



QUARTERLY

# PCM MAGAZINE

---

## AUGUST 2023

OUR CONSTANT, GROWTH



# INDEX

MAGAZINE PCM



## ARTICLES

- How to know what is a good quality roll?
- Security labels: What are they and what are they used for?
- Properties of corrugated cardboard
- When to choose customized cardboard boxes?
- Find out why to use recycled pellets
- What is the printer ribbon? Know everything you need to know





# How to know what is a good quality roll?



Paper rolls have become one of the most used tools in companies and offices. Whether it is point-of-sale rolls, bond paper rolls for plotters, stock paper or photographic paper, this material is essential for the daily activities of a business.

**A good quality roll** has certain properties that allow printing with better finishes and details. Pay attention to the 7 features we are going to describe so that you know how to choose the best roll according to the use you are going to make of it.

# Characteristics of a good quality roll



## • RAW MATERIAL USED

The type of raw material used in the production of the rolls is very important and has a significant impact on the final quality of the product. Mainly, the raw material affects the resistance and strength.

**PCM rolls are BPA free.** In addition, the paper used is certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), contributing to the preservation of the environment.

## • PAPER GRAIN

When we talk about paper grain, we refer to the direction of the fibers that compose it and that have been aligned in that way during the manufacturing process. If there was any inconvenience during this process, both resistance and traction will be reduced.

## • APPEARANCE OF THE PAPER ROLL

A good quality roll should look as such, without imperfections or tears. It should have a fine cut, free of lint and dust. In this way, we guarantee that the roll will not cause damage to the printing equipment.

## • GRAMMAGE

If you are looking for an exceptionally good quality roll, the grammage can help you decide for the best one. A high grammage indicates that you are looking for a high-quality paper. This type of material is mostly used in reports or printouts.

## • ROLL TENSION

If you are looking for an exceptionally good quality roll, the grammage can help you decide for the best one. A high grammage indicates that you are looking for a high-quality paper. This type of material is mostly used in reports or printouts.

## • RESISTANCE

As time goes by, lower quality rolls become yellowish. On the contrary, a good quality roll will take longer to deteriorate, even remaining white for many years.

**PCM rolls are made of high-quality paper. This is a great advantage, since it offers high resistance to environmental conditions, UV rays, humidity, among others. Even a print stored in optimal conditions can be kept in perfect condition for up to 10 years.**



