

# Safety of food packaging from a retailer's perspective

Zurich 9th October 2014



# Packaging is important



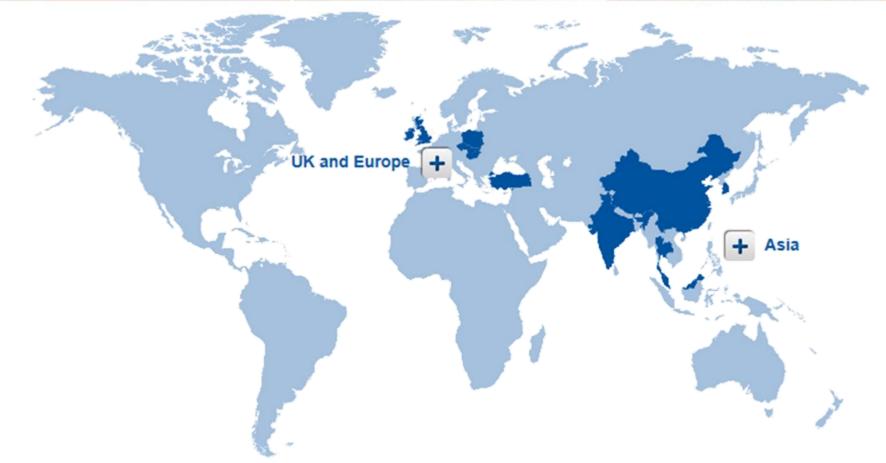


# Packaging is important











# Packaging is a Cinderella discipline





## Packaging: multiple roles

**Technical functions** 

Protection

**Marketing functions** 

Containment Measurement Communication

Display

Preservation Storage Information

Dispensing

Selling

**Promotion** 



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**Technical functions** 

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**Marketing functions** 

Containment Measurement Communication

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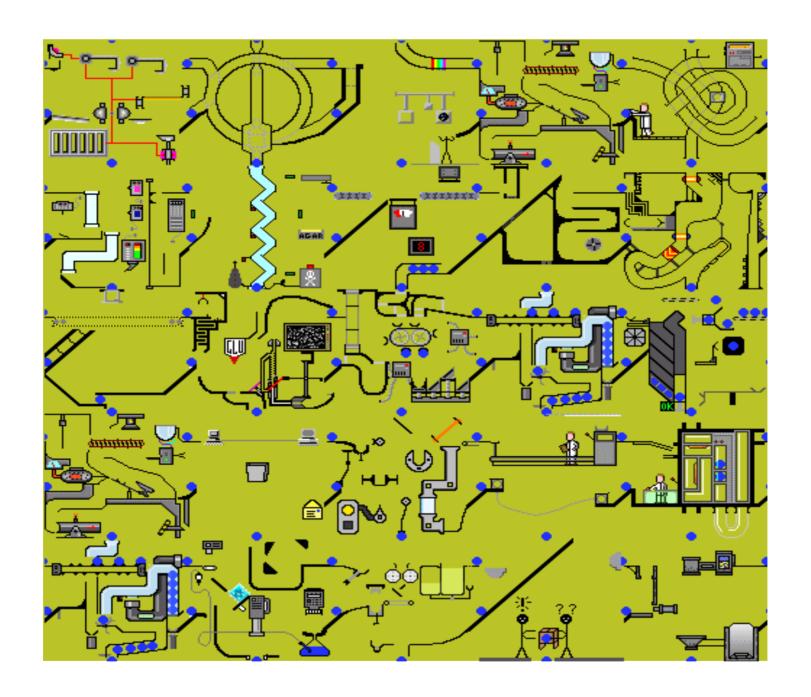
Selling



