



Warszawa, 01.08.2012 r.

Position of Polish Union of Plastics Converters for the project of deposit system for non-returnable PET bottles implementation in Poland

1 / Why PUPC took the issue of recovery of PET bottles used for soft drinks?

Plastics converters approach with special care to the problem of the environment and our Union actively promote pro-environmental behavior and supports initiatives to improve the situation in this regard. Among other things we are a patron of the "Tree for a PET Bottle" action.

Selective recovery of disposable bottles in Poland does not exceed 1%, and a total recovery of PET bottles do not exceed 25%. This situation is quite different in the ecologically minded EU countries - especially those, who have put deposits on bottles off. Plastics recovery levels in these countries are as follows:

Germany-97 %;

Sweden - 96%;

Denmark -95 %

2 / How many PET bottles can be recovered by introducing a deposit system in Poland?

There are 4,5 billion bottles get every year on the polish market, while for recycling come only about 25%, ie 1.1 billion bottles. In practice, most of the bottles remain in landfills and in places not intended for it .These bottles increase the amount of untapped waste or are burned in improper conditions. Plastics, made from petroleum, have been irretrievably lost. With recoveries of 75% we could recover 112 thousand tons of PET of approximately 200 - 300 million PLN value. Assuming, if in Poland was the equivalent of a possible German bail (1 PLN / bottle), at a given level of recovery in the deposit system, unreturned bottles would guarantee about 1.4 billion PLN revenue per year. That with a surplus would cover the cost of creating the deposit system.

3 / Deposit system operates in the following EU countries:

Denmark -2002 → recovery of PET bottles - 89%

Germany -2003 → recovery of PET bottles - 95%

Estonia -2005 →recovery of PET bottles -75%

Netherlands -2006 → recovery of PET bottles - 95%

Finland - 2008 years (PET), 1996-cans

Sweden - a mandatory deposit on aluminum cans since 1982, PET bottles since 1991, and other packaging. → recovery of PET bottles-84% and also Croatia since 2005.

Besides Europe the deposit system works in Canada (8 out of 10 states) United States (11 out of 49 states) and Israel.

4 / Why we promote deposit system for PET bottles:

- deposit system through the consumers engagement would abruptly reduce the most burdensome plastic waste for them,
- the system would stop the price pressure of virgin polymer(PET) producers, which would have positive impact on the prices of different products: clothing, food packaging and food, etc.
- would affect positively on the environment by reducing the amount of waste in landfills and the ecosystem in quantity of around 150 thousand. tons of PET bottles. It would further reduce the amount of detergent consumed now for recycling process of 1.5 billion pieces of dirty bottles , selected from garbage in Poland
- recovered PET would be reused for the production of sportswear, packaging etc.