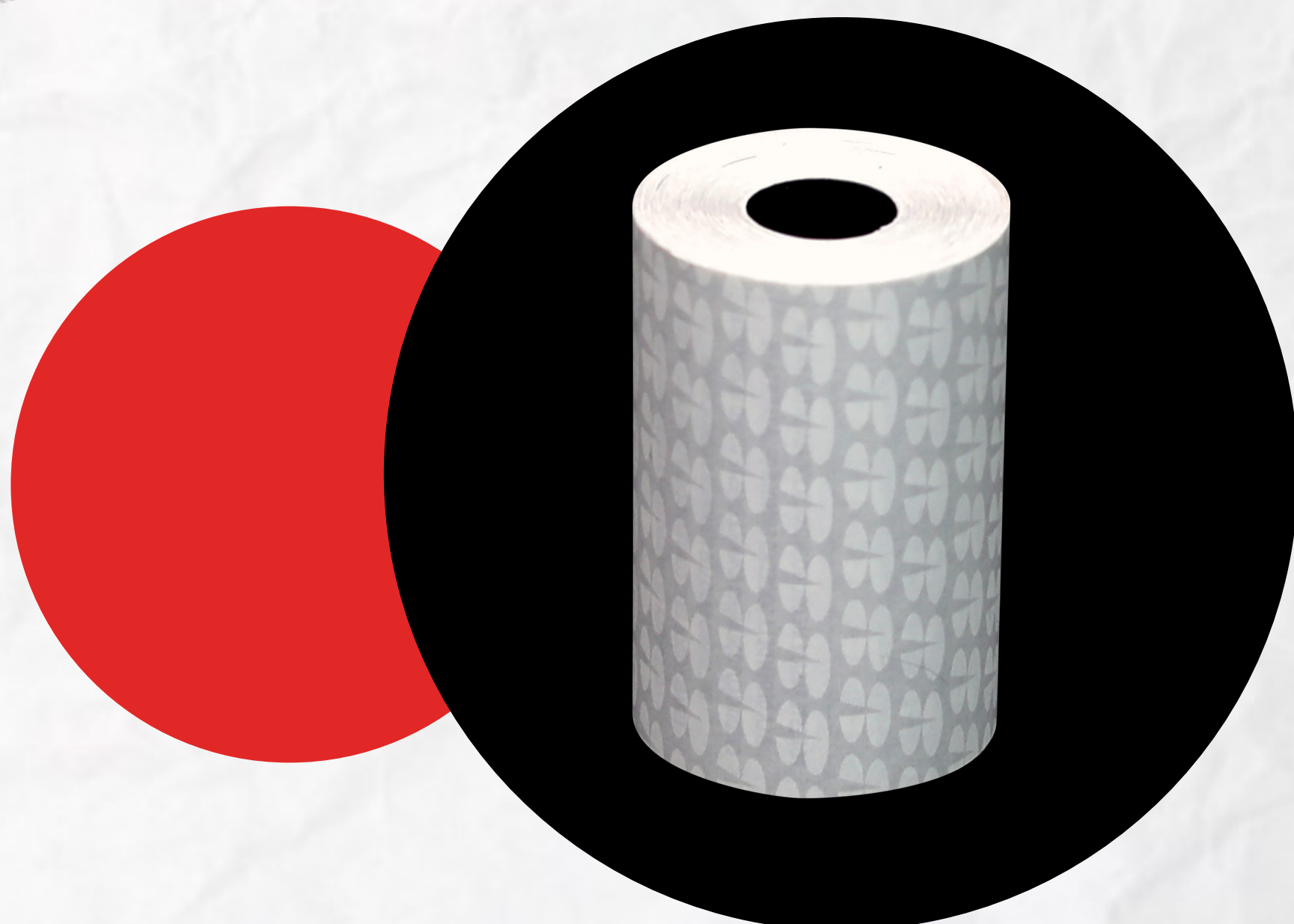


## PCM ROLLS, SYNONYMOUS WITH GOOD QUALITY ROLLS!

Have you ever thought about what would happen if you chose poor quality rolls? The consequences would be fatal. In addition to obtaining regular prints, without details, low quality rolls can also damage your equipment (damage to the matrix and thermal heads), as well as generate fewer prints per roll.

Therefore, we recommend that you always choose us rolls that are of excellent quality. Not only the paper is of high quality, but our rolls **guarantee a long life** for your equipment, decreasing the maintenance costs of your printers.

We have **thermal paper rolls**, bond paper rolls, printed paper rolls, carbonless paper rolls, and many other products!





# Learning Center

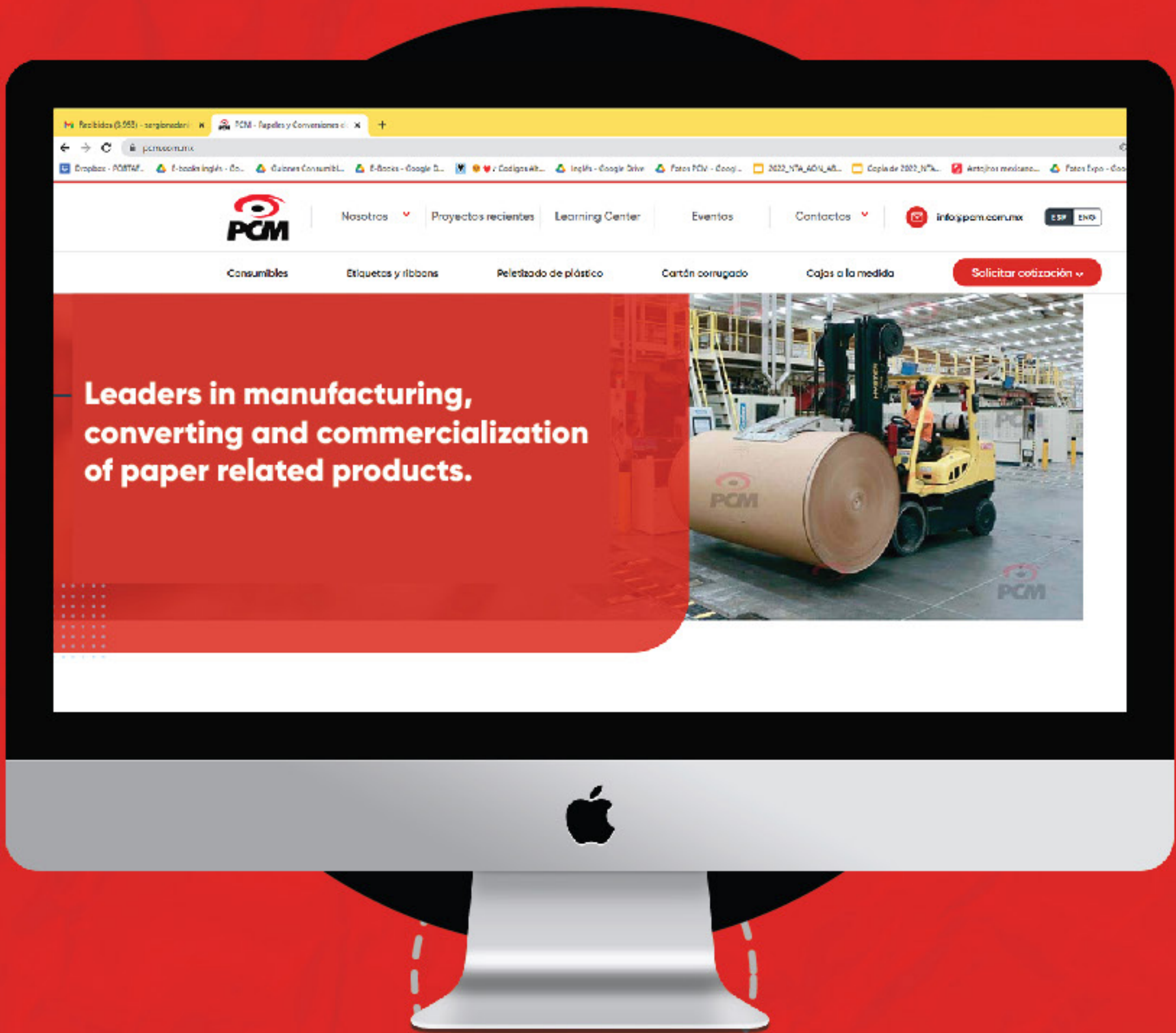


VISIT OUR LEARNING CENTER



LEARN EVERYTHING  
ABOUT FROM PAPER  
MANUFACTURING TO LABEL

*Types*



CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE



# Security labels: What are they and what are they used for?



Security labels are a tool in high demand because they prevent product counterfeiting and avoid unauthorized tampering. Nowadays it is quite common to find imitations of many products due to the increase of online shopping.