# Engagement with the packaging supply chain



# The packaging supply chain (simplified)





# The packaging supply chain



Supplier

Supplier

Supplier

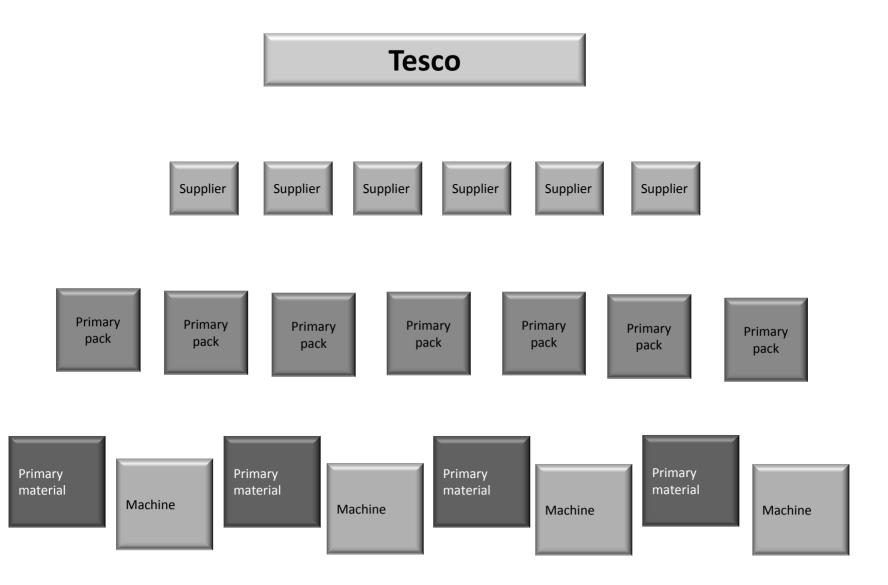
Supplier

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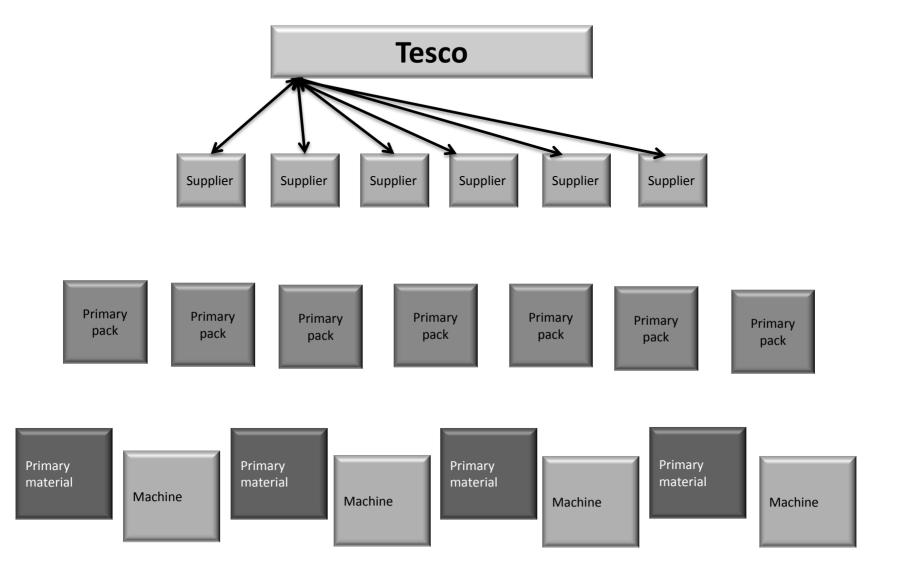


