Glossary of Packaging Terms

Amber The term used to describe brown tinted glass.

Bakelite A trade name applied to a synthetic resin. It is a hard, black thermo set resin used in making closures. Also called Phenolic.

Continuous Thread A continuous spiral protruding on the outside of the finish or neck of a glass, plastic or metal container intended to mesh with the thread of a screw type closure.

Finish Term used for the opening and surrounding thread area of a container or closure.

Flint The term used to describe clear or transparent glass.

Liner A special material inserted inside the cap to insure the seal and prevent evaporation or leaking.

Overflow Capacity The capacity of a container to the top of the finish or to the point of overflow from the container.

Paneling Sidewall collapse of a container occurring during aging or storage, caused by the development of a reduced pressure inside the container.

Phenolic Generic name for Phenol-formaldehyde thermosetting plastic.

Plastic One of many high-polymeric substances, including natural and synthetic products, but excluding the rubbers. Plastic is capable of flowing, under heat and pressure, and can be formed into many different shapes and forms. In packaging, plastic can be used to make containers, films, foam, closures, etc.

Plastisol A mixture of resins and plasticizers that are solidified and used in different packaging applications such as a vacuum seal liner in metal closures.

Recessed Panel A container design in which the flat area for labeling is indented or recessed.

Resin The original solid state (pellet form) of plastic, before melting and forming into the final product. Typically known as polymers.

Thread The indented spirals on the inside of the cap or the skirt of the cap, which engages and matches the thread of the container for a screw fit.

Translucent A material capable of transmitting some light, but not clear enough to be seen through.

Transparent A material capable of a high degree of light transmission, clear like glass.