



TRANSGOURMET



The new single-use deposit system for Austria

DEAR CUSTOMER,

As you may be aware, from **1st January 2025** onwards, a **deposit system** for **single-use beverage packaging** made of **plastic** and **metal** is being introduced in Austria. The legal basis for implementation is the Container Deposit Ordinance of the Ministry of Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology, which specifies all the relevant details.

As wholesalers, we will ensure that as a customer for both collections and deliveries, you will be able to return the packaging to which the deposit system applies to us for recycling – and that you will be kept fully informed about the new single-use deposit system.

We want to address this topic together with you and to ensure that we successfully rise to the challenges ahead.



THIS LETTER PROVIDES YOU WITH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:



THE BASICS OF THE NEW SINGLE-USE DEPOSIT SYSTEM



THE REGULATIONS IN THE CATERING AND HOTEL INDUSTRY



THE ROLE OF TRANSGOURMET AS YOUR PARTNER



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

THE NEW SINGLE-USE DEPOSIT SYSTEM FOR AUSTRIA



KEY FACTS AT A GLANCE



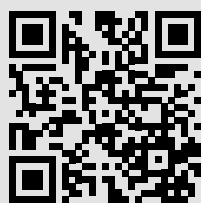
- Launch of the single-use deposit system: **01.01.2025**

- The deposit: **25 cents**

- Affected products: **all beverages in aluminium cans and PET bottles** from **0.1 l** to **3.0 l** that are sold at retailers in Austria

- Exemptions: **Milk beverages and beverages containing milk, non-beverage products** such as syrups, vinegar, cooking oil

- Affected areas: Catering, retail, take-aways, deliver services, vending machines, import, online retail and product give-aways



The basics
of the deposit system
in brief

START AND TRANSITIONARY PERIODS

- Producers and importers are permitted to **deliver the new deposit products from 01.01.2025** onwards.
- **Producers** can continue to package their **products in non-deposit containers** and distribute them until **31.03.2025**. After the end of this transitional period, the products must be packaged and delivered in single-use deposit containers.
- A transitional period until **31.12.2025 applies to retailers**.
- **Non deposit system products may be sold until the end of the year**.

Approximately **1.6 billion** beverage containers made from aluminium or plastic go into circulation in Austria each year. The single-use deposit system is being introduced throughout Austria to increase the rates of recycling.

Our service for you:

The preparations of Transgourmet Austria to ensure a prompt and smooth changeover are already underway.

Our suppliers will be delivering the first single-use deposit products from 01.01.2025 onwards.

Over the course of the year, the remaining stocks of products that aren't included in the single-use deposit system will be sold and replaced by deposit products.

We also guarantee the availability of the products in the high quality to which you are accustomed.

Identification: EAN code and deposit system logo

All single-use deposit products will be assigned new EAN codes and the logo for the Austrian deposit system to distinguish them from old products that aren't included in the system.

Important:

For the repayment of the deposit, it is necessary for the packaging to be empty and uncrushed and for the label to be intact on the packaging and legible.



Old EAN code



New EAN code + deposit system logo

EWP – the Austrian recycling company

A new company has been created for the development and implementation of the new system: **EWP Recycling Pfand Österreich gGmbH**. This company is responsible for all flows of data, products and money.

The take-back process

In principle, the following applies: every retailer of a deposit product must also be able to take them back. Depending on the point of sale, different rules apply.

Process 1: manual take-back

Smaller shops such as kiosks or small retail outlets are only required to take back the types of container that they sell – and only in the sold quantities. In most cases, this takes place manually.

Process 2: take-back at reverse vending machines

Shops such as supermarkets are obliged to take back all types of container. In most cases, this takes place at reverse vending machines.

Costs

The costs of the deposit system are borne by the producers in full. The retailers and logistics companies involved are allowed to charge a fee for the additional processing work relating to customers.

Do you own a hotel or a catering business? If so, no additional costs are incurred for the collection or transport of the single-use containers.



All information and downloads for the deposit system at a glance

THE SINGLE-USE DEPOSIT SYSTEM IN THE CATERING AND HOTEL INDUSTRY

Take-back obligation

As a point of sale, the general take-back obligation also applies to businesses in the **catering and hotel industry**.

An **exception** applies here, though: if beverages are **consumed by guests on site**, it is not necessary to charge a deposit on them. In this case, there is **no take-back obligation either**.



From 01.01.2025 onwards, a deposit of 25 cents per unit will be levied on the sale of all single-use deposit products. If you own a catering business, this means that you can either sell the deposit products to your guests and charge the deposit (which means you are also obliged to take the used bottles and cans back), or your guests must consume the beverages on site. In this case, there is no need to charge them for the deposit.



