trees](#)

## From definition to obligation

The first decision tree addresses a foundational question: Is the product considered packaging under the PPWR? By guiding users through the regulatory logic, it helps distinguish between packaging and non-packaging applications. For products that qualify as packaging, the tool also clarifies the type of packaging involved and identifies the relevant recycling stream that must be assessed under Design for Recycling (DfR) requirements.

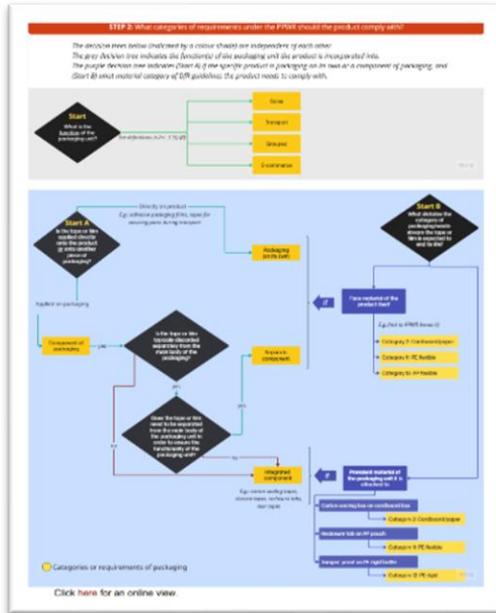


The second set of decision trees focuses on compliance categories. Once packaging status is confirmed, the tool helps determine which PPWR requirements are relevant to the product. These include obligations that may apply across all packaging, as well as those linked to the specific function of the packaging unit into which the tape or film is incorporated. These two decision trees are independent of one another but together form a structured pathway from classification to compliance.

## A practical resource for manufacturers and converters

Developed by Afera Members and staff, the document translates complex regulatory provisions into operational guidance tailored to the realities of the adhesive tapes industry. It is targeted specifically at manufacturers and converters of adhesive tapes and films seeking to understand how PPWR provisions affect product design, recyclability assessments and market access.

The guidance is based on Member discussions and publicly available information. While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy and reliability, it is provided as a practical industry tool rather than a substitute for professional legal advice. Members are encouraged to conduct their own due diligence in light of their specific product portfolios and markets.



## A living document shaped by Members

As interpretation of the PPWR continues to evolve, Afera invites Members to contribute comments, corrections and examples to further strengthen and refine the document. In this way, the decision trees are not only a compliance aid but also a collaborative resource reflecting collective industry expertise.

For more information, visit [Decision trees on PPWR: Guidelines to understand if and when adhesive tapes and films are considered packaging, and which categories under the PPWR they must comply with](#) or consult the [Afera Regulatory Affairs PPWR page](#) subsection “How is Afera reacting to this topic?”

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