# The packaging supply chain



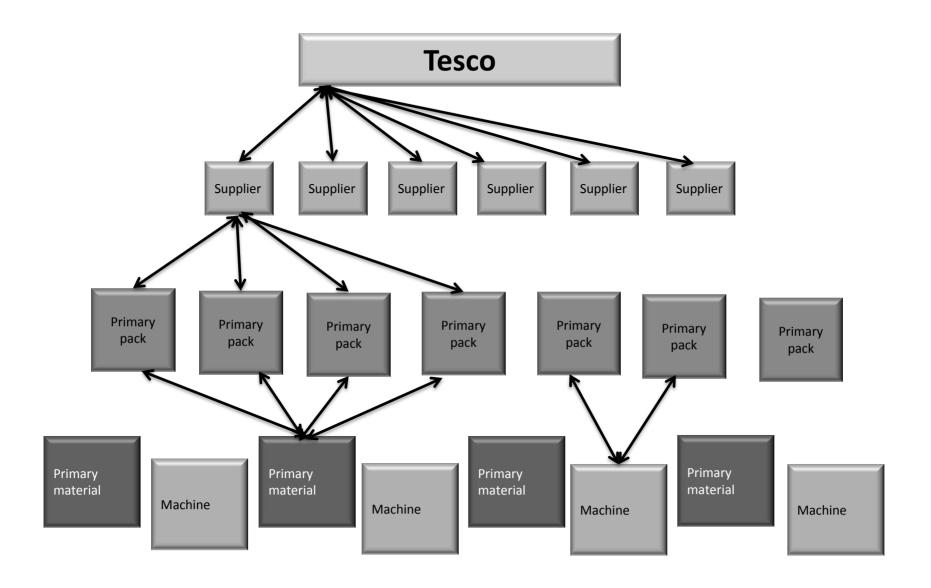


### Issues: Dilution



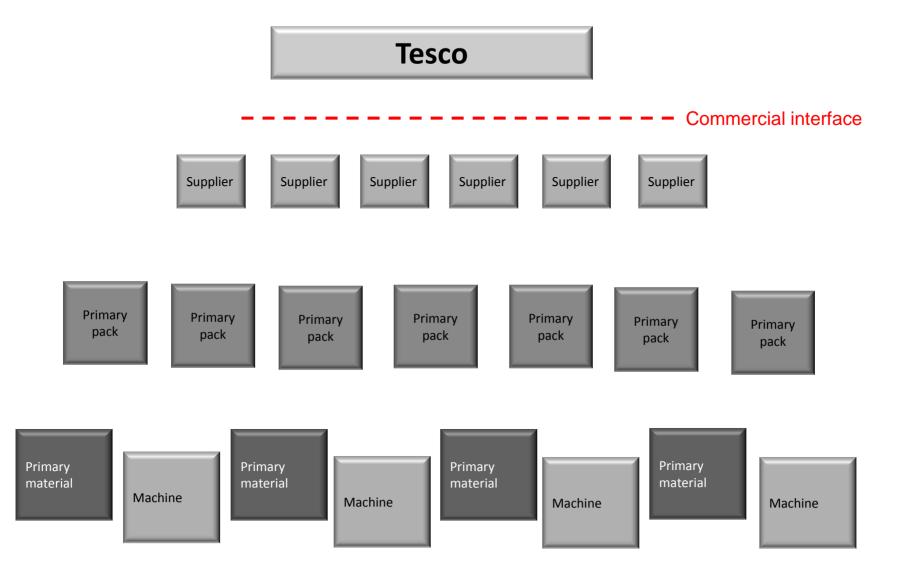


## Issues: Dilution



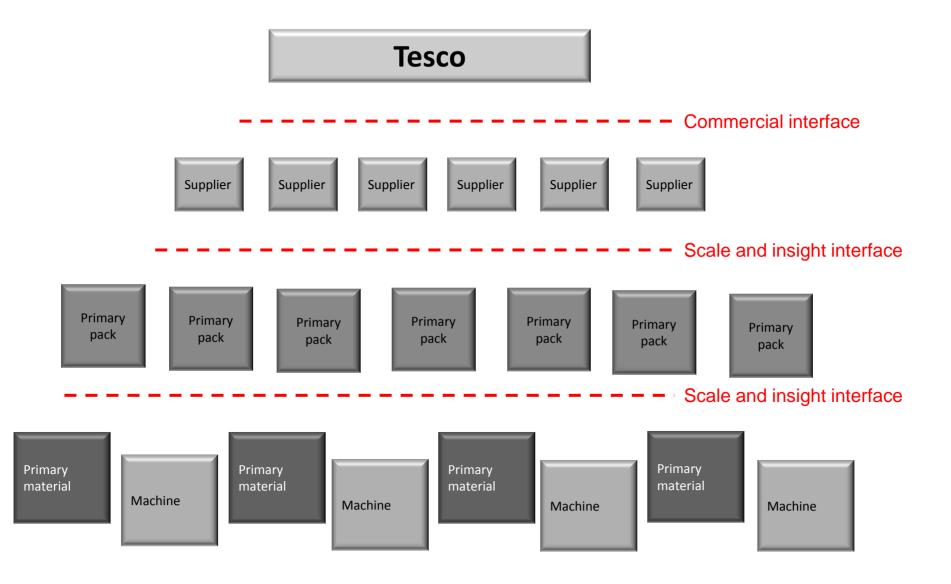


