



# OUR COMMITMENT TO Sustainability in Action

FOR OUR PLANET.

FOR OUR CUSTOMERS.

FOR THE FUTURE.

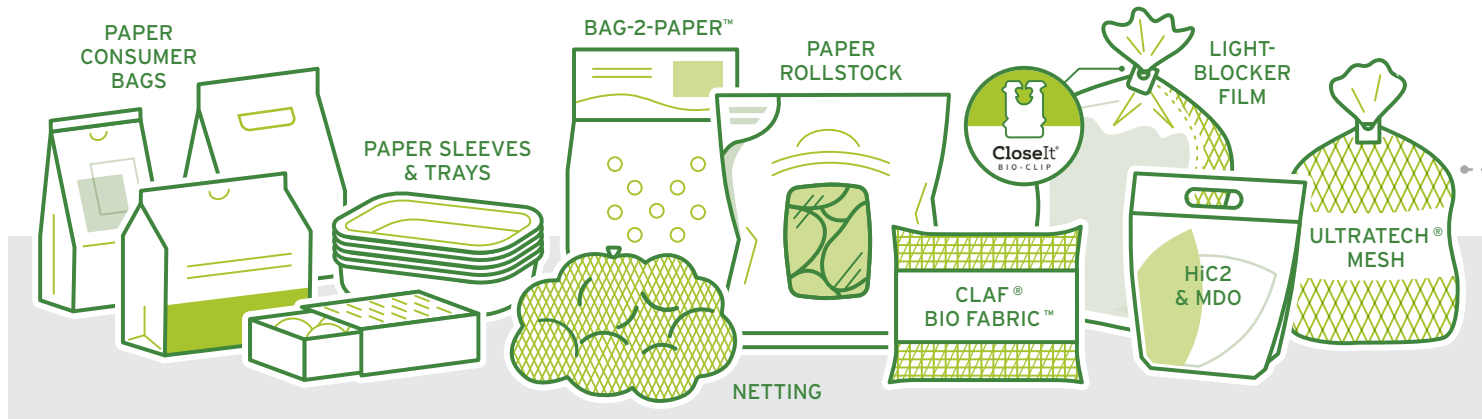
Volm is actively committed to environmental sustainability – striving to understand and reduce our own environmental footprint while partnering with our customers in their efforts to do the same.

As a complete design, equipment and consumables supplier, we believe we have a unique and exciting opportunity to provide thoughtful solutions that help to reduce landfill waste and meet the demands of a more environmentally conscious world.

As we learn and grow, we seek to provide industry leadership by sharing our knowledge, inspiring others, and helping to educate consumers.

# Sustainable Product Lineup

Building on our history of design and delivery, we are constantly working towards the development of innovative and affordable sustainable materials and packaging technologies that don't compromise quality or performance.



## PAPER CONSUMER BAGS

1.5# to 20# paper bags (unlined, no mesh, no film) making it a fully sustainable package.

## PAPER SLEEVES & TRAYS

Paperboard folding carton trays and sleeves made from recycled paper and also certified compostable plant fiber.

## BAG-2-PAPER™

Patent-pending new technology developed for a vertical packaging machine: a new closing system to make paper bags.

## PAPER ROLLSTOCK

Paper rollstock is designed for vertical form, fill and seal equipment. Venting options include die-cut punch holes and windows for breathability. It is both compostable and recyclable. These features help showcase the product while improving shelf life at the retail level.

## CLOSEIT® BIO CLIPS

A greener bag closure is here! Containing 100% USDA-certified biobased content, Bio-Clip is commercially compostable. Worried that going green will require a sacrifice? Don't be! This sturdy clip provides the same quality as our other Closeit® Clips and can be applied using most existing produce automation equipment.

## CLAF® BIO FABRIC™

CLAF® Bio Fabric™ contains 96% USDA Certified Biobased content. Biobased products help us increase our use of renewable resources while decreasing our use of non-renewable resources, such as petroleum.

Biobased products are derived from plants and other renewable, agricultural, marine and forestry materials.

## NETTING

Volm's circular knitted net and extruded net are attractive and economical packaging options for fresh produce. Both knitted and extruded netting are soft on produce and available in many vibrant colors. Eco-friendly options are available, including compostable knitted or extruded netting and lighter weight nets which use less raw materials to produce.

## LIGHT-BLOCKER FILM

Volm Light-Blocker Half-N-Half and poly bags block greater than 99.5% of all visible and ultraviolet light, which extends shelf life by 12 to 17 days over traditional poly and paper bags for Russet potatoes on the measurement of weight loss. When measured by greening, the shelf-life extension was unlimited with the Light Blocker Half-N-Half and poly bags versus traditional poly and paper bags for yellow, red and Russet potato varieties.

## HiC2 & MDO

HiC2 (Hi Clarity 2) and MDO (Machine Direction Oriented) are polyethylene CoEX films that replace current PET (polyethylene terephthalate) film as print web. Allows for RIC 2 designation regarding the recycle waste stream.



