

## Clarification questions Market Consultation Specific Boxboard

Date: 11 December 2025

Contracting authority: KB National Library of the Netherlands

These clarification questions and comments relate to the Market consultation Specific Boxboard with reference '2025 / TN 558065', published on 18 November 2025.

### General comments

Due to the fact that the clarification questions are answered later than indicated in the timetable, the deadline for submitting the response to the market consultation will be postponed to 5 January 2026. See the adjusted timetable below.

Activity	Schedule
Publication Market consultation	18 November 2025
Final deadline for submitting clarification questions regarding the Market consultation	1 December 2025
Final deadline for responding to the submitted questions by KB National Library of the Netherlands	11 December 2025
Final deadline for submitting the response to the market consultation	5 January 2026

No.	Questions	Answers
1	Please explain why the given dimensions of the cardboard sheets are required to the millimeter and no tolerances regarding dimensions and grammage are given?	<p>The dimensions of the board are maximized to fit in our elevator and to be able to cut as many boxes per sheet as possible, thus generating the least amount of wastage. Also, we want to work with sheets as large as possible because the more boxes can be cut from one sheet, the more time-efficient the cutting process becomes.</p> <p>The grammage gives the least amount of extra 'thickening' of our collection. Taking into consideration the amount of collection items that are to be boxed we wouldn't be able to store all boxed items without encountering considerable logistical problems. Any lighter would make the boxes less sturdy. See specified tolerances below.</p>
2	Please provide acceptable tolerances regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- dimensions;</li><li>- thickness;</li><li>- weight.</li></ul>	<p><i>Dimensions:</i> Maximum dimensions have been provided in the market consultation document, as mentioned in accordance with the dimensions of our elevator.</p> <p>Concerning the minimum dimensions per sheet: this is hard to say because sheets will be used for producing combinations of box types depending on need and according to planning, but rules and data as formulated below are applicable:</p>

- To minimize wastage, in general we aim to cut as many boxes per sheet as possible. In practice this amounts to a maximum of 4 standard boxes per sheet and any number of custom size boxes depending on need.
- With the 650 micron sheets we produce 4 types of standard boxes: A4, A4+, A4- and A5.
- With the 1000 micron sheets we produce 2 types of standard boxes: A3 and A3+
- A minimum of 5mm between boxes is needed to prevent damage when separating boxes from wastage.
- Regarding custom size boxes, of which we produce large quantities as well: The larger the sheet, the more possibilities for optimizing for efficient use of the material.

The exact dimensions of the needed cardboard for the particular types are:

	Length (mm)	Width (mm)
<b>650 micron</b>		
A5	568,7	425
A4-	708	486
A4	704	492
A4+	815	589
<b>1000 micron</b>		
A3	988	700
A3+	1440*	870

\*The length of the A3+ box determines the need for minimal sheet-length of 1450mm, as stipulated in the market consultation document.

**Thickness:**

As provided in our market consultation document: 650 micron and 1000 micron. No tolerance because of requirements concerning sturdiness and storage space as described above.

**Weight:**

More specifically, for the 650 micron board between 580 and 600 gr/m<sup>2</sup> and for the 1000 micron board between 800 and 835 gr/m<sup>2</sup> will be allowed.

3 Is it acceptable to supply solid cardboard with a uniform colour on both sides? If not, why not? Such cardboards can be 30-40% cheaper.

For us, in this respect quality trumps cost. The difference in color will provide for a more efficient folding process by making the in- and outsides clearly distinguishable. Additionally, the white inside of the box will provide for better dirt detection.

4	Will the offers of all entities participating in the tender be published?	If we understand your question correctly: Adhering to article 2.138 of the Public Procurement Act (Aanbestedingswet), the offers that we receive on the tender will not be published.
---	---	---