In the market you can find a wide range of security labels that fulfill these functions, but they vary according to the materials used for their production and their usefulness.



# What are the types of product security labels?

IT IS IMPORTANT TO KNOW THE TYPES OF SECURITY LABELS THAT EXIST IN THE MARKET IN ORDER TO CHOOSE THE ONE WE WILL USE TO PROTECT OUR PRODUCT.

- ◆ **Permanent void labels.** They are known for leaving a visible trace when they are removed from a surface. They usually leave a visible negative with the word "VOID", which in Spanish translates as violated. This ensures that the label cannot be reused. They are often used to identify products or validate product warranties.
- ◆ **Removable void labels.** These labels are specially designed for security seals where no marks from the adhesive should be left when removed. They are a temporary solution to seal a product without damaging the surface or packaging.
- ◆ **Labels with high residue content.** This kind of labels are mainly intended for surfaces such as paper, cardboard, or fiber because of their porosity. This is so that when they are removed, the external handling of the product is more evident.

According to the above, it can be said that security labels can be chosen according to the protection required for the product.



## Possible applications of security labels

- **Pharmaceutical sector.** To prevent counterfeit drugs and ensure that they have not been tampered with.
- **Transportation sector.** They can be found in storage and security areas, as well as on doors, windows, and containers.
- **Computer equipment.** They are used to protect equipment from unauthorized use.
- **Retail sector.** To secure the packaging of products in shipments and returns management.
- **Shipping documents.** They are used to reinforce the security of envelopes containing confidential documents.
- **Restricted access.** They are especially useful in places where it is necessary to avoid unauthorized access for security reasons, such as offices with classified material, police investigation scenes or dangerous areas.
- **Laboratories.** Security labels prevent any type of interference in the process of collecting and analyzing blood samples or any other biological substance.
- **Ballot boxes.** Due to the transparency and reliability that the electoral process must guarantee, it is necessary to seal ballot boxes with security labels during transit. This is to keep them secure until the votes are counted.



## APPLICABLE TAMPER-EVIDENT AND ANTI-THEFT SECURITY LABEL TECHNOLOGIES



There are several technologies in **security labels** that serve to prevent unauthorized use of a product or to prevent theft.

- **Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tags.** This type of tags have a built-in chip where the required information is stored according to the product. They can identify a product and detect it wirelessly, guaranteeing its traceability. They are made of substrate, have an antenna that communicates with the reader, as well as an integrated circuit. Models vary according to their memory capacity.

