



European Deposit Systems as a Cost-efficient Tool for High Quality Recycling of Beverage Containers

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# High Collection Rates and Food Grade Quality



## Deposit systems for beverage containers comply with **high collection targets** as well as high **quality recyclate.**

In some countries, thanks to deposit systems, **loop of PET is already closed**.



The collection rates of the beverage packaging subject to the deposit system are over 85%. This is why many countries have already implemented the deposit system. Also, the Single Use Plastic Directive recommends deposit schemes to tackle the challenge of the plastic pollution.







The operators of the deposit systems allow the packaging specifications that ensure most optimal recycling for the purposes of closed loop recycling. The containers in deposit systems are ecodesigned for food grade quality which ensures high sales prices securing lower producers' fees. Applying of eco-modulation motivates producers to use packaging material which maximizes recycling yields.

In Sweden and Norway, the PET loop is closed on the country level!



#### **Recycle Content and Reduced Carbon Footprint** 11% 120 100 40% 80 **EU requirements:** Beverage bottles must be made from 25% recycled rPET by 2025, 60 and 30% in 2030 recycled plastic - all kinds. 80% Bevcons from plastic should be separately collected: 40 77% by 2025 90% by 2029 20 100% 0 Collection rate Collection rate Collection rate Collection rate Collection rate Collection rate 87%, 87%, 87%, 87%, 95%, 95%, 100%, 100%, rPET 11% **rPET 20% rPET 40% rPET 60%** rPET 60% rPET 80% **rPET 90% rPET 100%**

7,7

1,8

0,9

0,7

93,2

81,7

7,7

1,8

0,9

2,0

46,6

59,1

2,2

2,0

1,0

2,0

46,6

53,9

2,2

2,0

1,0

2,7

23,3

31,3

Values in rectangles represent the % of the recycling content. Draft is elaborated based on the LCA of beverage container production, collection and treatment systems; Østfoldforskning

7,7

1,8

0,9

0,4

102,9

113,8

7,7

1,8

0,9

0,7

93,2

104,4

Incineration (incl. Transport)

**Reverse vending machine** 

rPET in preform

vPET in preform

Total

Transport from consumers to recycling

0,0

2,1

1.1

3,1

11,7

17,9

0,0

2,1

1,1

3,4

0,0

6,6



### **O** Deposit Systems in Europe – Current Development







Centralized clearing	Island	Croatia	Sweden	Norway	Finland	Lithuania	Estonia	Denmark	Netherlands	Germany	Decentralized
System management by producers	Island	Netherlands	Sweden	Norway	Finland	Lithuania	Estonia	Denmark <sup>1</sup>	Croatia		State operator
Return to retail	Germany	Croatia	Sweden	Norway	Finland	Lithuania	Estonia	Denmark	Netherlands	Island	Redemption center
Bar code <sup>2</sup>	Island	Germany	Sweden	Norway	Finland	Lithuania	Estonia	Denmark	Netherlands <sup>3</sup>	Croatia	Tonnage
Obligatory by law	Island	Germany	Sweden	Croatia	Netherlands	Lithuania	Estonia	Denmark	Finland	Norway	Fee <sup>4</sup>

1 upon public procurement

2 reporting on put to market and information on collected packages are based on EAN code identification

3 in border areas

4 fee for uncollected packaging (Norway) or fee applied if the producer has not joined the deposit system (Finland)



## **O** Upcoming Deposit Systems in Europe



Centralized clearing	Slovakia	Latvia	Malta	Scotland
System management by producers	Slovakia	Latvia	Malta	Scotland
Return to retail	Slovakia	Latvia	Malta	Scotland
Bar code	Slovakia	Latvia	Malta	Scotland
Obligatory by law	Slovakia	Latvia	Malta	Scotland



#### **Return to retail**

Return to retail model is a **standard in Europe** and this model secures highest convenience for the citizens and lowest possible carbon footprint from the collection of the containers.

The choice of the shops subject to the obligation is determined by the retail structure in an individual country.











