

INFOSHEET

Amendment of Austrian waste management act (AWG) 2021

We have compiled the most important changes as a result of the AWG amendment below:

- Framework conditions and target for the expansion of reusable systems for beverage packaging (§ 14b):
 - o The aim is to increase the quota of reusable packaging used for all beverages in standard containers put on the market in Austria to at least 25% by 2025 and to at least 30% by 2030.
 - o Food retailers with a point of sale of more than 400m² have to ensure that:
 - From 01.01.2024 in at least 35% of their shops,
 - From 01.01.2025 in at least 90% of their shops,
 - At the latest by the end of 2025 in all of their shopsthey offer drinks in reusable packaging. This also applies to sales via distance selling.
 - o Beverage categories affected:
 - Beer (including non-alcoholic beer and beer mixes),
 - Water (mineral water, table water, soda water and other bottled water; without flavoring),
 - Juice (fruit juice, vegetable juice and nectar),
 - Non-alcoholic soft drinks (sodas, flavored water, fruit and vegetable juice drinks, isotonic drinks, energy drinks, tea-based drinks such as iced tea, kombucha, plant-based milk such as soy milk or oat milk, whey drinks and malt drinks and
 - Milk (cow's, sheep's and goat's milk, all fat contents; with the exception of long-life drinking milk, i.e. ultra-heated milk).
- From January 1st, 2025, a one-way deposit system will apply for one-way beverage containers made of plastic or metal. Glass bottles and beverage cartons are not affected (§ 14c). More detailed provisions will follow as part of an ordinance.
- Final distributors of beverage packaging are obliged to label disposable and reusable beverage packaging clearly and legibly in their shops over 400m², including mail order (§13q)
- Ban on certain single-use plastic products according to (§ 13n)
- Ban on oxo-degradable plastic products (§ 13o)
- Marking specifications for certain single-use plastic products (§ 13p) -> [SUPs marking specifications](#)
- Measures to reduce single-use plastic packaging (§ 14a):
 - o Reduction of single-use plastic packaging placed on the market by 20% by 2025 compared to 2018
 - o Promotion of the expansion of reusable systems for packaging, especially beverage packaging
- From January 1st 2023: Operators of electronic marketplaces that enable third parties to offer or provide products in Austria on their marketplace must ensure that the obligation to participate in a collection and recovery system in accordance with § 13g (2) is complied with (§ 12c)

- From January 1st 2023: Fulfillment service providers must ensure that if products are placed on the market in Austria, the obligation to participate in a collection and recovery system in accordance with § 13g (2) is complied with (§ 12c)
- In the event of an audit of a system participant, collection and recovery systems must add a penalty of 20% of the shortfall if packaging materials, WEEE or batteries were underreported by more than 5% of the respective total annual mass per tariff category (§ 29)
- Mandatory appointment of an authorized representative for foreign entities and distance sellers for their packaging put on the market in Austria from January 1st 2023, as well as for foreign manufacturers and distance sellers for (certain) single-use plastic products put on the market from January 1st 2023 (§ 16 a,b,c,d)
- Mandatory appointment of an authorized representative for foreign entities and mail order companies for batteries from January 1st 2022 (§ 12a)
- Mandatory system participation for commercial packaging from January 1st 2023 (§ 13g)
- Transfer of audit authority to the coordination office for electronic waste and batteries from January 1st 2023 (§ 29)

For further information please follow this link [AWG-Novelle](#) (in German only).

For further information please give us a call +43 / 1 / 714 20 05-7220 or send us an e-mail kundenberatung@interseroh.at.

www.interseroh.at