# ZACROS

# FLEXIBLE POUCH SUSTAINABILITY FACTS

A leading solution to achieve sustainability goals



### Flexible pouches reduce material usage by up to 80% compared to rigid packaging.

At 50,000 units, this translates to 3 tons of plastic savings.\* **20**g

80g

= 4 TONS

= 1 TON

Flexible pouches generate 70% fewer greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions than HDPE canisters.

Flexible pouches generate the lowest production GHG emissions.

Manufacturing represents one of the largest contributors to packaging-related greenhouse gas emissions.





### Flexible pouch requires fewer trucks, resulting in overall less fuel to transport.

Empty pouches are 7x more space-efficient, reducing trucking and costs.





The refill pouch system delivers measurable environmental benefits over traditional rigid packaging.



**Fossil Fuel Use** 

### According to the Life Cycle Assessment (LCA), flexible pouches have less of a negative environmental impact.





Water Use



**Resources Use** 



GHG **Emissions** 



**Emissions** 

### What If Scenario....

### 247M Facial cleansers sold annually in the US in 2023



# If we switch just half

of the bottles to refill pouches...

# Traditional bottles 29,640 tons of plastic

Source: www.statista.com (sold units are in 2023) Assumption: all facial cleansers are sold in bottles with average weight of 120g and one refill pouch weighs 25g



### Annually, we can save 11,731 tons of plastic



### Motor Oil Packaging Comparison

Package Type/Product Weight	Structure (package weight)	Photo		
Stand-up pouch w fitment- 28 fl. oz. (828.1 ml)	Stand-up pouch - 60 ga. BON/6 mil HDPE - 16.3g Spout/Fitment - LDPE - 2.0g Cap - LDPE - 0.9g TOTAL = 19.2g	Image: Second Secon		
HDPE bottle – 32 fl. oz. (946.4 ml)	Bottle - HDPE - 53.6g			
	Closure - PP – 2.8g	1000		
	TOTAL = 56.4g			

Source: A Holistic View of the Role of Flexible Packaging in a Sustainable World (FPA), 2018

The total weight of a stand-up pouch with fitment is only



of the total weight of a HDPE bottle



### The GHG emissions of Stand-up Flexible Pouch is SIGNIFICANTLY LOWER than Steel Can or HPDE Canister.

#### GHG Emission (kg CO2-Equiv)



Source: A Holistic View of the Role of Flexible Packaging in a Sustainable World (FPA), 2018



# -25% GHG EMISSIONS

# Refilling a glass bottle 15-20 times with a refill pouch results in a 25% reduction of GHG emissions than using 15-20 HDPE bottles.

Source: McKinsey & Company July 2022 report | Climate Impact of Plastics





The weight of a flexible pouch is the LEAST among different types types of packaging, while having the HIGHEST **PRODUCT-TO-**PACKAGING RATIO.

### Examples of Beverage Packaging

PACKAGE TYPE	BEVERAGE WEIGHT	PACKAGE WEIGHT	PRODUCT - TO - PACKAGE RATIO	* MSW LANDFILL PER 100G PRODUCT	ENERGY CONSUMED MJ/8 OZ	EMISSIOINS KG CO2 E /8 OZ
Glass Bottle & Metal Cap	8 oz (236 g)	198.4 g	1:1	54.5 g	3.36 g	0.29
Plastic PET Bottle & Cap	8 oz (236 g)	22.7 g	10:1	6.0 g	3.0	0.18
Aluminum Can	8 oz (236 g)	11.3 g	21:1	2.4 g	0.99	0.08
Flexible Standup Pouch	6.75 oz (199 g)	5.7 g	35:1	2.8 g	0.45	0.02

\*recycling rates factored



# Single vs Refill

The LCA of using rigid packaging together with refill pouches has lower environmental impact than using just rigid packaging.

Mineral Resource Use

Water Use

Human Impact



LCA is a consumer (such as numbers of cycle) and location dependent. Information from COMPASS (Comparative Packaging Assessment) by TRAYAK.



### Motor Oil (224 fl. oz.) Case Study

#### The LCA comparison shows that flexible pouch has Lower Environmental impact than HDPE bottle

	FOSSIL FUEL	GHG EMISSIONS	WATER
	CONSUMPTION	(KG- CO2	CONSUMPTION
	(MJ-EQUIV)	EQUIV)	(L)
Stand-up Pouch with Fitment	14.12	0.5889	1.03
HPDE Bottle	38.58	1.52	6.33
	(+173%)	(+153%)	(+513%)





Source: A Holistic View of the Role of Flexible Packaging in Sustainable World (FPA 2018)

#### is the fastest way to improve sustainability

Reduce

Even if flexible pouches don't get recycled, they reduce plastics use significantly

## **Recycling and Composting Trends**

It is predicted that 20% of organizations with sustainable packaging goals will shift their focus from recycling and eliminating plastics to reducing the carbon footprint of their packaging by 2026.

Recycling and composting as a percentage of generation

	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2005	2010	2015	2017	2018
Paper and Paperboard	17%	15%	21%	28%	43%	50%	63%	67%	66%	68%
Glass	2%	1%	5%	20%	23%	21%	27%	28%	25%	25%
Plastics	Neg.	Neg.	<1%	2%	6%	6%	8%	9%	9%	9%
Yard Trimmings	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	12%	52%	62%	58%	61%	69%	63%
Lead-acid Batteries	Neg.	76%	70%	97%	93%	96%	99%	99%	99%	99%



### Plastic Reduction Success Study In Japan, refill pouches contributed to reduce plastic usage per product volume by -43% compared from 1995 to 2001



#### 8 Key Product Categories

- Bleach and mildew cleaner
- Household cleaner
- Kitchen detergent
- Fabric softener
- Laundry detergent
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Hand soap
- Body shampoo





# 70-80%

of store shelves for the home and personal care products in Japan are refill pouches

Click here to watch: Refill Pouches at the grocery store in Japan

