Source of information on carbon footprint of the deposit systems:

Norway: LCA of beverage container production, collection and treatment systems, Østfoldforskning; Czech Republic: Life cycle assessment study on the treatment of plastic and aluminum packaging for beverages, Faculty of Environmental Technology, UCT Prague

FAKULTA TECHNOLOGIE OCHRANY PROSTŘEDÍ VŠCHT PRAHA

### Srovnání nezálohového a zálohového systému



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Country	Plastic	Metal	Glass
Croatia	•	•	•
Denmark	•	•	•
Estonia	•	•	•
Finland	•	•	•
Germany	•	•	•
Island	•	•	•
Lithuania	•	•	•
Netherlands	•	From 2022	
Norway	•	•	
Sweden	•	•	



## Products' Scope



	Croatia	Denmark	Estonia	Finland	Germany	Island	Lithuania	Netherlands	Norway	Sweden
water (still, sparkling)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
soft drinks	•	٠	٠	•	•	•	٠	٠	٠	٠
juices and nectars	•		•	•		•	•		•	
beer	•	•	•	٠	•	•	•		•	•
cider	•	•	•	٠	•	•	•		•	•
alcohol beverages	•	<10%	<6%	•	•	•	٠		•	٠
wines	•			•		•	in PET		•	in PET
liqueurs	•			•		•			•	
spirits					A	Innocent				in PET
milk	<0,21						TATION CONTRACTOR			

Interestingly, in Sweden, although juices are not subject to the obligatory DRS,

more and more producers decide to include juice products into the scheme on volutarily basis. Multilayer package is exchanged by a PET bottle as the DRS has become a synonym of reliable recycling.

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Recyclin9

nm@mm



DRS operator's incomes include:

Sales of recyclables (recyclables are the ownership of the system operator) ۲

https://www.reloopplatform.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Fact-Sheet-Handling-Fees-6April2020.pdf

- Unredeemed deposit •
- Put to market fees ۲

### Updated handling fees can be found here:

Handling fees (for the collection service performed by the retailers) 

The operational cost of the deposit system is covered by the system operator and

- Transport and logistics
- Administration and marketing







includes:



RVMs are placed in the retail locations through:

- Purchase by the individual retailers/retail chains 1.
- Procurement of the collection service per retail chain 2.
- Procurement of the collection service by the system operator (see Lithuania) 3.

Option 2 and 3 implies capex of the technology provider compensated through the handling fees



RVMs are normally not subject to the investment of the system operator. The

system operator covers the investment cost later on via the handling fee -

compensation for the collected bevcons (per unit basis/ differentiated:

- The establishment of the deposit operator entity,
- The counting/logistics centres,

automated/manual)

PR campaigns proceeding the start-up of the deposit system







## CAPEX

### **O** DRS Costs in Comparison with Other Collection Schemes



### Deposit systems for beverage containers comply with high collection targets and reduce littering.

Country	PRO	NOK/kg	<b>Collection rate</b>	
Norway - DRS	INFINITUM	2,8	<b>89.4%</b> (2019)	
Austria – non DRS	Ara	6,95	Plastic 33.6%/ PET70% (2019)	
Belgium – non DRS	Fost Plus	2,46 PET 3,58 HDPE 7,11 Other plastic	<b>46%</b> (2019)	
Sweden (plastic packaging outside DRS)	FTI	3,26-4,91	<b>40%</b> (2019)	
Netherlands – non DRS	Avfalfonds Verpakkingen	3,60-6,00	<b>52%</b> (2018)	
Spain – non DRS	EcoEmbes	4,33 PET 3,77 HDPE 7,39 other	<b>37%</b> (2017)	
Italy – non DRS	Conai	2,08-3,69	Plastic 45.5%/PET55% (2018)	

The DRS cost in Norway is **2,8 NOK per 1 kg PET** (2020) (collection rate 89,4% for 2019)



A template for put to market reporting, Norway (source: Infinitum)







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