

# arpal

30 years of giving  
new life to aluminium



Click on the balloons to find  
out about our activities

ARPAL, a non-profit organisation, was created in 1994 with the aim of promoting the recycling of aluminium packaging and reaching the recycling rates required by Spanish law. It consists of 4 organisations: Aludium, Constelium, Speira GmbH and Novelis Europe, and it works very closely with European Aluminium (EU) and the European Aluminium Foil Association (EAFA).



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## 1 Recycling rate Meeting objectives

We have already managed to recycle over **80,000 tonnes of aluminium packaging in the last year**, exceeding the rate of 50% established in the European Directive for 2025 and we are very close to reaching the 60% that has been set as the 2030 figure.

To know how many tonnes are really recycled, at ARPAL in 2001 we began conducting an **Annual Study of the recovery of aluminium packaging** among traditional scrap dealers, together with the Spanish Federation of Recovery and Recycling (FER). These data are added to the data obtained by Ecoembes in other sources.





## 2 Direct Didactics (DIDI) The importance of training

At ARPAL, we have created and built up a network of volunteers (teachers, monitors, future trainers, etc.) who have received training in recycling aluminium packaging and who hold workshops and talks in schools, summer camps, events, community centres, etc.

- **Training for volunteers, monitors and teachers:**
  - Over **5,000**
- **Awareness-raising among hotel staff:** Nearly **1,800**
- **Participants in ARPAL workshops:**
  - Number of Workshops: Over **3,500**
  - Number of adult participants: Over **60,000**
  - Child participants in workshops: Over **300,000**





## 3 Videos, let's get visual

We now have 37 videos, some of them with subtitles in English and Spanish, on our WEBPAGE and our YouTube channel. Their contents always emphasise the sustainability of aluminium packaging and recommend that it should be placed in the yellow recycling container so that it can have infinite lives.



# 4 Studies

## Knowledge takes up no space

Adopting the saying 'Knowledge takes up no space' as our own, at ARPAL we constantly try to broaden our knowledge in order to recover aluminium. So, the **study on the recycling of aluminium caps and closures in Spain** has allowed us to gain first-hand knowledge about the situation in terms of market volume, collection and recycling.

Thanks to the **Glossary of Terms**, we have a work tool for professionals who report on the recycling process for this material and for the people who work in the sector of recovery and recycling. With the **white paper on aluminium recycling**, we demonstrate why aluminium has become an essential element in supporting and encouraging the green transition and decarbonisation.

With the **Study on the behaviour of aluminium packaging with eddy current separators**, we can confirm that they function extremely well with semi-rigid packaging, beverage cans and aerosols. We check the **effectiveness of the workshops** to assess how they are helping to achieve the goals of the circular economy among different audiences. With our partner in Valencia, we have also conducted a **statistical study on the effectiveness of the spaces for dialogue** held in the Autonomous Community of Valencia for homemakers and consumers to encourage them to recycle more.



## 5 **Collaboration agreements** Together we can go further

As a result of the **collaboration with different organisations**, among others, Ecoembes, Asociación Latas de Bebidas, European Aluminium (EU), the European Aluminium Foil Association (EAFA), Paisaje Limpio,

Asociación Española del Aluminio (AEA), Federación Española de la Recuperación, APIA and COAALI, we have worked all over Spain, developing a large number of programmes on aluminium packaging recycling.

**We also work in conjunction with educational and academic organisations** such as universities, schools, pre-school centres, etc. These

joint efforts make it possible to set up didactic units and educational workshops that have previously been checked by the educational community.

**Thanks to our local partners**, we have been able to collect aluminium packaging from the bars and restaurants in airports such as Barcelona, in hairdressing salons, schools, sports centres, trade fairs, festivals, etc. and at over 100 popular and cultural events.



# 6 All the latest information

So that journalists can have all the available information about aluminium packaging recycling, we have launched an **Interactive Press Kit**, which can be consulted and downloaded at [www.aluminio.org](http://www.aluminio.org). Furthermore, our webpage has all the **Press Releases** and **News** that we publish, as well as **photos and press contacts** to aid communication professionals in their work.

We would like to thank the **Asociación de Periodistas de Información Ambiental (APIA)** for being our partners since 2021. In fact, with APIA we have created the first '**Glossary of Terms related to the Collection, Sorting and Recycling of Aluminium**', and we have organised several digital seminars and a completely interactive guide for journalists about aluminium.



# 7 Our WEBPAGE and SOCIAL MEDIA

## The 'Jewel in the Crown'

Our WEBPAGE [www.aaluminio.org](http://www.aaluminio.org) is the 'Jewel in the Crown' as regards information about ARPAL. It includes our history, all of our publications, press releases and annual reports, and a collection of documents about recycling aluminium packaging.

Follow us ON THE WEBPAGE and SOCIAL MEDIA to stay up to date about aluminium packaging recycling!

- Twitter (hoy X): [@recicladoalu](https://twitter.com/recicladoalu)
- Facebook: [ARPAL Aluminio](https://www.facebook.com/ARPALAluminio)
- LinkedIn: [ARPAL Aluminio](https://www.linkedin.com/company/ARPALAluminio)
- YouTube: [@ARPALaluminio](https://www.youtube.com/@ARPALaluminio).
- Instagram: [@ArpalAluminio](https://www.instagram.com/ArpalAluminio)





## 8 Aluparties and the 'I Recycle Aluminium' Club

At the Aluparties, aluminium is our friend and it is part of the decoration, games, recipes, etc. **And at the end, all the aluminium goes into the yellow container!**

We have also created the 'I Recycle Aluminium' Club, where children commit to the ALU Promise: to recycle aluminium packaging in the yellow container. And we have organised dozens of competitions involving arts and crafts, stories and photography.





## 9 **The Ball Theory** So that nothing gets lost

The Ball Theory avoids any aluminium getting lost. It consists of grouping all the pieces of semi-rigid and flexible aluminium packaging together, as well as aluminium foil, and making them into a ball before putting them into the yellow container.



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## A new life for aluminium

Aluminium is one the key materials in the Circular Economy because it is never considered to be waste, its recycling process is simple, natural, profitable and it is a permanent material—over 75% of the aluminium that was produced more than a century ago is still in use today due to recycling— as it can be recycled infinitely without a loss of quality.

**We will carry on recycling  
aluminium packaging for at least  
another 30 years!!!**



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