

Optimal Solutions Consulting

<u>Team Member Name</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Major</u>
Member 1: Jake Lynch	2025	Business Administration
Member 2: Ben Welch	2025	Business Administration
Member 3: Ben Lagoner	2025	Business Administration
Member 4: Grayson Jackson	2026	Business Administration
Member 5: Owen Walsh	2025	Business Administration

Advisor(s): Dr. Edwin Portugal

Topic Title: Ethics of Hemp as an Alternative to Plastic

Audience: The Corporate Social Responsibility Committee Members of Greiner Packaging Company

Sustainable Development Goal

SDG #9: Industry Innovation and Infrastructure: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.

SDG #12: Responsible Consumption and Production: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.

Executive Summary

Offering hemp packaging as an alternative to plastics is the right ethical choice. Optimal Solutions Consulting is tasked by The Corporate Social Responsibility Committee of Greiner Packaging Company to research an ethical problem related to the use of plastic in food packaging. The main issue is about the consumption of chemicals in plastic packing. The legal problems that come with plastic packaging is chemical leaching causing personal harm to people who buy food products with plastic packaging. In addition, people who buy food products with plastic have harmful impacts on the environment from widespread pollution of non-biodegradable waste. The business problems stem from the backlash from customers who are choosing to buy products from another company that use less plastics in the packaging, thus resulting in reduced sales for the company.

Optimal Solutions Consulting's recommended solution to The CSR Committee of Greiner Packaging Company is to replace the plastic materials used in packaging with hemp. Using sustainable development as a way to leverage change, hemp will reduce waste and dependence on fossil fuels. This solution will give future generations a chance to meet their needs along with giving the present generation an eco-friendly alternative to meet their needs. The use of hemp in packaging would be initially more expensive but in the long run the benefits from reduced environmental fees, added government incentives, and growing demand would lower the cost.