

# USING PLASTIC BOXES AS PACKAGING

Plastic boxes offer a stable and often reusable option as outer packaging. However, DHL's parcel sorting systems are primarily designed for packaging made of paper or cardboard. DHL utilizes this type of system because most packaging used by its parcel customers is made from these packaging materials. As a result, it may be challenging to ship with plastic boxes.

## CHALLENGE

Most plastic boxes are made of polypropylene.

These containers slide much faster on certain sections of DHL's parcel sorting systems than packaging made from cardboard or paper. That poses a danger to employees, the contents of other shipments and telescopic conveyor belts. Such items are deemed **unsuitable for automatic processing** and justify a **bulky goods surcharge**.

## SOLUTION

**Classification as bulky good can be avoided by doing the following:**

- Use containers that have a **slip-resistant additive** mixed with the container plastic.

**Important:** When procuring these types of containers, please make sure that they can be used for shipping with DHL Paket. Otherwise DHL will not transport them even if the plastic contains a slip-resistant additive.

We recommend using the second-generation Postbox with the red latches, which we helped develop. They offer specific technical advantages in the DHL production network.