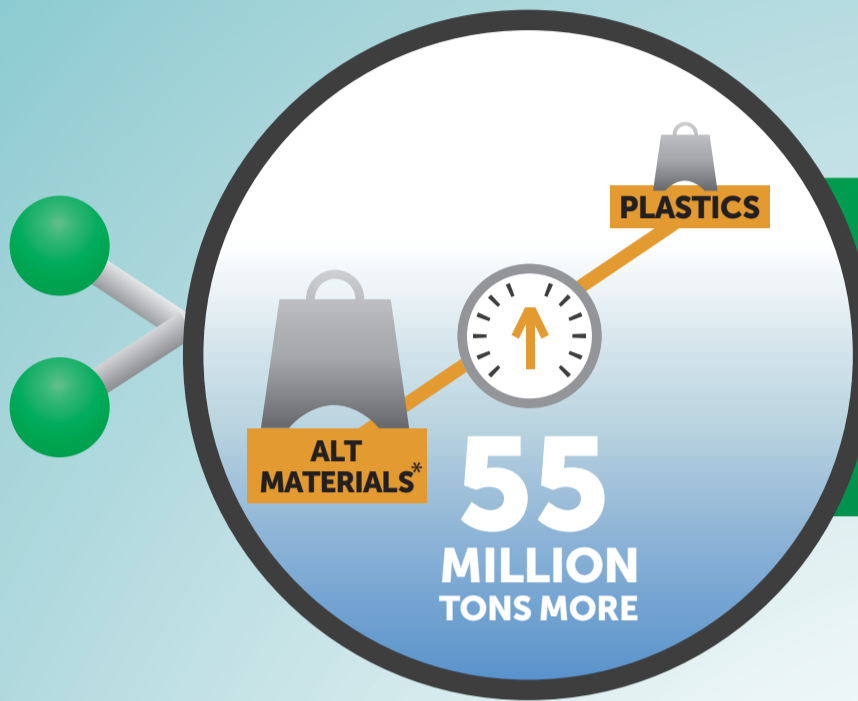


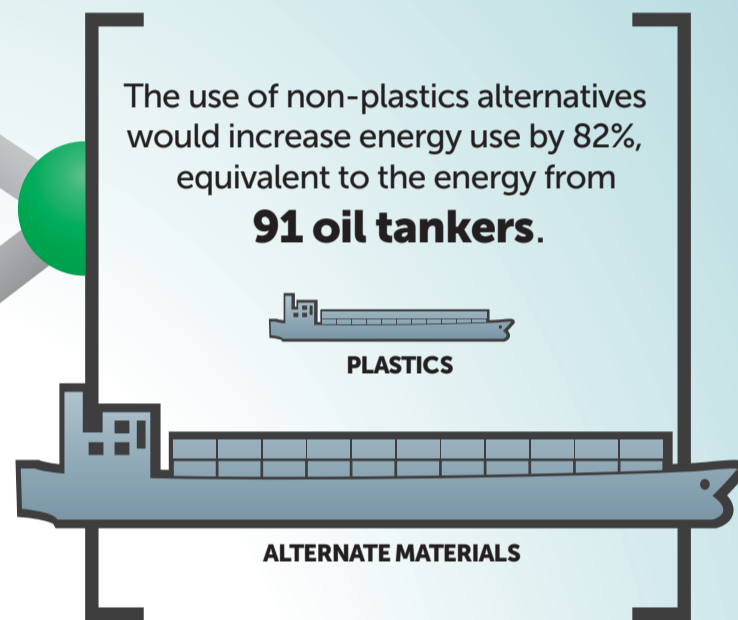
# HOW PLASTICS CAN HELP

## enhance a package's environmental performance

Many types of plastic packaging help to reduce packaging weight, energy use and greenhouse gas emissions.



Substituting a variety of plastics packaging\*\* with non-plastics alternatives would increase the amount of packaging generated annually in the U.S. by 55 million tons. This means that plastics help to significantly reduce packaging weight, which results in more product shipped with less packaging, fewer trucks on the road, less energy used, less greenhouse gas emissions and less material to recover or recycle.



Plastic packaging's environmental performance continues to improve with increased recycling and recovery. Over 5 billion pounds of plastics were recycled in the United States in 2012. And beyond recycling, innovative technologies are being developed to recover non-recycled plastics by converting them into energy, engineered fuels, and ingredients for new products†.



For more information, visit [PlasticPackagingFacts.org](http://PlasticPackagingFacts.org)

Study: "Impact of Plastics Packaging on Life Cycle Energy Consumption & Greenhouse Gas Emissions in the United States and Canada," Franklin Associates, 2014. This study measures energy use and GHG emissions and is not an ISO 14044 life cycle assessment.

†For recycling statistics see: <http://plastics.americanchemistry.com/education-resources/publications>.

\*Alternative materials include glass, paper/cardboard packaging products, steel, and aluminum.

\*\*The study assessed the energy requirements and greenhouse gas emissions of six general categories of plastic packaging produced and sold in the United States and Canada. These include caps and closures, beverage containers, other rigid containers, carrier bags, stretch/shrink wrap, and other flexible packaging.