

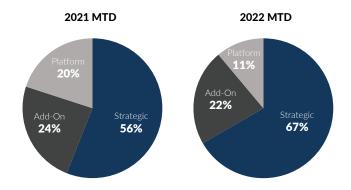
Packaging Industry M&A Activity Tracking

Global Packaging M&A slowed in February 2022 when compared to levels seen in January and at the end of 2021. There was a total of 18 deals recorded in the month which was down from January levels and a decrease of 7 transactions year-over-year. Private equity buyers were not as active in February as they were in January, which contributed to lower overall deal volumes. Acceleration of transaction closings at year-end 2021 is the likely culprit for lower activity to start the year.

| PACKAGING M&A BY SUBSECTOR | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|------|--------|--------------|------|--------|
| | Month-to-Date | | | Year-to-Date | | |
| Subsector | 2021 | 2022 | Change | 2021 | 2022 | Change |
| Rigid Plastic | 6 | 5 | -1 | 10 | 12 | 2 |
| Flexible Plastic | 4 | 7 | 3 | 12 | 11 | -1 |
| Paper | 9 | 5 | -4 | 17 | 18 | 1 |
| Other | 6 | 1 | -5 | 13 | 2 | -11 |
| Total Packaging | 25 | 18 | -7 | 52 | 43 | -9 |
| Strategic | 56% | 67% | 11% | 50% | 53% | 3% |
| Financial Buyer - Add-on | 24% | 22% | -2% | 21% | 40% | 18% |
| Financial Buyer - Platform | 20% | 11% | -9% | 29% | 7% | -22% |

- Private equity buyers accounted for 6 deals in February, or 33% of deal volume, which is much lower than the 14 deals contributed in January
- Strategic buyer transaction volume remained relatively flat in February, increasing by 1 transaction month-over-month and totaling 12 transactions in February
- Flexible Plastic transactions led all Packaging subsectors, accounting for 7 deals on the month which was up from 4 deals in February 2021
- Paper packaging transactions accounted for only 5 deals in February, declining by 8 transactions month-over-month; this is the lowest level of monthly activity in the subsector since 2020
- Food & Beverage and Industrial end markets accounted for 13 deals in February; these two end markets have accounted for 67% of the transaction volume year-to-date

PACKAGING TRANSACTIONS BY BUYER TYPE



TOTAL PACKAGING M&A BY END MARKET

| | Month-to-Date | | Year-to-Date | |
|-----------------|---------------|-------|--------------|-------|
| End Market | 2022 | % | 2022 | % |
| Food & Beverage | 7 | 38.9% | 16 | 37.2% |
| Industrial | 6 | 33.3% | 13 | 30.2% |
| Consumer | 3 | 16.7% | 8 | 18.6% |
| Medical | 1 | 5.6% | 4 | 9.3% |
| Automotive | 1 | 5.6% | 2 | 4.7% |
| Total | 18 | 100% | 43 | 100% |

Overall, Global Packaging M&A transaction activity through the first two months of the year has been lower than what was experienced in 2021. Fundamentals for packaging M&A remain strong despite potential headwinds on the horizon. The slower start to the year is likely due to peak activity in Q4 2021. If you are a packaging company considering a merger, acquisition, sale or recapitalization in the short or longer term, please consider leveraging PMCF's transaction planning and execution expertise to best position your company in a transaction.

Public Entity Performance

Packaging Public companies continued to post negative returns in February. The Paper Packaging Index has performed better than other packaging indexes and is only down 4.7% on the year. Overall, public markets are grappling with various macroeconomic headwinds that have resulted in the S&P 500 dropping 8.2% through February.

| Index | | % Change February MTD | | % Change February YTD |
|---|----------|--------------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| S&P 500 Index | Ψ | -3.1% | Ψ | -8.2% |
| PMCF Packaging Index ⁽¹⁾ | Ψ | -3.5% | Ψ | -5.4% |
| Rigid Plastic Packaging ⁽²⁾ | • | -2.8% | Ψ | -5.1% |
| Flexible Plastic Packaging ⁽³⁾ | • | -3.8% | • | -6.7% |
| Other Packaging ⁽⁴⁾ | • | -5.8% | • | -5.6% |
| Paper Packaging ⁽⁵⁾ | Ψ | -2.0% | Ψ | -4.7% |

(1) ATR, BERY, NPK, SLGN, SON, ESNT, AMC, HUH1V, SEE, TCLA, WPK, PTVE, CAS, SMDS, GPK, GEF, IP, PKG, SK3, WRK, KRT, AVY, BLL, CCLB, CCK, GXI, OI, 5901 (2) ATR, BERY, NPK, SLGN, SON, ESNT (3) AMC, HUH1V, SEE, TCLA, WPK, PTVE (4) AVY, BLL, CCLB, CCK, GXI, OI, 5901 (5) CAS, SMDS, GPK, GEF, IP, PKG, SK3, WRK, KRT

