

Excel Plastic Free Packaging

www.excel-networking.com/plastic-free-packaging

Section 2



NEW
for **V5**

X **ZERO**
Plastic Packaging

Introduction

Typically, products in our industry are packaged in an abundance of single use plastic packaging. Determined to lead the way in the industry to demonstrate our environmental commitment through incremental changes, we focussed on the sustainable development of the supply chain in collaboration with our manufacturers.



As a business, we already have an acute awareness of our environmental impact and are actively encouraging a reduction of this through a variety of activities. In alignment with Sonepar's values, Mayflex implemented electric vehicle charging points in a move to become more environmentally friendly. Moving forwards to continually improve sustainability ratings and ISO Accreditations and to effectively contribute to the protection of the ecosystem, our employees were provided with a metal re-fillable water bottle and a china mug. This campaign removed 120,000 plastic cups from the offices and contributed to our responsibility to staff by communicating the importance of hydration.

We were the first in the industry to examine the packaging of the majority of our Excel product lines and source alternative plastic free solutions. We have already enhanced the packaging for a significant portion of our Excel products, with many more changes in the pipeline as part of a strategic initiative to continually evolve in the face of environmental challenges. In an industry that has historically relied on the ease and cost-effective nature of plastic packaging, we recognise that an industry change of this magnitude needs to involve engagement with all stakeholders within the supply chain, including manufacturers, customers and end users.



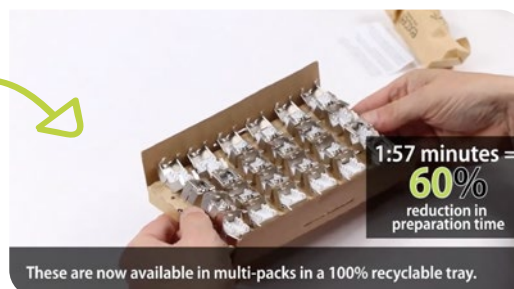
Watch this video to see the impact of single use plastic on our environment.

By working closely with our factories to create suitable solutions for a wide range of products Excel has created new, completely plastic free packaging that reduces the impact on the environment and improves installer experience through time savings and reduced on-site waste.

By eradicating individually wrapped components, which were bagged together in groups of ten, and instead offering multipacks in easy-access cardboard boxes or paper wrappings, it is far more intuitive for an installer to fit the product on site. Pre-market tests have demonstrated a 60% saving on preparation time for some product lines, providing opportunities for installers to save both time and money on a project.



Watch this video to see for yourself.



2020 **3020**

It takes up to 1,000 years for plastic to degrade.

8 Million tonnes

More than 8 million tonnes of plastic is dumped into our oceans every year.



Half of all plastics ever manufactured have been made in just the last 15 years.



If nothing is done by 2050, pieces of plastic in the ocean will outweigh the number of fish.



More than 32% of global plastic waste ends up in the ocean.



Over 500 species of marine animals have either eaten or been entangled in plastic.

Issues revolving around the environment and sustainable development are campaigns of continuous improvement. There is no doubt that we have made positive steps towards reducing our negative impact on the environment and are actively encouraging other market players to do the same, however we are always looking to evolve for longer term impact. We will continue to engage our staff and customers with environmental issues through further improvements to our product packaging solutions as well as more volunteering events in support of the Marine Conservation Society.

We are thrilled to see how far Excel Networking Solutions have come in regards to ditching their single use plastic packaging. They really have shown dedication to helping reduce their impact on the environment, and their successes will mean our marine environment will be cleaner and our wildlife less affected by plastic as a result. Thank you for your continued passion for our seas and for pushing your business to become greener and cleaner!

Katharine Sharp | Corporate Partnerships Manager,
Marine Conservation Society



What has changed?

By making significant changes to the packaging for the majority of our products, we estimate that we have removed over 18 million single use plastic bags from the supply chain each year - that's the equivalent to over 45 tonnes of plastic waste!



Based on 2018 sales figures.