#### Issues: Interfaces



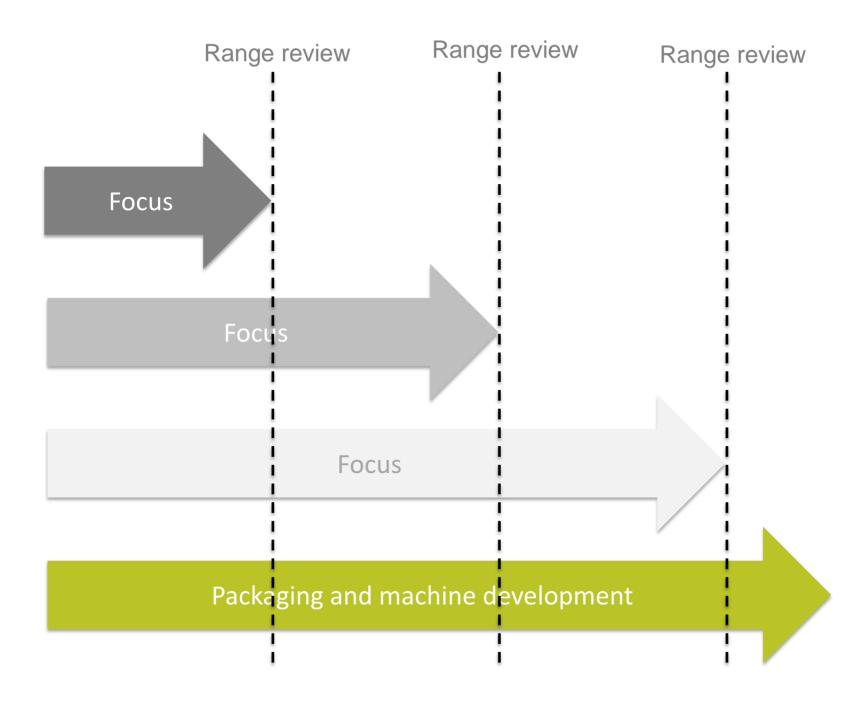


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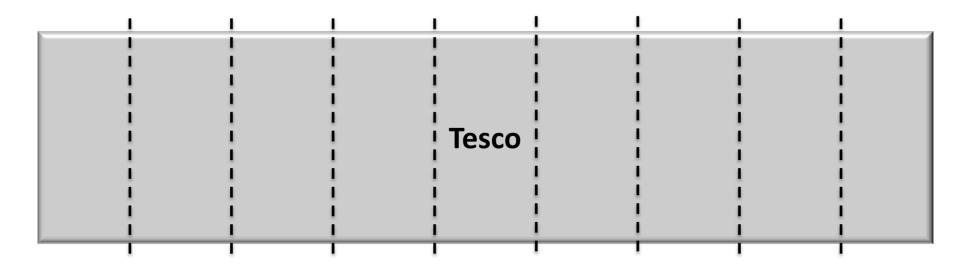


