



RIGK REPORTER

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CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN DANGER!

Sehr Madam and Sir,

The plastics tax, which will plug EU budget holes but will certainly not boost the circular economy, was adopted by the European Council and will come into effect from 1 January 2021. Arrangements at national level are still unclear. Design for recycling is good and praiseworthy, but if the EU does not enforce a uniform landfill ban before 2035, waste tourism within the EU will continue despite calls for recycling. A commitment to circular economy should look very different.

Solutions driven by a single parameter usually do not work. Another example of this is plastic recycling, which is an elementary part of practised circular economy. If only the price of new goods determines whether recycling works, then we have done something wrong when setting up the system.

Sustainable action means bringing things together so that they can interact and thus achieve the goal. Policymakers must act in accordance with a general concept to ensure that closed loop recycling really works. Paying lip service and unilateral fiscal measures do not help.

I wish you exciting reading!

Kind regards,

Markus Dambeck
General Manager, RIGK GmbH



Boosting the threatened recycling market

The low price for crude oil and the COVID-19 pandemic have badly affected the European plastic recycling industry. Falling oil prices have led to a sharp fall in the cost of virgin plastics, so that the price difference between primary plastics and recyclates – i.e. recycled material – continues to decrease.

Plastic recycling is expensive, and services such as collection, cleaning and sorting have to be paid for. On the other hand, there is a reduction in CO₂. As in many areas of global life, the short-term view of price must not be the sole decision-making factor. All of us today, and future generations, pay the cost of environmental pollution through the carbon footprint that is left behind. Therefore, a holistic approach is needed. Only decoupling from the new goods price, taking account of CO₂ and energy savings that result from plastic recycling can lead to sustainable and growing circular economy.



Achieving maximum recycling capability – DESIGN FOR RECYCLING

Make plastics packaging sustainable with plastship and RecyClass. As the official certification body of the RecyClass initiative plastship offers a Europe-wide certification of recyclability

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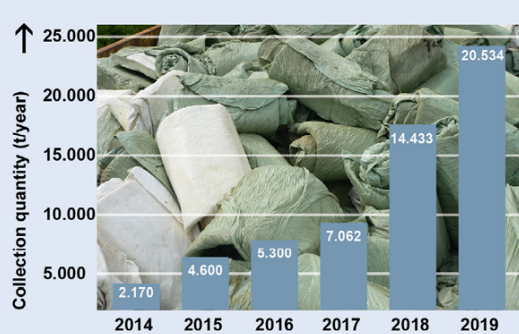


Digitised recovery

JUST IN TIME DURING CORONAVIRUS

Digitised recovery and disposal of packaging with PAMIRA® – just in time and contactless during the coronavirus pandemic

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From the field to recycling

40% INCREASE IN FILM RECYCLING

The ERDE Recycling Initiative was able to intensify its cooperation with farmers, collection points and film manufacturers in 2019 and for the first time succeeded in recycling more than 20,500 tonnes of used agricultural film for mechanical recycling – over 40% more than in the previous record year 2018.

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RIGK internal ADDITIONAL MANAGEMENT BOARD MEMBER

Jan Bauer was appointed to the RIGK Management Board with effect from 1 September

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New legal requirements AMANDMENT TO THE EU PACKAGING DIRECTIVE

The European Commission is planning a further amendment to the EU Packaging Directive.

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PRE 2020



DISPOSAL OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS 2020

Nationwide collection 2020 takes place at 8 locations

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RIGK GmbH
General Manager:
Markus Dambeck, Jan Bauer

Chief Editor:
Markus Dambeck, Jan Bauer
Editor: Claudia Hoesle

Postal address:
RIGK GmbH, Friedrichstr. 6
65185 Wiesbaden (Germany),
E-Mail: info@rigk.de
Phone: +49 611 308600-0,
Fax: +49 611 308600-30

Registration court:
Amtsgericht Wiesbaden
HRB 9224

Tax ID number: DE 155601391
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The RIGK Newsletter informs you regularly online (around 3 to 4 x a year) about anything worth knowing about RIGK as well as the news from the plastics and recycling sector.