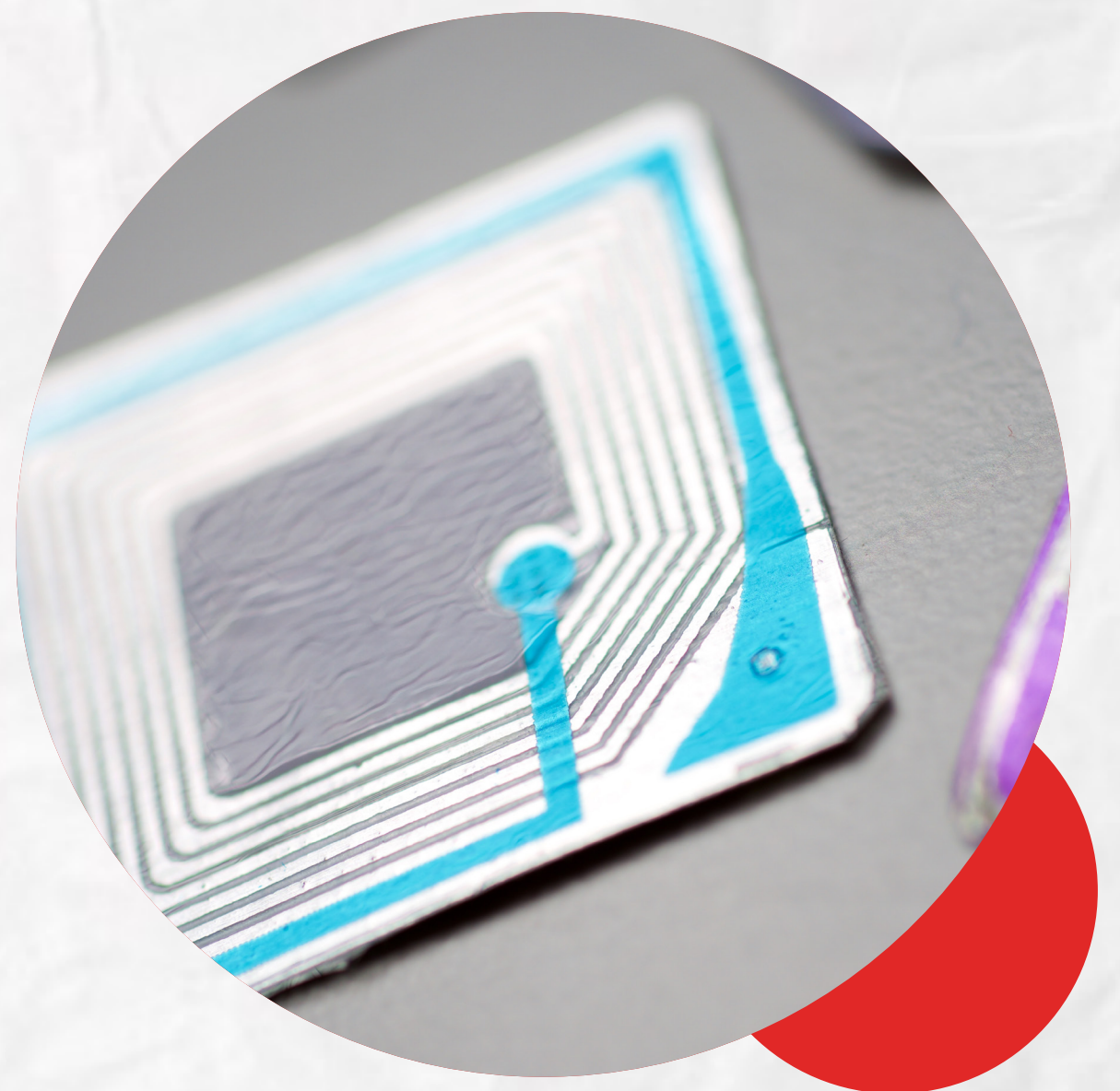
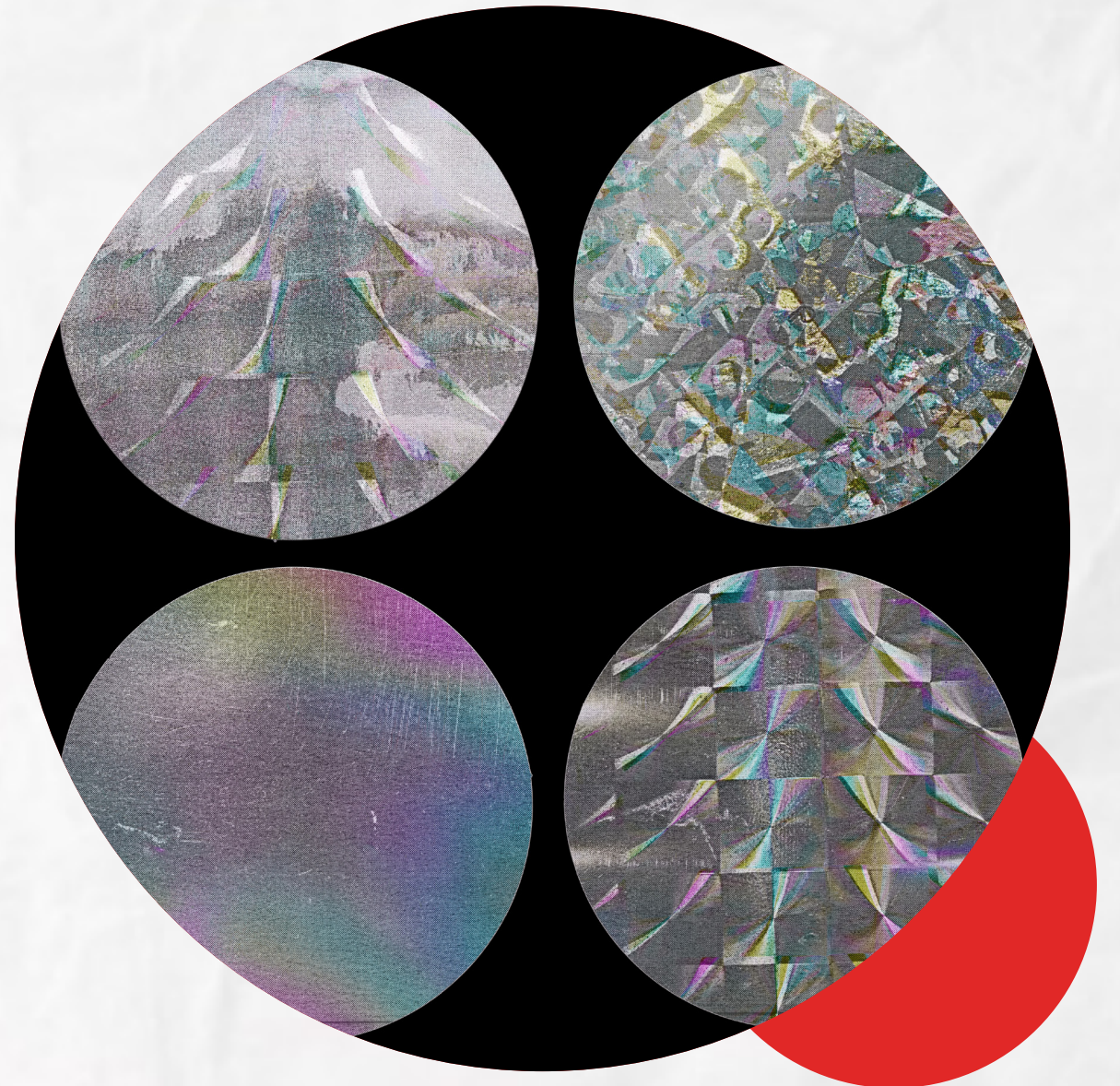
- **Security holograms.** Tags with security holograms offer greater protection because they are difficult to counterfeit. Some holograms can be detected when exposed to light or printed with fluorescent ink, so that they are not very noticeable to the eye.