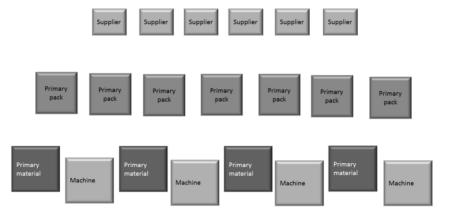
### Issues: Time





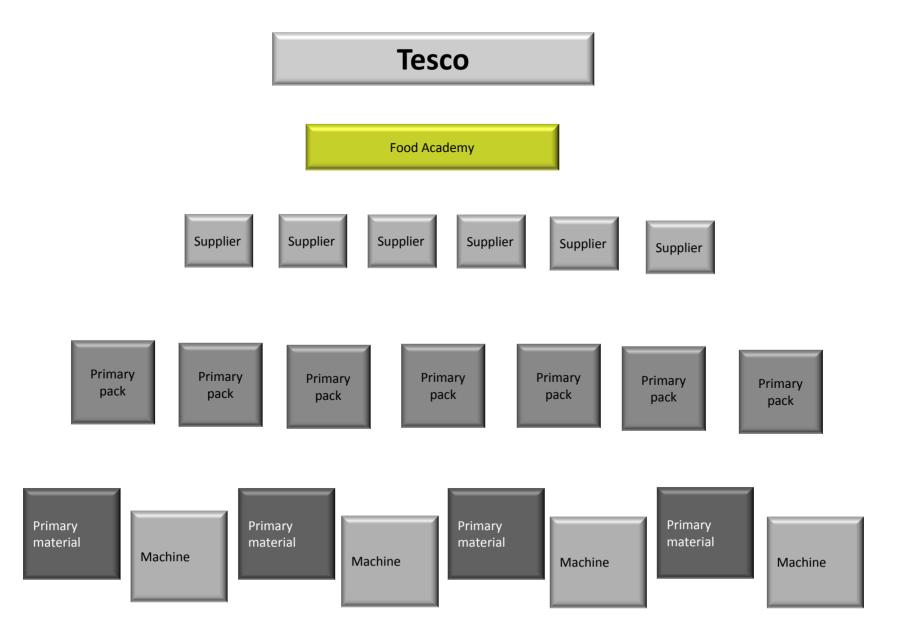
## Issues: Scale



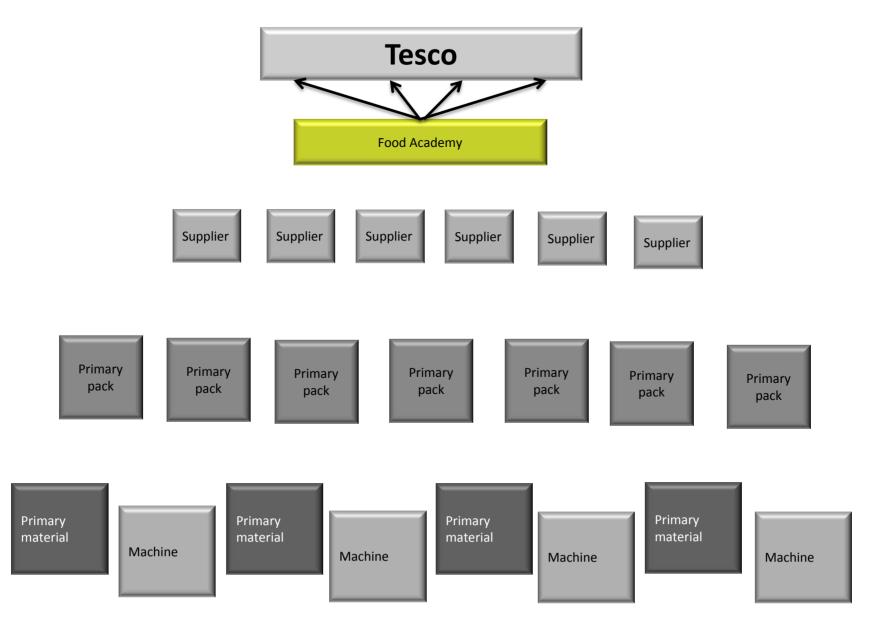




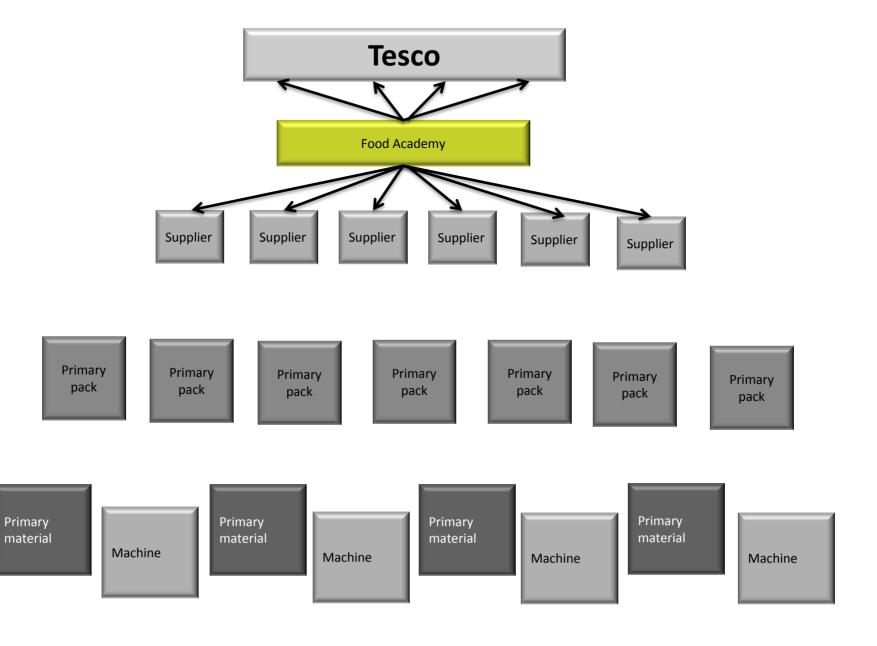
#### Solution



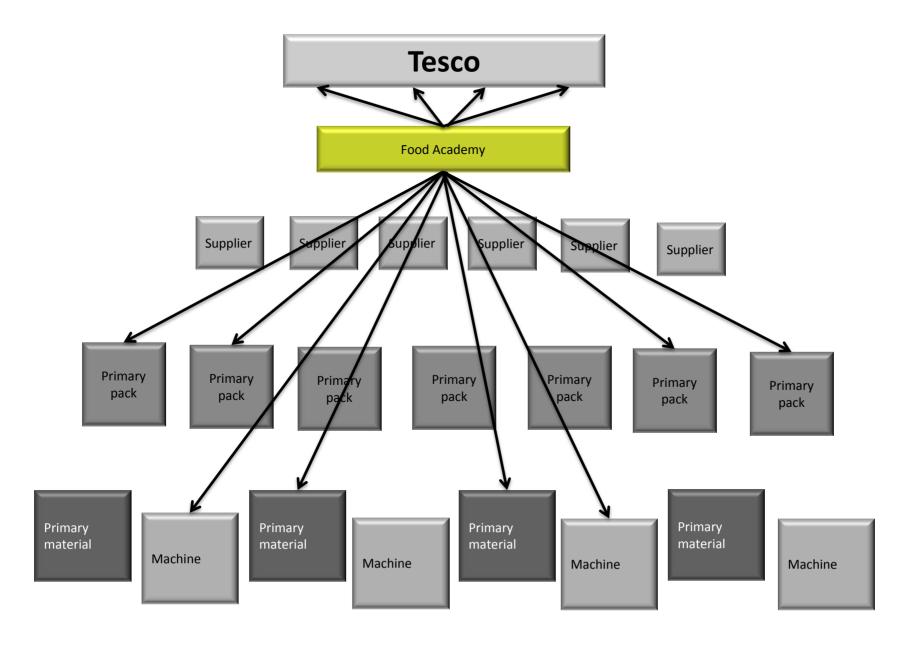




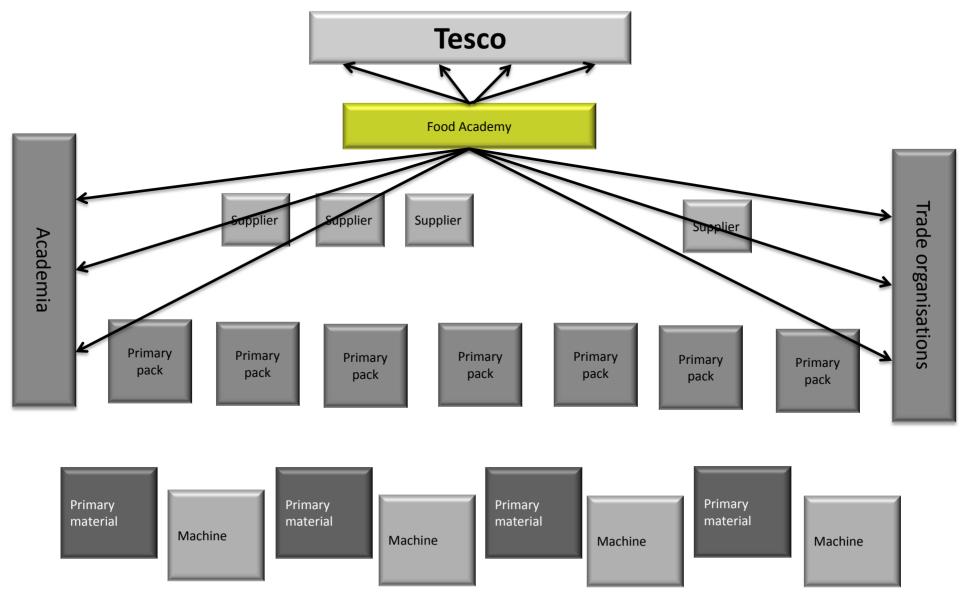














# Packaging is important



















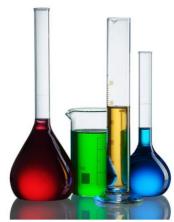






NUTRITION FACTS: Serv. Size 10g or about 20 tablets





#### **Food contact**

Chemicals Taint and odour Foreign bodies

#### **Injuries**

Cuts and lacerations Burns and scolds Allergens

#### **Child safety**

**EN71** Physical properties Flammability Heavy metals



#### Packaging safety is a huge issue: Accessibility



- A four-year-old child and a 74-year-old senior have similar grip strengths
- A typical male loses 25% of his maximum grip strength by the time he reaches his mid-50s.
- Seniors have trouble focusing their vision and distinguishing different colors.
- If you have to use a tool to open a pack, it is a bad pack



