

"Giving confidence to Irish users that the product is compostable and is accepted in food waste bins"

The Cré Compostable Certification Scheme takes packaging¹/products² certified to European standards and tests them in an Irish composting plant to ensure they are compostable under Irish conditions. If the packaging¹/products² are compostable, they then are awarded a certification from Cré that it is compostable in Ireland.

The Cré Compostable Certification Scheme certificate gives confidence to Irish users that the packaging¹/products² are compostable and is accepted in food waste bins.



CONSUMERS NEED FOR THE SCHEME

Compostable packaging looks similar to disposable packaging and is easily confused. Clearly marked packaging indicating it is compostable is required so people know the correct bin to put it in.

COMPOSTERS NEED FOR THE SCHEME

Collected food waste is contaminated with non-compostable packaging. This results in contaminated compost which cannot be sold.

Clearly distinguishable compostable packaging¹/products² in food waste bins is welcomed by the Irish composting industry.

PACKAGING COMPANIES NEED FOR THE SCHEME

There is a growing consumer demand for compostable packaging¹/products². However there is great confusion as to what is compostable.

A transparent certification scheme will develop and expand the packaging supply chain.

It has been demonstrated in other EU Countries that certification to European Standards (EN 13432/14995) does not give packaging/product carte blanche to self-declare as compostable in a country. Certification to EN13432 enables producers of products to demonstrate compliance with the Essential Requirements of the standard. When it comes to local market acceptance, EN13432 certification certainly is important but it does not lead automatically to a market, a local certification scheme boosts consumers' confidence and product acceptability.

BENEFITS OF THE CRÉ SCHEME

- Provides independent Irish certification to packaging¹/products² manufacturers that their packaging is compostable in Ireland.
- Provides independent endorsement to packaging manufacturers' customers that their products are compostable.
- Gives confidence to the the public that products are legitimate and compostable in Ireland.

1. Packaging certified to EN13432

2. Non packaging products certified to EN 14995

1. Pre-Qualification	Products must first be certified by TÜV Austria*/Din Certco or equivalent to I.S. EN 13432 / I.S. EN 14995. *TÜV Austria (formerly Vincotte)
2. Application Process	A completed application form, product testing fee and a sample of the product are sent to Cré Certification Ireland. The scheme manager assesses suitability to progress to the testing phase.
3. Testing in Composting Plant	A trial using the product will be set up by the scheme inspector at an Irish industrial composting plant. Once the trial is completed, the scheme inspector completes a report on the results in an industrial composting plant including a recommendation on certification.
4. Validation of Results	The results of the testing are reviewed and validated by the Certification Committee to determine the final certification result.
5. Certificate & Logo	Successful applicants are required to sign the 'Cré Certification Scheme Logo Use Rules' and pay the annual licence fee. On completion of this, the certificate and logo are issued.

FEES

- **Stage 1:** Testing Phase of the Product in a Irish Composting Plant
- **Stage 2:** Annual License Fee for Scheme Logo

For details on prices contact the scheme manager – certification@cre.ie

WEB:

Please visit www.compostable.ie for information on the scheme.

ABOUT

Cré Certification Ireland is the certification body for the Cré Compostable Certification Scheme. It is a wholly owned subsidiary of Cré - the Composting and Anaerobic Digestion Association of Ireland, which is the national trade body for the sector.

The Cré Compostable Certification Scheme is the only Irish scheme providing third party independent assessment that packaging/products are compostable in Ireland and is accepted in food waste bins (brown bins).