- **Barcodes.** These allow a product to be identified in a unique and standard way. They are easy to use and are low cost because they do not require sophisticated equipment for printing. They are more prone to deterioration and once printed cannot be modified.

- **RFID tags and barcodes combined with holograms.** As mentioned above, labels that combine these technologies are much more secure because they have two levels of security.

- **Magnetic inlays.** Magnetic inlay tags are ideal for use on items that are more likely to be stolen without detection. They activate an alarm when passing through a security detector, alerting to attempted theft. They are inexpensive and easy to activate and deactivate.

Security tags with these technologies make it easier to keep track of products and make them more secure against theft or counterfeiting.



**At PCM we offer you an integral solution in labels with the best quality and variety depending on the type of industry!**



# Properties of corrugated cardboard



**Corrugated cardboard boxes** provide excellent support and protection to products without compromising them. Additionally, it is an ecofriendly material since it is biodegradable and can be used in recycling processes.



# Set of properties that corrugated cardboard possesses

- **Resistance:** it is innate thanks to its base material, cardboard fibers. Although cardboard can be a very resistant material, it can be made even more so through assemblies with the same material and its arrangement; kraft paper is also relevant, as it makes it more durable.

- **Resistant to multiple different treatments to increase their resistance and durability:** For example, they can be waterproofed with some resins or also add properties that make them resistant to abrasive or flammable products.

- **Rigid:** Although this depends a lot on whether they can keep their shape even when held. Our corrugated cardboard factory guarantees corrugated cardboard sheets with an extremely high resistance, typical of a high-quality product.

- **Thickness and grammage:** the thicker it is, the more rigid it is.

- **Resistance to vertical crushing**

**WHILE THE CARDBOARD IS BEING MANUFACTURED, LAYERS OF CORRUGATED CARDBOARD ARE PLACED WITH THE CORRUGATIONS VERTICALLY, THIS CAN BE SEEN AS MANY COLUMNS. THESE COLUMNS ARE PERFECT FOR SUPPORTING DIFFERENT WEIGHTS WHILE THE PRODUCT IS BEING TRANSPORTED OR STORED.**

**THE PROPERTY ITSELF IS DUE TO FACTORS SUCH AS WEIGHT, STIFFNESS AND THE QUALITY OF THE MATERIALS USED. THE VERSATILITY THAT THESE BOXES CAN HAVE IS INCREDIBLE, SO NEVER UNDERESTIMATE THIS MATERIAL.**

- **Resistance to horizontal crushing**

The corrugated middle layer undulations create an extraordinarily strong arch that serves as protection for the product thanks to its cushioning. All damage from those shocks and movements to which the product is subjected and other external factors are minimized.



**IF THE BOX IS HIT FROM THE OUTSIDE, THE FORCE OF THE BLOW WILL BE PARTIALLY ABSORBED BY THE CORRUGATED LAYERS AND THEIR AIR CHANNELS.**

- **They are tear-resistant**

The structure of the four corners of the box is designed to have the highest possible strength to support the weight when stacked. While they are the strongest, they are also the most at risk from tearing.

The corners are in this condition because, at times, exaggerated forces can be exerted when managing the boxes during different processes. To prevent this, these boxes or corrugated cardboard sheets must be of the best possible quality.

Our cartons meet these requirements, and we guarantee that they will be able to maintain a flawless visual appearance at the time of inventories. The more properties a cardboard has, the more useful it will be or the more versatile it will be in all relevant areas.



## KEY FEATURES THAT CORRUGATED CARDBOARD POSSESSES



As you may have already noticed, these cardboards in the industrial sector provide companies with great benefits, especially for their malleability and resistance during transportation. The properties they have are especially important during work performance, but so are some characteristics, such as, for example:

- **The great resistance they have because of the thin layers of cardboard that once compacted create an exceptionally good support.**
- **If it is in conditions with extremely low humidity, the cardboard can last for a long time protecting the product from external agents.**

- 
- **The durability and strength that corrugated cardboard provides has made it an essential part of the industrial sector. You will rarely have problems with goods packed in these boxes.**

Before you ask yourself, at PCM we are dedicated to the sale of corrugated cardboard of the highest possible quality for your company. Do not hesitate to contact us if you are interested in:

- **Triple corrugated cardboard**, ideal for very heavy or bulk products.
- **Double corrugated cardboard**, perfect for the agricultural and meat sector, for household appliances, etc.
- **Single corrugated cardboard**, which, like the previous one, is used for various sectors and for boxes in general.
- **Micro corrugated cardboard**, which is excellent for food, shoe boxes, electronic devices and more.





