

To the members
of the Association of the Austrian Wood Industries

Vienna, 30.06.2026

Art. 5 PPWR: Heavy metals in packaging; requirements for wooden products

Article 5 of the PPWR (Regulation (EU) 2025/40 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 December 2024 on packaging and packaging waste) sets a limit of 100 mg/kg for the maximum allowable total concentration of lead, cadmium, mercury, and hexavalent chromium in packaging and packaging components.

According to **Annex B of EN ISO 17225-1 (2021): Solid biofuels – Fuel specifications and classes: Part 1: General requirements**, typical value ranges for naturally occurring woody materials, with no or negligible amounts of bark, leaves, and needles, regarding the mentioned heavy metals can be assumed as follows:

Lead: < 0.5 to 10.0 mg/kg

Cadmium: < 0.05 to 0.50 mg/kg

Mercury: < 0.02 to 0.05 mg/kg

Total chromium: 0.2 to 10.0 mg/kg

Adding it all up results in a maximum overall concentration of 20.55 mg/kg.

Based on this, compliance with the PPWR limit can be assumed, as long as the wood is untreated or not potentially contaminated from previous use.

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