

Dry Bulk Packaging...

The design and manufacture of Big Bags marks the beginnings of Structure-flex's success. The Original Big Bag, designed for multi-trip transportation, was the company's first product, and remains one of the most successful, having evolved to fulfil many different functions. An international bulk bag industry, centred around a range of products known collectively as Flexible Intermediate Bulk Containers [FIBCs] has grown out of Structure-flex's original product.

As the name suggests, FIBCs are used to handle dry products in bulk at varying stages of the manufacturing and production cycle, right through to the point of user packaging. Today, the majority of FIBCs for dry bulk are manufactured from highly technical and complex textile mixes which ensure total compliance with a range of performance, quality, hygiene and health and safety standards. Structure-flex took the strategic decision to form partnerships with specialised FIBC manufacturers, which now include accomplished manufacturers in the UK, Eastern Europe and the Far East. This supply chain network means that Structure-flex can supply a quality product for a comprehensive range of applications and packaging budgets, to a lead time which delivers when required.

FIBCs are available with capacities ranging from 250kg to 2.5 tonnes. However, Structure-flex has the capability of manufacturing specialist bags capable of handling even larger loads. They are used extensively in a variety of sectors including agriculture, healthcare, chemical, construction, food processing and manufacturing; the Structure-flex Dry Bulk Packaging team has over 15 years of experience and can match FIBC products to the very different application specifications demanded by each of these industry sectors.

Dry bulk packaging also involves the use of container units, which are transported internationally by road, sea and air, as 'mobile' FIBCs. Structure-flex has pioneered the development of bulk container liners for this important method of transportation between manufacture, storage and final processing.

In light of environmental consideration and cost-efficiency, Structure-flex offers a reconditioning [with the exception of bags used for hazardous goods] and recycling service. Big Bags with a safety factor of 6.1 or higher may be used up to five times; those unsuitable for reconditioning are shredded, washed, dried and melted into polypropylene granules for the manufacture of garden furniture etc.



FIBCs

FIBC is the generic term for many of Structure-flex's bulk handling products, including both single trip disposable FIBCs as well as heavy duty durable multi-trip thermoplastic bulk bags, PE shaped liners and dry bulk container liners.

Oil Industry Big Bags

The oil industry requires a robust and environmentally friendly system for transportation of both chemicals and drill cuttings. Variants of the Big Bag are used for the two processes.

Original Big Bag

The Original Big Bag, the ultimate reusable, multi-trip bulk bag for use in demanding applications and environments, is manufactured from reinforced thermoplastic-coated material.

Bulk Container Liners

Suitable for grains, malt, PP and PE granules and resin, sugar, flour, rice, salt and coffee. A variety of foodstuffs and chemicals can be easily and safely transported in a highly cost effective manner.

Reconditioning and Recycling

Extend the life of an FIBC as much as five-fold with Structure-flex's reconditioning service, and play an active part in environmental conservation process by recycling them at the end of their lives.

areas of expertise...

structure-flex[®]

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Flexible Intermediate Bulk Container [FIBC] is a generic term for a range of packaging solutions which Structure-flex supplies to the food, chemical, mineral and pharmaceutical industries. FIBCs are available in capacities ranging from 250 kg to 2.5 tonnes, and are used to handle products at varying stages of the manufacturing and production cycle, through to the point of user packaging.

The majority of FIBCs for dry bulk packaging are manufactured from highly technical and complex textile mixes, which ensure total compliance with a range of performance, quality, hygiene and health standards.

Each design is specific to an industry. In order to safeguard supply, Structure-flex manufactures in-house as well as sourcing its products from a number of international companies. This diversity means that it can offer customers a quick turn-around and either long or short run quantities.

Products comprise a wide range of FIBCs, including:

- **System Big Bag** – Structure-flex has supplied high quality, food grade FIBCs for over 30 years from its modern production facilities.
- **Super Hygiene™ FIBCs** – Manufactured from UV stabilised woven polypropylene fabrics with a high quality liner to maintain product integrity. Super Hygiene FIBCs are used by many leading food and pharmaceutical manufacturers.
- **Reconditioned Bags** – A 6:1 FIBC which can be reused up to 5 times, ensuring that customers achieve maximum value from their initial outlay. This environmentally friendly product means that responsible manufacturers can achieve a reduction in packaging waste.
- **Static Reducing FIBCs** – Designed and developed using materials containing special interwoven yarns to combat electrostatic hazards associated with the handling of potentially volatile powders and granules. If not properly controlled, the build-up can lead to spark discharges from the surface of the FIBC, constituting a risk of fire or explosion.

Market & Customers

Structure-flex's FIBCs are widely used in the food, pharmaceutical, mineral and chemical industries. The company offers a tailored service to customers, and has the capacity to supply a comprehensive range of FIBCs to match individual needs.

Broad Product Range

A broad range of products provides many customers with an important single source of supply.

Pricing & Availability

Purchasers benefit from competitive pricing of high quality products, many of which are available ex-stock or on short lead times.

UK Distribution Network

A network of distributors and agents ensures easy product access by end users nationwide.

Customer Support & Advice

On-going training and familiarisation ensures Structure-flex staff can provide relevant product support and application advice.

Quality & Product Development

Structure-flex is an ISO 9001:2000 registered company. Product development is an on-going process within Structure-flex and the company prides itself on its ability to work with its customers to provide products to solve specific application needs.

features & benefits...