## ULTRATECH® MESH

Nearly 10 years ago, Ultratech® Mesh was developed as a solution to consumer and retailer demand for produce packaging with a reduced carbon footprint. Made in the U.S.A., Ultratech Mesh is lightweight but strong, delivering capacity, breathability, and stability while using less material and consuming less fossil fuel in production and transportation.

Ultratech Mesh is the answer the produce packaging industry has been looking for. It's not just a greener product, it's a smarter product. It performs the way you need a mesh to perform, but it does so by using fewer resources with substantial downstream benefits.

It provides advantages in manufacturing, transportation, storage, and merchandising - all while running on existing equipment. This combination makes it a truly sustainable, green packaging alternative for all parties, from grower to consumer.

Any cutting-edge technology is only as good as the company behind it. Ultratech's revolutionary packaging technology comes from Volm, the produce industry's leading innovator and packaging supplier for 65 years.



## WHAT IS SUSTAINABLE PACKAGING?

Sustainable packaging strives to meet the functional and economic needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Sustainability is not necessarily an end state, but is a continuing process of improvement.

This involves ongoing analysis of material life-cycles to help guide the design and use of packaging for reduced environmental impact. It considers the whole supply chain: from processing, to marketing, through to end of life and rebirth through reuse or recycling.

### Sustainable packaging considerations may include:

- Is beneficial, safe and healthy for individuals and communities throughout its life cycle
- Meets market criteria for performance and cost
- Is sourced, manufactured, transported, and recycled using renewable energy
- Optimizes the use of renewable or recycled source materials
- Is manufactured using clean production technologies and best practices
- Is physically designed to optimize materials and energy
- Is effectively recovered and utilized in biological and/or industrial closed loop cycles

## FROM DESIGN TO DELIVERY - THE VOLM DIFFERENCE

Some manufacturers sell only the commodity items they stock. Others are completely custom. Volm delivers the very best of both. While offering a complete catalog of standard bags and packaging, mesh fabric products and more, we retain the ability to tailor our offerings to meet whatever specifications you demand.

But there's more to Volm than that. And it comes from our long heritage of partnership with our customers. Our singular goal is to be recognized as your complete design, equipment and consumables supplier - Your Most Valued Partner. The one vendor that offers you the highest value for your dollar.

# Common Terms in Sustainable Packaging

## BIO-BASED

Material derived from a renewable biological resource. Bio-based plastics, or simply bioplastics, can be either recyclable, compostable, or sometimes both. “Bio-based” is not the same as “biodegradable”; miscommunication can lead to incorrect disposal of the package.

## BIODEGRADABLE

Material capable of decomposition through the action of microorganisms. To make this claim, brand owners must be able to prove that the entire product or package will completely break down and return to nature within one year or less.

## CARBON FOOTPRINT

The total emissions caused by an individual, event, product, or organization, expressed as carbon dioxide equivalent.

## COMPOSTABLE

Material capable of decomposition under specified composting conditions. Composting is human-controlled biodegradation with the aim of faster decomposition and agricultural use of the resulting biomass. To claim “compostable”, packaging must meet qualifying standards, such as those set by the Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI) or the American Society for Testing & Materials (ASTM). Specifying if the package is intended for industrial or home composting facilities is also required.

## OXO-DEGRADABLE

Oxo-degradable plastics are neither bioplastic nor a biodegradable plastic, but rather a conventional plastic mixed with an additive in order to imitate biodegradation.

## MATERIAL IDENTIFICATION

Words, numbers or symbols used to designate composition of components of a product or packaging. Material identification symbols do not indicate whether an item can be recycled.

The following **Resin Identification Codes (RIC)** provide a consistent national system to facilitate recycling of post-consumer plastics.

#1	PET	Polyethylene Terephthalate
#2	HDPE	High-Density Polyethylene
#3	PVC	Polyvinyl Chloride
#4	LDPE	Low-Density Polyethylene
#5	PP	Polypropylene
#6	PS	Polystyrene
#7	OTHER	Examples: Acrylic, Nylon, Polycarbonate

For more information, visit [www.how2recycle.info](http://www.how2recycle.info)

## RECYCLABLE

Material that can be reprocessed and remanufactured into new goods. Recyclability goes beyond just being technically recyclable. There must be consumer access to a recycling program, a recycler must be able to process the material, and there must be an end market.

Under a proposed global definition for recyclability, a recyclable product must meet the following four conditions:

1. The product must be made with a plastic that is collected for recycling, has market value, and/or is supported by a legislatively mandated program.
2. The product must be sorted and aggregated into defined streams for recycling processes.
3. The product can be processed and reclaimed/recycled with commercial recycling processes.
4. The recycled plastic becomes a raw material that is used in the production of new products.

## SOURCES

<https://www.appropedia.org>  
<https://www.citizensustainable.com/biodegradable-vs-compostable-examples/>  
[https://www.greenerpackage.com/recycling/global\\_definition\\_plastics\\_recyclability\\_announced](https://www.greenerpackage.com/recycling/global_definition_plastics_recyclability_announced)  
<https://www.plastics.americanchemistry.com/Plastic-Resin-Codes-PDF/>  
<https://www.sustainablepackaging.org>



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