# Follow us!



**CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE**



**FACEBOOK, LINKEDIN AND YOUTUBE**



# When to choose customized cardboard boxes?



Using customized cardboard boxes today is not an expense, it is an investment. Not only do they guarantee that your products will arrive safely at their destination, but they also give a plus to their presentation; they differentiate you from the competition and help position your brand.

It is a seal of quality, but above all, it is making your product's packaging totally unique. With customization, you will have boxes with specific dimensions, colors, and special shapes.



# THE IMPACT OF CUSTOMIZED CARDBOARD BOXES



Working with **customized cardboard boxes** guarantees that they will be strong enough to protect your product during shipment.

In addition, they are a way of marketing. By including your image or brand on the box, they generate visual impact.

In addition, with these boxes **you can choose the size, shape, color** and how many inks are used in the printing. They are unique boxes designed especially for a product or company. This has other advantages: they create identity for the customer, increase brand value and quality.

They also **generate added value** and a better presentation. This, without affecting the cardboard's own characteristics, such as: durability and ability to protect your items from bumps or movements that may damage them.

**Customized cardboard boxes** are useful when the product has a particular shape or pieces that require special handling. **They facilitate storage, transportation and unloading.**

## Comply with ISO Standards

Customized cardboard boxes help to comply with international standards. Such is the case of ISO 7000 and ISO 780. These standards specify that boxes, especially large ones, must have a series of symbols to inform about the product's characteristics.

They indicate, for example

- Whether the contents are fragile.
- If it is temperature resistant.
- How it should be handled.

In this way, customized boxes comply with the guidelines of the International Organization for Standardization. This organization elaborates ISO standards, which are valid in hundreds of countries and contribute to:

- **Provide greater efficiency in commercial operations.**
- **Increase productivity.**
- **Access new markets.**

## Good reasons to choose custom cardboard boxes

You should choose customized cardboard boxes when you want your items to reach your customers well, but also when you are looking for high quality standards and:

- **You want to differentiate yourself from your competitors and position your brand.**
- **You are transporting large products.**
- **You want boxes with special colors and shapes.**
- **You want to facilitate their transport, storage, and delivery.**

In addition, it is convenient to use them if you want to reduce shipping costs and eliminate packaging expenses. Large boxes for small items require extra material to avoid damage to the contents.

Adding this material implies an increase in weight and unnecessary supplies that increase expenses. With **customized cardboard boxes** you can forget about this problem.

## PCM, leader in customized cardboard boxes.

We have a wide variety of boxes, **excellent printing quality** and finishes. In addition, we have areas for image design and packaging specialized in turnkey projects.





# What type of box do you need?



## JUMBO BOXES

They are made in one piece for products up to 10 m<sup>3</sup>. If larger sizes are required, they are manufactured in two or more pieces.

We can print up to 4 inks. When the boxes are used only for transportation, we recommend one color for logo or product name printing; when they are used for exhibition, more than one printing ink. Another advantage of Jumbo boxes is that they can be designed in the shape requested by the customer. They can be square, rectangular, hexagonal, or octagonal. It is the ideal box in terms of size and shape. In addition, it is manufactured in single, double, or triple corrugated cardboard.

This line of customized boxes is designed for those who need to transport products of large dimensions or unusual shapes, with a variety of printing colors.

## SLOTTED BOXES.

Up to four inks are applied and are available in the printing color of the customer's choice. **Sizes are customized** to suit the intended use.

They can include different coatings, either single, double, or triple corrugated. They are usually used in the following sectors:

- **Agricultural and grocery.**
- **Personal care, automotive and pharmaceuticals.**
- **Cleaning and manufacturing.**



## SPECIAL PIZZA BOXES

We manufacture **die-cut boxes** with up to three inks and the size required. A wide variety of coatings can be applied to them, and they are produced in single, double, or triple corrugated. If you are in the restaurant industry or specialize in pizzas, we produce four standard sizes.

- **Small box: 25 x 25 x 4.5 cm.**
- **Medium: 30 x 30 x 4.5 cm.**
- **Large: 35 x 35 x 4.5 cm.**
- **Family: 40 x 40 x 4.5 cm.**

We also make boxes according to your size and shape needs.

Learn more about our product line, uses and benefits! We are experts in making customized cardboard boxes for any project you require.





# Find out why to use recycled pellets



Have you ever heard about the advantages of recycled pellets? It is an essential element when it comes to business processes such as injection molding and extrusion. They stand out especially for details such as the price and quality of such material.

It is clear that plastic is one of the most polluting materials in the world. That is why the use of pellets made from this material has become so popular. Not only does it reuse an element that is considered waste, but it also fulfills especially crucial functions.



# What are recycled pellets all about?



Companies that manufacture plastic parts often place a high value on the use of recycled pellets. Discarded plastic goes through an extensive pelletizing process, which allows it to be compressed and segmented.

In this way, small rounded plastic parts are formed, which are used by a large number of companies. These could be divided into:

**1.- Injection molding companies,** which are in charge of molding the plastic parts by injecting them into a prefabricated mold.

**2.- Extrusion companies,** following a similar process for plastic molding, although it makes use of thrust and pressure.

