

## WEEE - Batteries - Packaging - News - February 2022.

Dear readers,

the following topics have been prepared for you this month:

**ElektroG3 and BehandlungsVO:** in force since 1st January 2022

**From the countries:** 2x Germany, South Africa, France, UK, Italy

**In own matter:** the significant obligations as of ElektroG3

### **ElektroG3 and BehandlungsVO: in force since 1st January 2022**

On 1st January 2022, the novel of the German WEEE law (ElektroG3) as well as the Ordinance on Requirements for the Treatment of Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (BehandlungsVO) came into force.

Aim of the novel and the ordinance is to expand the network of take back stations in order to increase the collection rate of old electrical devices and to improve the quality of their recycling.

#### **The significant changes in summary:**

- Primary treatment facilities are allowed from 1st January 2022 onwards to act as acceptance point of WEEE. Operators of certified primary treatment facilities are authorized to even accept old electrical devices from private households. As of January 2022, the previously required commissioning by third parties will no longer be mandatory.

- Extended take back obligations are getting valid for grocery stores as well from 1st July 2022 onwards. Distributors of electric and electronic devices with a retail space of 400qm minimum are now obliged to take back WEEE. The same goes for grocery stores (offering electric and electronic devices several times a year) with a retail space of 800qm minimum.

- The formation of collection groups and containers of the public waste authorities have changed. This is intended to minimize breakage of old WEEE, the release of pollutants and the risk of fire.

- Extended liability and inspection obligation operators of online marketplaces. Not registered at the Stiftung ear WEEE devices shall not be offered for sale online from 1st January 2022 onwards. The producer's registration must be checked and monitored by the operators. This also increases the responsibility of the fulfilment service providers and operators of online markets.

The new Ordinance on Requirements for the Treatment of Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (**Behandlungsverordnung** BehandlungsVO) is basically nothing more than the transformation of the previous appendix 4 into an ordinance and adapting the requirements for the removal of pollutants to the current state of art.

The **Behandlungsverordnung** prescribes disposal companies more clearly Entsorgungsunternehmen künftig deutlicher als bisher vor, wick components containing pollutants are to be removed at which point in the treatment process.

The **Behandlungsverordnung** stipulates that certain components and hazardous substances must be removed manually before mechanical treatment (i.e. by shredding) can be done.

**Source:** RENE AG – January 2022

## **From the countries:**

### **Germany:                    VerpackungsV – LUCID portal**

This hint is for all clients with the request to consider this in the future:

As soon as a reporting of sales packaging has been done to RENE AG, the exact same amount has to be reported to the LUCID portal as well!

These reports shall be done synchronically to the take back scheme (RENE AG) and to the packaging register (zentrale Stelle Verpackungsregister = LUCID portal, done by the registered producer).

**Source:** RENE AG – reporting management - January 2022

### **Germany:                    Information obligations of producers as of § 18 ElektroG (4)**

The German Environment Agency (BMU) has announced, that the information as of §18 (4) ElektroG are not product related, but meant to be valid in common and therefore also references to the obligation to remove batteries, accumulators and lamps.

Furthermore, bringing on a QR-Code is not sufficient to fulfill the legal obligations.

The QR-Code shall not be used as of following reasons:

- Not an official public document
- It must be assumed that not all end users possess a smart phone
- The German law provides no QR-Codes
- at EU-level, a QR-Code is always considered as an addition and does not replace the written form

**Source:**            BMU / QM-Management of a client of ours December 2021

### **South Africa:                Directive in place – registration as producer of electronic devices since May 2021**

ERA NPC is the „Producer Responsibility Organisation“ (PRO) in South Africa and is associated to the Ministry of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE).

The ERA estimates the annual volume of e-waste at 360,000 tons.

Since May 2021, producers of EEE need to get registered at the DFFE.

After the registration at the DFFE the producers get passed on to the ERA to become a member of their WEEE EPR-scheme afterwards.

**Source:** ERA NPC – South Africa - January 2022

**France:                    January 2021 – Guideline of WEEE and batteries with regard to the Triman and Infotri was published**

The on 29th July 2021 published executive order of Article 17 of the law against waste and for the circular economy (AGEC) established a new obligation for producers of household products.

It is about a mandatory labelling of every product, called Triman and Infotri. The aim is to inform private end users on how the products are properly disposed at the end of their lifetime. A Triman- and Infotri-guideline has been published in January 2022. The guideline is available in the languages English and French.

Please note: The Triman- and Infotri-obligation is mandatory for household products only. Following deadlines have been settled: the WEEE- and battery-Triman + Infotri shall be labelled on new products by 15th December 2022 at the latest. Additionally, there's a transition period of 6 months for products in stock. Therefore, the deadline has to be complied with 15th June 2023 for WEEE and batteries. The same deadlines are valid for packaging.

Especially for WEEE and batteries, the Triman label can be replaced with the crossed-out wheelie bin.

In France, it should be noted that the crossed-out wheelie bin results from a European directive, therefore, WEEE and batteries shall be labelled with it on top of the Triman logo.

**Source:** RP France - January 2022

**UK:                            From April 2022: Plastic Packaging Tax**

As soon as the threshold of 10 tons importing or manufacturing plastic packaging has been met, the appropriate company needs to register for plastic packaging and pay taxes accordingly.

The exact wording is: „... if you've manufactured or imported 10 or more tonnes of finished plastic packaging components within the last 12 months, or will do so in the next 30 days...“. However, between 1st April 2022 and 30<sup>th</sup> March 2023, the 12 month limit will create a transition period.

The obligation of registrations starts on 1st April 2022.

The tax will be levied on plastic packaging, if the used plastic contains less than 30% recycled plastic material.

The tax is £200 per ton plastic packaging.

**Source:** [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) – February 2022

**Italy: Packaging consortium CONAI creates a guideline and websites for the environmental labelling**

As of today, all packaging that is placed on the Italian market is subject to mandatory labelling.

To consider which products are packaging and which are not, the packaging consortium CONAI has published following website:

<https://www.conai.org/impres/cosa-e-imballaggio/>

The obligation of labeling came into force on 1st January 2022. However, the following period of transition applies to products that have already been produced and are still in stock:

Companies with products that do not meet the new requirements of environmental labelling on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022 and have already been placed on the market or labelled can sell them until their stocks are cleared.

A guideline to support the appropriate companies can be found at:

[https://www.progettarericiclo.com/docs/umweltkennzeichnung-der-verpackungen#\\_ftn1](https://www.progettarericiclo.com/docs/umweltkennzeichnung-der-verpackungen#_ftn1)

Additionally, CONAI has implemented the online tool „e-tichetta“ as a labeling assistant.

You can find it here: <https://www.etichetta-conai.com/de/>

**Source:** Packaging Consortium CONAI / RENE AG - Februarx 2022

**In own matter: The main obligations as of ElektroG3 – short and terse**

RENE AG has repeatedly been asked in the last few weeks for a short and clear summary of the changes made by the first Act to amend the Electrical and Electronic Equipment Law (ElektroG3). We share this summary with interested readers of this Newsletter in form of our One Pager „New producer responsibilities under Germany’s ElektroG3“.

Please do not hesitate to get back to us at: [info@rene-europe.com](mailto:info@rene-europe.com)

**Source:** RENE AG – [www.rene-europe.com](http://www.rene-europe.com)

We wish our readers over all good health in these challenging times!

Your RENE team

In case of any questions – or interests in an offer – please do not hesitate to send us an email: [info@rene-europe.com](mailto:info@rene-europe.com)

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