Your return process

There are two options for returning the used containers:

1. Return on site at a take-back point (return at a reverse vending machine)
2. Return through collection by EWP or a logistics company

OPTION 1:

You return the single-use containers you collect at a local take-back point. In most cases, this means a reverse vending machine.

THE TRANSGOURMET SOLUTION:



State-of-the-art reverse vending machines are installed at all the locations of Transgourmet for the take-back process so as to optimise the process for our customers. These work as follows:

1. You discard the single-use deposit containers you have collected into the machine unsorted.
2. The machine logs and counts the containers. This takes place quickly.
3. You will then get a receipt for the total value of the containers directly at the machine, which can be redeemed on location.



OPTION 2:

You arrange for the single-use containers to be collected by a logistics partner of EWP. To do this, you must register on the Recycling Pfand Österreich gmbH website.

Registration as a take-back firm / EWP account

1. Create a personalised account
2. Register your company as a take-back firm
 - Association, company, catering business, events organizer
 - Required information: address, bank details, tax number
 - Review of your registration by EWP
3. Access to your contract



**Register on the
Recycling Pfand Österreich
website**



Bags for manual take-back firms

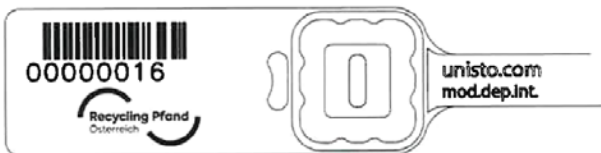
For the collection of the single-use containers, EWP provides registered businesses with **special bags and seals free of charge**. These are available to order on the EWP website.

bags for container collection (first draft – not yet final!)

The bag material will be appropriate to use

Bag dimensions:	55 x 40 x 140 cm
Fill level:	height of approx. 110 cm
Capacity:	approx. 300 l – open approx. 200 l – closed
Bag capacity:	approx. 150–200 containers (depending on the mix of containers)
Bag weight:	approx. 3–4 kg for a full bag

EWP also provides **special seals** for closing the bags. These seals also enable the **registration and tracing of the sealed bag** via a unique identification number.



PLEASE NOTE:

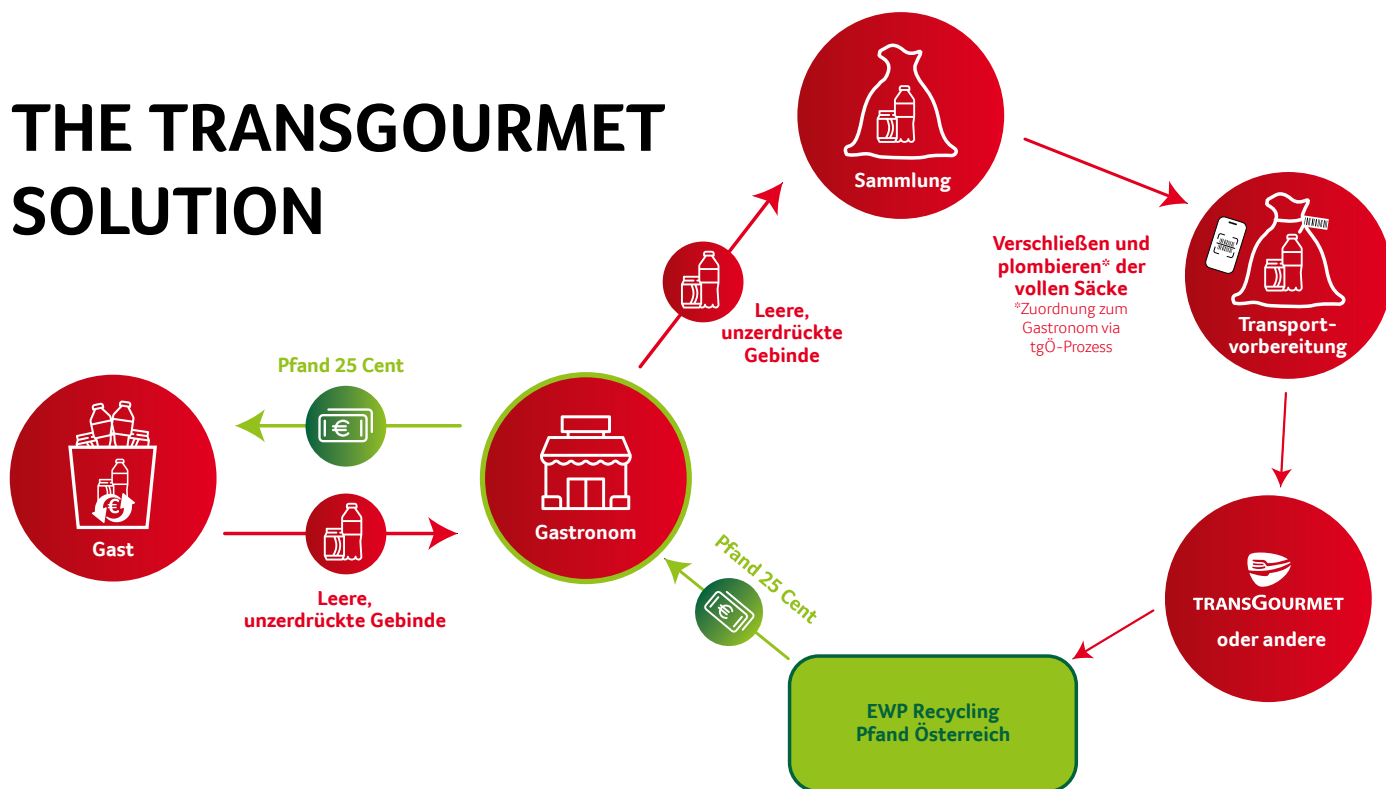
The containers can only be returned in these bags!