Either way, whether **plastic is used for injection or extrusion**, the objective is the same. The plastic pellet is an especially important raw material, which is why it is necessary to purchase it from a reliable source.

## Learn about the benefits of recycled pellets

### Optimized production times

- It can be acquired with its lentil or head shape. A pellet presentation that stands out for offering a very constant size in each piece. In addition, it does not generate excessive dust during cutting.

- The lentil presentation avoids clogging in the machines used for plastic molding. In this way, there will be no accidents that slow down the production process.

### No waste

- One of the main concerns in the use of pellets is the generation of dust or waste. However, the recycled pellet is actually exceptionally good because it does not contain impurities and does not generate dust during molding.

- In addition, it is excellent at obtaining the desired shade for plastic parts. Sometimes it may not be possible to achieve the white coloration that is so necessary in this process. However, with the use of the right material, this will no longer be a problem.

### Advantageous presentation

- It is important to have different options to reduce problems. Recycled pellets come in both Gaylord boxes and sacks depending on your needs. This makes it much easier to move and store within your company.

## What presentation of recycled pellets do you have?

**Black and white polystyrene** represents one of the best valued materials in the market. This is due to the different advantages it offers, such as:

- ◆ **Extremely light:** It can withstand several blows without problems, which is important to offer quality products.

- ◆ **Great thermosetting material:** It resists the effects of heat; it also works as an electrical insulator.

- ◆ **Moisture resistance:** Products made of black and white polystyrene are waterproof.

- ◆ **Moldable** under the right conditions, it allows injection and extraction companies to make very good use of it.







BASICALLY, WE ARE TALKING ABOUT ONE OF THE MOST COMPETITIVE MATERIALS ON THE MARKET WHEN IT COMES TO PLASTIC PRODUCTION. BLACK AND WHITE POLYSTYRENE IS AN EXCELLENT CHOICE IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR PLASTIC RAW MATERIAL.

### Get top quality plastic pellets

Choosing a **plastic pelletizer** can be tricky if you are looking to prioritize quality. However, you will find companies that have been doing this for years and offering solutions in different countries.

To buy **recycled pellets**, there is no doubt that PCM is the best choice. A company that has been leading the pelletizing industry for more than 20 years. Contact us through our website and discover the different offers we have for you.





# Contact us!



**GET A QUOTE FOR  
OUR VARIOUS  
PRODUCTS**

**BOXES  
SUPPLIES  
RIBBONS**

**CORRUGATED  
LABELS  
PLASTICS**

**WE ARE AT YOUR SERVICE!**



# What is the printer ribbon? Know everything you need to know



We all know what a printer is, many people even have one in their homes or workplaces. However, in spite of being a nearby device, its operation is often completely unknown. One of the most important components is the printer ribbon, also known as ribbon or thermal transfer ribbon.

Read on to learn everything you need to know about the ribbon and where to get it. Throughout this article we will detail its characteristics, the different existing types, and its usefulness. So, if you want to learn about how your printer works and where to get its spare parts, keep reading!



# What is the function of the printer ribbon?



Printers are usually connected to computers or cell phones through cables or the Internet. Thus, the printer is able to transfer to paper all kinds of content, whether photographs, documents or information selected by the user. In order to convert a digital file into a physical one, ink is required. This is when the printer ribbon comes into play.

The thermal transfer ribbon is specially designed to hold ink. That is, it is a roll of dry ink that, through the heat of the printer, impregnates the information on the paper. It does not matter the shape of the printer head, but that it works correctly and emits heat. In this way, the ink is released from the roll and adheres to the paper.

Therefore, the ribbon is one of the most essential components in the printer, since it is responsible for the correct storage, selection, and printing of the files.

## WHAT TYPES OF THERMAL TRANSFER RIBBON EXIST?

Now that we know exactly what the printer ribbons are for and what their function is, we must determine the diverse types. Each of them has a particular durability and use.

Therefore, you should read carefully to find out which one corresponds to your needs.

### ● WAX RIBBON:

It is one of the most common types, as they are short-lasting and, therefore, more economical than others. That is, it is used to print labels whose life does not necessarily have to be long and whose information does not need to last long. Another feature is that printing is quick and easy and can be used on coated or uncoated paper.

A disadvantage is that this type of ribbon is not recommended for working with high temperatures.

### ● WAX/RESIN RIBBON.

As its name suggests, it is composed of a mixture of wax and resin, which makes it very durable. Scratches and stains are uncommon in this type of ribbon, and it is highly resistant to all types of temperatures.



Therefore, this type of printer ribbon is recommended for those labels whose information is important to maintain. It is useful for medical applications, sporting goods, and frozen goods.

### ● RESIN RIBBON.

It is designed to resist scratches and elevated temperatures. They do not suffer modifications if the printed labels are exposed to outdoor climates, UV rays or extremely low temperatures. They are used in materials such as vinyl, polyester, polypropylene and mylar.

They are recommended for use in the automotive, medical, outdoor products and jewelry industries.



● **TEXTILE RESIN RIBBON.**

Its name indicates it. This type of ribbon is used in the textile industry: for example, in those labels with washing and drying instructions. This destination is due to its resistance to water and to the fact that its information is correctly adhered to the surface. In this way, it is easy to read no matter how many washings it has undergone.