Major News

- Economy Gained Momentum in February Despite Inflation Worries (Wall Street Journal)
- Supplies Recovered For Some Materials to Start 2022 Others Remain Turbulent (Plastics News)
- Fed Seeks Sweet Spot Between Slowing Inflation, Aiding Growth (Plastics News)
- Despite Packed Ports, Cargo Ships Hauled Record Volumes in 2021 (Plastics News)
- U.S. Job Openings, Quits Remained Elevated at End of Last Year (Wall Street Journal)

Notable M&A Activity

| Date | Acquirer | Target | Category |
|----------|---|---|------------------------|
| 02/22/22 | ProAmpac Intermediate, Inc. | Belle-Pak Packaging Inc. | Flexible Packaging |
| 02/14/22 | Apollo Global Management, Inc. (NYSE:APO) | Novolex Holdings, LLC | Flexible Packaging |
| 02/10/22 | Novvia Group | Container Distribution Division of Andicor Specialty Chemicals | Packaging Distribution |
| 02/08/22 | Comar, LLC | Automatic Plastics Limited | Rigid Packaging |
| 02/03/22 | McKinley Paper Group | Midwest Paper Group | Paper Packaging |
| 02/02/22 | HP Inc. (NYSE:HPQ) | Choose Packaging | Paper Packaging |
| 02/02/22 | Sealed Air Group (NYSE:SEE) | foxpak Flexibles Ltd | Flexible Packaging |
| 02/01/22 | ALPEK, S.A.B. de C.V. (BMV:ALPEK A) | OCTAL Holding SAOC | Rigid Packaging |
| 02/01/22 | SIG (SWX:SIGN) | Scholle IPN Corporation | Flexible Packaging |

Sources: Capital IQ, PitchBook, Thomson Reuters, Company Reports, PMCF

Use Our Expertise to Maximize Shareholder Value

Since our inception over 25 years ago, PMCF has offered robust transaction planning and preparation services to help business owners achieve the best possible outcome in a transaction whether it be in the short or long term. Our long track record of successful transactions is directly attributable to our focus on preparation and being proactive throughout the transaction process.

STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT

- PMCF is frequently requested to complete an analysis of a company's strategic positioning within the plastics and packaging marketplace
- Our review may consider your operations, products, end markets, financial trends, growth opportunities, and management team
- We are available to brief your management team, ownership, or board with our thoughts on your current value in today's market
- PMCF can provide a benchmark comparison of your organization's strengths, weaknesses, and anticipated buyer viewpoints

WORKING WITH PMCF

- PMCF is a licensed and FINRA-registered investment banking organization
- Confidentiality is of the highest importance and we welcome the execution of appropriate agreements prior to the exchange of data
- PMCF's senior bankers will respond to any inquiries and will be directly involved in all discussions
- If engaged, the majority of PMCF's costs are contingent on a successful transaction
- We insist on potential clients contacting our long list of references



PMCF's Plastics & Packaging Group

PMCF's Plastics and Packaging investment bankers are dedicated solely to serving the needs of middle-market transactions within the plastics and packaging industries. Our exclusive focus on plastics and packaging sale, merger, and acquisition advisory provides significant advantages to our clients and the opportunity to maximize value in a transaction. PMCF's extensive coverage of these industries has provided us with specialized, in-depth knowledge of the sector dynamics and relationships with key strategic and financial industry players. Our firm has been serving the plastics and packaging industries for over 20 years and has a long track record of successful transactions involving specialty, niche players in these industries.

| Rigid Packaging | Flexible Packaging | Engineered Products | Corrugated & Paper Packaging | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Blow Molding Injection Molding | | Extrusion | Specialty Film | |
| Color & Compounding | Printing & Labeling | Thermoforming | Packaging Machinery | |

Please let us know if you would like to set up a confidential call or meeting to discuss transaction planning and execution. You can reach John Hart, who leads PMCF's Plastics & Packaging Group at: (248) 223-3468 or john.hart@pmcf.com

Recent PMCF Plastics & Packaging Transactions



PACKAGING DISTRIBUTION & BLOW MOLDED PACKAGING



RECYCLING & FLEXIBLE PACKAGING



THERMOFORMED PACKAGING



SPECIALTY EXTRUSION & FLEXIBLE PACKAGING



INJECTION & BLOW MOLDED PACKAGING



SPECIALTY PAPER & LUXURY PACKAGING



THERMOFORMED PACKAGING, FOLDING CARTONS



CORRUGATED PACKAGING



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