A Beginner's Guide on How Paper Tubes & Cores are Manufactured
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Established in 1902, Yazoo Mills is one of America’s largest family-owned manufacturers of 100% recycled paper tubes and cores for over 117 years. Serving a variety of industries in the United States, Yazoo has a reputation for excellence in short runs and recutting, with manufacturing only premium quality paper tubes and cores, made to each customer’s specifications. On average, the company produces over 4 million inches of tubing per day.

Yazoo operates two, state-of-the-art facilities totaling 240,000 square feet. Our Distribution Center was built in 2012 in Hanover, PA to facilitate our continued growth rate. We have the largest, most automated core-cutting department in the United States for paper cores.

We have over 2 million paper tubes and cores in stock at all times and ready for same-day shipment. Yazoo offers over 350 tooling options, custom capabilities such as in-line printing, embossing, notching, printed covers & liners and much more. Companies that require quality, consistency and ongoing reliability contact Yazoo Mills for all of their needs.
Overview

Consumers in today’s paper tube and core markets are faced with a multitude of choices when it comes to choosing the right product for their respective applications. If you’re new to an industry, you really have to put some time and thought into what you need, how your product will function with materials needed and the outcome you’re truly looking for. Ordering paper tubes and cores might seem pretty self-explanatory, however, it may help to understand how paper tubes and cores are manufactured in order to know what will best suit their needs.

Understanding the process of how paper tubes and cores are manufactured is critical and beneficial to consumers. With having knowledge on how the manufacturing process works and understanding what your product needs are, this will help save time, money, and allows you to stay ahead of your competition with high-quality products and top-notch service.

Paper tubes and cores are all around us – toilet paper rolls, tape and label cores, mailing and shipping tubes, carpet rolls, fireworks tubes, etc. If it’s brown and round, it’s a tube or a core. But, do you know all you need to know in order to select the right product and how it will be beneficial to a customer’s end-product? Choosing the most effective products will offer benefits beyond industry standards. High-quality paper tubes and cores are well worth the time and investment.

Chapter 1

Determining Your Needs

The first step is to determine your need – will you need a tube or a core? Yes, there is a difference in the two. A paper tube is something you use to put product inside of… think protection. A paper core is something you use to wind material onto… think tape, labels, fabric, etc. Once that determination is made, you’ll want to talk specifications. Many industries have the most strict requirements so it’s very imperative to do your research.

Paper tubes and cores are manufactured to fit a customer’s specifications to ensure optimum strength and consistency for the best ROI. Specifications include I.D. (inside diameter), wall thickness, length, quantity, tolerances, how to package it, etc. Additionally, custom capabilities such as in-line printing/branding, covers & liners, notching, embossing, etc. are important to mention as they can be crucial to product development. Once all of this is determined, your order is ready to be submitted and off to the Order Prep Department. Order Prep is where the proper paperwork is prepared to be sent out to the plant. This department checks rates, how an order will ship, prints packaging labels, and prints customer specification sheets to attach to the order.
Chapter 2

Manufacturing the Product

The production process beings in the Winding Department. The production team works hard to meet the customer’s special required ship date, creating a very fast turnaround time. Once an order is received, supervisors and machine operators begin the setup process. Machine operators start prepping the machines by following the customer specific specs for the mandrel size and plies of 100% recycled paperboard to form the tube or core. They will also add any customization options that were requested at this time.

Machine operators run numerous tests for quality control to ensure that they have the machine set up properly before they start manufacturing the actual order. Every single order is inspected for quality assurance. If a job requires a shorter length, it will be scheduled with the Recut Department and on one of the 28 recutters, based on I.D., wall thickness, quantity, and length. Paper cores are inspected for quality at startup and throughout the run to ensure that the product continues to meet the customer’s specifications.

Chapter 3

Sawcut vs. Blade Cut

Every customer has a different use for tubes and cores, therefore, requiring a different type of cut. In the industry, there are two cut options for customers to choose from.

A sawcut core is one that is cut with a saw to the specified length as it is being manufactured and coming off the winder. A sawcut core length can vary up to 1/16” due to the saw variance. This type of cut is typically for single use.

Blade cut cores are cut in a secondary operation where multiple blades slice through a master stick to create multiple cores at one time to a specified length. Blade cut cores provide smooth, burr-free ends that are more precise and more consistent in length.
Chapter 4

Packaging & Shipping

Packaging is an important factor in our operation. Each customer/company handles products differently. The majority of blade cut cores are packaged in cartons. Some blade cut cores are stand on end on a pallet, which is determined by I.D., wall thickness, length and quantity. Sawcut cores have various packaging options (dependent on size, length, etc.) such as snake-laced or double snake-laced on pallets, stand on end on pallets, packaged in bundles or loaded loose based on standard packaging and core size. Pallets can be single or double-stacked.

Once an order is completed and packaged per the customer’s requirements, it then moves on to Shipping. Our experienced Shipping Department is dedicated to getting our customer’s the best rates possible along with unparalleled service to meet customer’s delivery times.

Chapter 5

Customer Reviews

"I just wanted to let you know how much we appreciate your fast turn-around and quality of cores we are getting from you. Our previous supplier's lead time would be weeks out. You not only provide high-quality cores that we can customize, but you do it so fast!" ~ Stuart K.

"Since switching to Yazoo, our team has been quite happy with your products. We have significantly reduced our core scrap since we have moved over from our previous vendor. Thank you for the tremendous customer service, too!" ~ Justin M.

"We placed our order on a Monday and received the paper tubes within TWO DAYS! Wow, talk about a fast transaction! Also, I was totally impressed with the thank you video you sent after I placed my order. Now, I know I made the right choice! ~ Ruben G.

"I wanted to thank you and your colleagues on your outstanding customer service! From the confirmation of order placement to the shipping and delivery, the communication has not skipped a beat! And, I am VERY happy with the quality of product. I am an artist and have been very reluctant to ship my artwork in a tube -- not anymore since I found Yazoo!" ~ Howard E.
As you have read, understanding how paper tubes and cores are manufactured is very crucial to companies and their end-product use. Every industry will have its own specifications and it ultimately pays to know your options when choosing high-quality paper tubes and cores that offer a variety of value-added features. Selecting a paper tube or core with the right qualities will not only offer exceptional performance but is also a worthwhile investment for future operations.

To learn more about our manufacturing process, our friendly and knowledgeable customer service representatives are available to assist you Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8am and 5pm EST. Give us a call today to receive a quote or to place an order - 800.242.5216