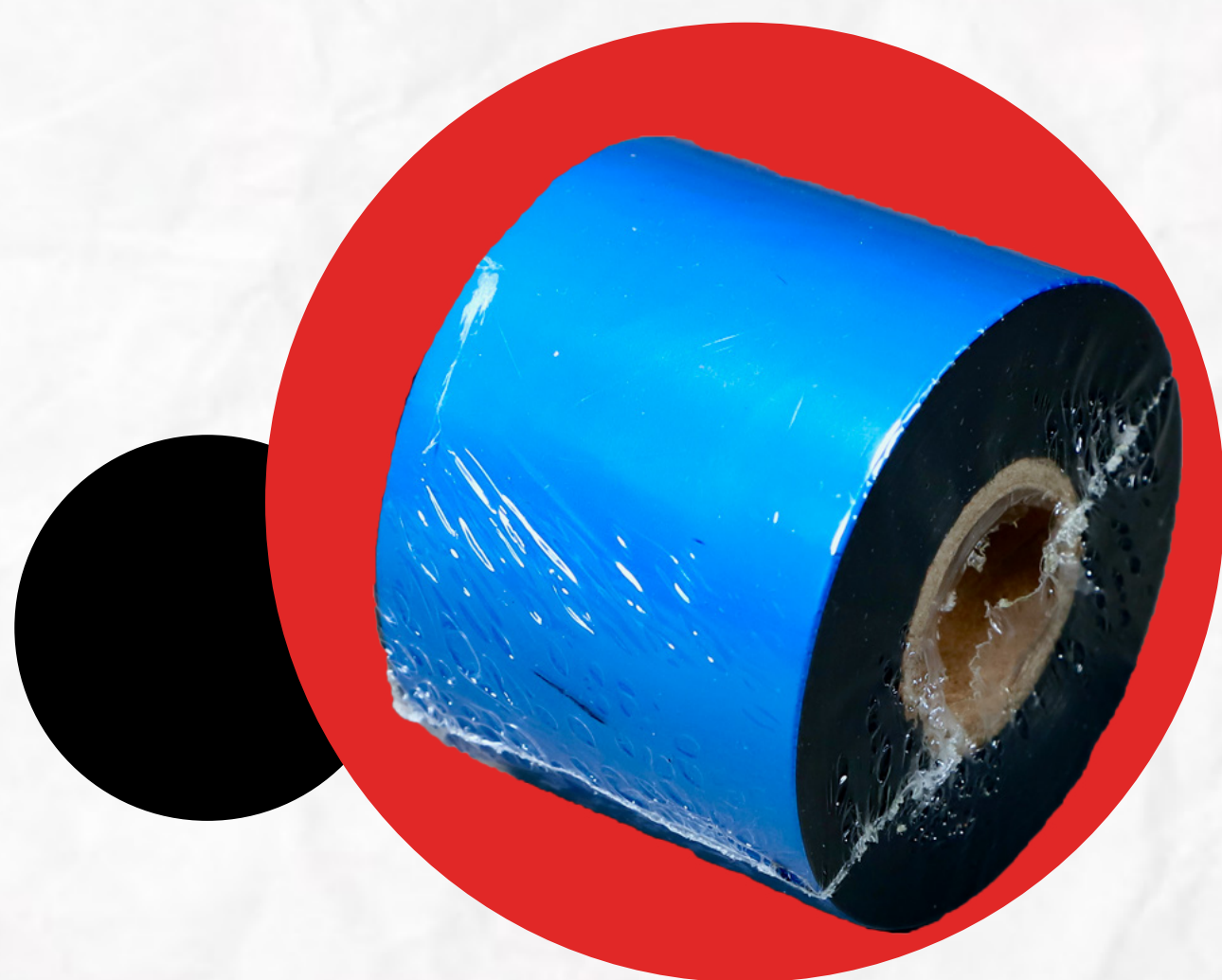
● **NEAR EDGE RIBBON.**

This printer ribbon was designed to achieve greater durability and clarity in the images. That is why it is used in the printing of product expiration dates and manufacturing dates. This ribbon should be used in printers with floating printhead and whose processes are fast and with volume.

● **HOT STAMPING RIBBON.**

This last type can be used for printing on any surface. In addition, it can be used in high temperature printers as well as in those with low degrees in the printing process.

They are mostly metallized, which provides contrast with the product so that the label is noticeable.



**NOW THAT YOU KNOW THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DIFFERENT RIBBONS, WE RECOMMEND THAT YOU REREAD THEM SO THAT YOU KNOW WHICH ONE IS IDEAL FOR YOU. KEEP IN MIND THAT THE PRINTER RIBBON WILL ALSO DEPEND ON THE TYPE OF MACHINE YOU HAVE AND ITS CHARACTERISTICS.**

**AT PCM WE ARE MORE THAN YOU CAN IMAGINE!**



**TO OUR CUSTOMERS**



*and Distributors:*



**WE INVITE YOU PARTICIPATE  
IN THE FOLLOWING  
ACTIVITIES:**

- Expert interviews.
- Success stories.
- Blog articles.
- Social media.
- Webinars and/or Seminars.
- Newsletters.



**For more information, please contact  
PCM COMMUNICATION, or contact  
your account executive.**

**PCM IS WITH YOU**