#### Packaging safety is a huge issue: Accessibility



- A poll of 2000 Yours magazine readers found 99% thought packaging had got harder to open in the past ten years
- 71% of readers of Yours magazine (aimed at the over 50s) said they had been injured as they struggled to open packaging at some time in their life
- Most common packaging injuries are cut fingers, cut hands, sprained wrists, bruised hands, strained shoulders
- Six out of ten had bought a gadget to help open packaging
- Hard to open packaging isn't just a dangerous nuisance, it discriminates against the weak

### Packaging safety is a huge issue: Accessibility



- Increase print size to 14-point type with good contrast.
- Square packaging instead of round so things don't tend to roll.
- Include instructions on how to open the package.
- Adjust package size to contents.
- Use some method to differentiate pharmaceutical bottles -- they all look the same.
- Products should include the price.
- Use a pull-tab for boxes such as rice and pancake mix to make them easier to open.
- Always include an 800-number for consumer information.
- Put important information in red type and large print so it can be found quickly.
- Flip-top caps are preferred to twist tops because the product and cap stay togethen. Food Source: primelife advisory network

tescofoodacademy.com

Percentage of people who reported occasional or regular problems with packaging								
	Tinned Goods	Tinned Goods with Ring Pull	Cans	Plastic Bottles/Jar s	Glass Bottles/Jar s	Cartons/ boxes	Flexi ble pack aging	Goo
Not Strong Enough to open	19	36	12	36	55	21	21	8
Not obvious how to open it	8	3	4	8	5	24	30	17
Cannot see where or how to open it	8	24	12	13	11	33	36	26
Too fiddly to open easily	20	24	12	13	11	39	46	26
Worried about hurting one self	43	30	16	7	11	9	9	6
Worried about spilling or wasting product	17	22	15	24	21	38	16	10
Always open it wrongly	9	5	4	7	5	42	14	6
Confusing Instructions	5	2	2	4	3	12	11	7
Tamper mechanism makes opening difficult	5	3	2	31	16	4	4	3