The registered bags can now be collected by a **logistics partner of EWP**.

The bags are processed at a central counting station. Customers receive a **credit voucher for the value of the returned single-use disposable containers from EWP**.

THE TRANSGOURMET SOLUTION



As a wholesale company, Transgourmet Austria is a point of sale, which means it is obliged to take used containers back.

We will fulfil this requirement to the highest degree of quality – on the basis of the following steps:



As part of the normal deliveries of merchandise to our customers, our in-house logistics services will accept and collect the sealed bags containing the used single-use deposit containers. To be able to do this, we just require **your EWP customer number**.



The bags containing the used single-use deposit containers are stored at collection points at the Transgourmet sites.



After collection by the logistics partner of EWP, the bags are transported to a counting point, where they are processed.



You will receive a payment from EWP for the value of the single-used containers that you return.

The next steps

The introduction of the single-use deposit system in Austria is likely to be a complex process. We therefore want to support our customers at all times.

- ➔ We are in regular contact with EWP to ensure we have detailed knowledge of the processes.
- ➔ We will keep you informed about the latest developments and further steps of EWP.
- ➔ The Transgourmet team is being given in-depth training to ensure that it is able to support you at all times.

We hope that with this communication, we have been able to provide you with an initial overview of the single-use deposit system. More information will follow soon. If you have any questions, please contact your Account Manager.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Is value added tax charged on the single-use deposit?

No, the deposit on single-use plastic bottles and cans is tax-free.

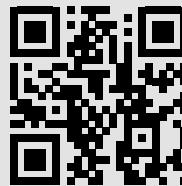
When can I first register in the EWP Portal?

This has been possible since 24 June 2024.

Who has access to the transferred data?

Only a very limited number of people at EWP Recycling Pfand Österreich gGmbH. EWP is developing a rigorous security concept to guarantee data security.

Where can I register?



portal.ewp-oe.net

Am I allowed to crush or compress the single-use deposit containers?

The containers can only be logged by the collection centres if the logos and EAN code can be read by the scanner. Small dents in the packaging aren't a problem, but the containers must not be compressed.

What happens to the “old” containers that aren't part of the deposit scheme after 01.01.2025?

Beverage products that aren't part of the deposit scheme can still be sold by retailers after 01.01.2025. After 31.03.2025, however, these products may no longer be produced, therefore only limited quantities of them will be in circulation. The non-deposit containers can be disposed of together with the deposit containers. The counting and sorting machines at the EWP collection centres are able to recognize the deposit containers by their logo and EAN code.

Do I have to count the returned containers that I put in the bags?

No, counting isn't necessary. The bags are only opened at the collection centre after their collection. A scanner automatically logs all containers with a logo and EAN code.

How are the credit vouchers issued?

The credit vouchers are issued and sent by EWP for a total amount per sealed bag.

Are beverages served by catering businesses in plastic cups considered to be single-use disposable containers?

No, the ordinance does not consider plastic cups to be single-use disposable containers.

Can the containers be bagged up mixed or do they have to be separated?

A sorting of the containers isn't necessary. All the returned single-use disposable containers can be bagged up mixed.

What happens to bagged containers that can't be read at the counting station? (wrong container, crushed can or bottle, etc.)?

Credit vouchers cannot be created for these containers. These containers will be disposed of free of charge.

How are deposits on expired goods repaid to me?

In principle, containers may only be collected and returned empty in the appropriate bags. The scanner detects containers that are full by checking their weight. This means that the returned containers have to be empty. An alternative approach is to destroy the goods and to provide a certificate of destruction to EWP. The sum of the deposit will then be repaid.



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