



C O D D E

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Bureau Veritas CODDE



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EVENTS

10th International Automotive Recycling Congress, March 3-5, 2010, Basel, Switzerland

Learn more www.icm.ch

SETAC Europe 20th Annual Meeting, 23-27 May 2010, Seville, Spain

The SETAC Europe Annual Meeting is Europe's biggest meeting on environmental toxicology and chemistry with more than 1500 presentations in parallel platform sessions and poster sessions, participants and scientific speakers from academia, business and government and a blend of scientists and practitioners, researchers and regulators all in attendance.

<http://seville.setac.eu>

Progress in packaging

The French law of August, 3rd 2009 related to the implementation of the French Grenelle Environment (France's Environment Round Table) includes ambitious goals for household packaging waste:

- 75% of packaging will be recycled in 2012, against 63% in 2008
- 80% of costs for collection and sorting supported by the Green Dot in 2012
- Development of collection in the COM DOM.
- Integration of products consumed outside the home.



In this frame, Eco-Emballages and Adelphe have changed their specifications and wishes to launch a "75 Plan". This action plan will mobilize all stakeholders in the selective collection chain.

Indeed, to achieve the Grenelle objectives, each actor in the chain will participate.

Companies should develop works on eco-design packaging: use of recycled and recyclable materials, limiting the weight of packaging, using new biodegradable materials for example.

Eco-emballage wishes to continue and encourage ecodesign approach promotion.

Local Authorities should optimize collection by optimize the location and distribution of containers for example or by developing the system in the town-centers.

Citizen should sort more and better.

An appropriate notice must be made for citizen. The sorting should not be limited to privacy.

Recycled chains should recycle more and more collected packaging by optimizing treatment chains and by implementing innovative technologies.

In conclusion, to meet these new thresholds, the involvement of each actor will be necessary. The environmental criteria will become unavoidable in the design of a packaging.

About Eco-Emballages

Eco-Emballages was created in 1992 on the initiative of industry and approved by the French Government. The shareholders of the company are product and packaging material manufacturers, importers and trading companies.

Today, the involvement of manufacturers, French Government and Local authorities, citizens and recycling entities, 63% of household packaging is recycled in France. Eco-Emballages first mission is to work with companies on ecodesign and reduction of packaging, to contribute financially to selective collection, to inform people on recycling packaging.

Eco-Emballages is an eco-organism agreed by the French government. 47 000 companies support it financially. The Green Dot logo appears on 190 milliard of consumption products in France.

En savoir plus

www.ecoemballages.fr

Actor	Action	Eco-emballage action
Company	Finance support Reduction of the impacts of packaging by ecodesign Information – promotion	Raise of assessments Encourage ecodesign approaches
Government and Local Authorities	Collection Information – promotion	Distribution of subvention (93% of collected subvention by the Green Dot are reversed to Local Authorities) Raising public awareness
Citizen / Consumer	Selective sorting Ethical consumption Selective sorting out of domestic sphere	Raising public awareness
Recycling chain	Recycling of collected packaging	Distribution of subvention Encourage R&D

Environment in Agriculture and Food industry

A study in the frame of the European project EIPRO¹ has shown that Food and Drinks represent 20 to 30% of environmental impacts of consumption in EU. Meat and dairy products have the most significant impacts on the environment. The results of other studies focused on climate changes and going in the same direction have been widely disseminated in the media. This dissemination of information has led consumers to reassess their choices and to question about the way to combine food and environment. However, following to PNNS2², nutritional labelling for food products has been developed and multiplied. Also, each issue on food industry is associated to label. This multiplicity of labels may induce confusion for consumers.



The issues of environmental labelling

The establishment of a standard for environmental labelling by the French ADEME AFNOR platform should provide an answer to consumers who will find nutritional and environmental information on their food products. Environmental labelling presents an important issue because it has to transcribe the environmental quality of a product according to several environmental criteria, as much as keep clear and be understandable by everyone.

A discussion on environmental criteria to choose for environmental labelling will take place soon. It is important to take into account the significant environmental aspects of agriculture and food industry, for example, eutrophication of aquatic environments associated to the use of pesticides and nitrates.

The Court of Audit has recently blamed France for non-compliance with directives because of an excessive presence of nitrates in underground and surface water and a late in reaching EU required thresholds for treatment of urban effluents.

In addition, large cultivation requires high consumption of water during the driest period. If the French water resources are generally adequate, some areas experiment summer drought. The European statement was more worrying for the southern countries that suffer more severe water shortages.

Moreover, climat changes should aggravate this situation. Also, more than 8% of human consumption of water worldwide is due to animal breeding, and that the presence of antibiotics, hormones and chemicals from tanneries in animal waste makes this sector one of the sectors having the greatest impacts on water resources.

LCA and ecodesign in Agriculture and Food-industry

The realization of LCA (Life Cycle Analysis) in the Food-industry will assess the relevance of sustainable or biological agriculture and animal breeding for the environment. It will be interesting to analyse eco-packaging and the environmental impacts of materials like bioplastic.

Ecodesign could lead Agriculture and Food-industry to reduce its impacts on the ecosystem.

CODDE Bureau Veritas has available a "Food Expertise Department" in charge of Life Cycle Analysis. This department will support the deployment of ecodesign approaches for Food products and packaging.

¹ EIPRO : Environmental Impact of Products, Analysis of the life cycle environmental impacts related to the final consumption of the EU-25

² Plan National Nutrition Santé