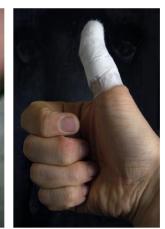
Source: Sourcedirect.com



Accidents in the home involving packaging







Year Victims
2000 320,562
2001 315,534
2002 328,738

Source: ROSPA Accident Database

















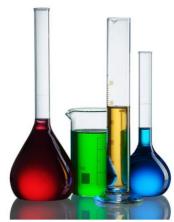






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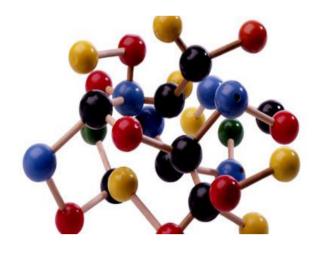
**EN71** Physical properties Flammability Heavy metals



# Packaging safety is a huge issue Chemistry: some chemicals of concern









#### Metals and lacquers

Aluminium
Tin
Heavy metals
BFDGE
Bisphenol-A
NOGE
BADGE

#### Inks and varnish

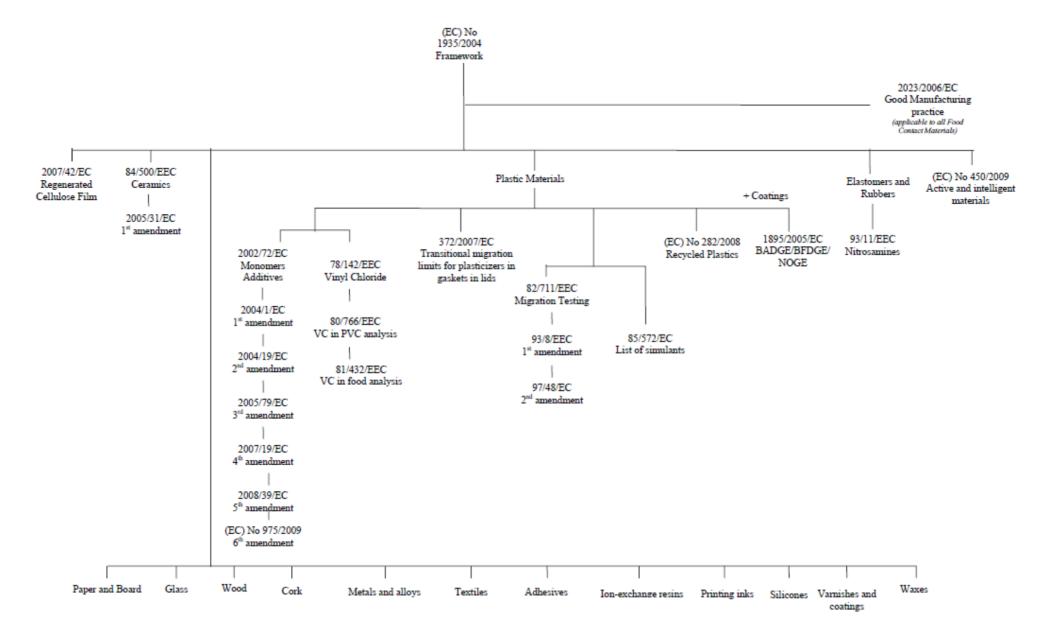
Benzophenones Heavy metals ITX

#### **Plastics**

Formaldehyde
Melamine
PAAs
ESBO
1- Methyl-2-Propanol
Phallates



## Packaging safety is a huge issue: Legislation





## Packaging is important



- Packaging has to perform many functions
- Safety of our consumers is of critical importance to us
- As a minimum we will comply with all legislation
- We are keen to engage with the packaging supply chain and other organisations to understand more and be ahead





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