Reduce Waste Volume



100% Recyclable Waste



Quicker to Install



Easier for Engineers On-Site



Lower Installation Costs

Keystone Jacks

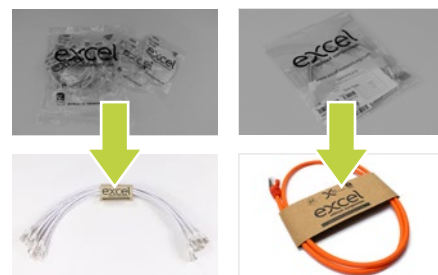
Excel keystone jacks were originally packaged in individual single-use plastic bags, available to purchase in bags of ten. This meant that to populate one standard patch panel frame with keystone jacks at either end of the link (48 keystone jacks in total), a customer would consume 48 individual single use plastic bags as well as five large bags.

The new zero plastic packaging means that Excel keystone jacks are now available to purchase in a handy 24-pack, featuring no plastic. Each carton is made from 100% recycled and recyclable cardboard, and the keystone jacks slot neatly into the designated holes in the cardboard insert tray, making it really easy for engineers on-site.



Patch Leads

Excel copper patch leads are now available in multipacks of ten, packaged together simply in a 100% recycled and recyclable paper sleeve. Historically, patch leads were packaged similarly to the keystone jacks, in individual single-use plastic bags. The new packaging helps to reduce on-site waste volume.



Excel fibre optic patch leads are no longer available in single use plastic packaging either. Instead, they are packaged in a natural brown paper pouch, with the addition of a support tab to provide more protection to the fibre during transit.

Patch Panels

Excel patch panel packaging has seen a big overhaul since 2019. The outer boxes are now 100% recycled and recyclable cardboard, no longer featuring the black and green print. This change ensures that the outer cardboard box is completely safe to recycle. The panels themselves are no longer additionally wrapped in single use plastic, and the nuts and bolts are provided in a simple paper pocket.



Environ Racks and Pallets

The Excel team is working on finding an alternative solution for wrapping Environ racks and cabinets or pallet orders – more details will be shared as soon as they're available.

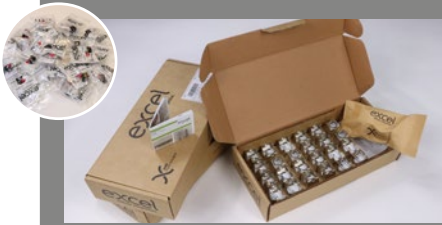


Watch this video to see the benefits of choosing an Excel multipack



How much plastic could you save?

In a 10,000 outlet Data Centre application, an Excel engineer would need:



20,000 keystone jacks
(one at each end of the link)
Approx. 50kg single use plastic in original packaging



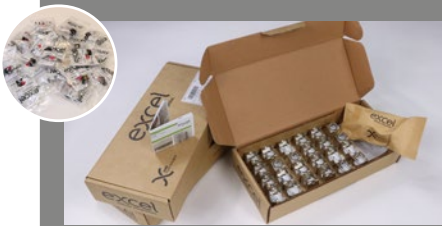
834 patch panels
(417 at each end of the links)
Approx. 8kg single use plastic in original packaging



Assuming the Data Centre was 50% patched (live) on day one, 10,000 patch leads
Approx. 25kg single use plastic in original packaging

Over 80kg of single use plastic \approx 0.2% of Excel Networking's total annual removal of single use plastic on just one typical Data Centre installation!

In a 5,000 outlet Enterprise application, an Excel engineer would need:



10,000 keystone jacks
(one at each end of the link)
Approx. 25kg single use plastic in original packaging



208 patch panels
(104 at each end of the links)
Approx. 2kg single use plastic in original packaging



Assuming the Office Area was 50% patched (live) on day one, 5,000 patch leads
Approx. 12.5kg single use plastic in original packaging



500 double-gang faceplates with 2,000 outlets
Approx. 6kg single use plastic in original packaging



1,500 single-gang faceplates with 3,000 outlets
Approx. 11kg single use plastic in original packaging



5,000 angled keystone shutters
Approx. 12.5kg single use plastic in original packaging

Almost 70kg of single use plastic on just one typical Office environment installation!

