
Press release

Harmonized rules, competition and a level playing field are key for effective Extended Producer Responsibility in Europe

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After ENVI vote European Recycling Platform (ERP) calls on European Parliament and Member States to maintain ambition

The European Recycling Platform (ERP), a company of the Landbell Group, welcomes yesterday's vote in the Environmental Committee of the European Parliament on the Waste Package. The vote is an important step towards a clear and harmonized legal framework for extended producer responsibility (EPR) in Europe.

"Thanks to our operational experience across Member States we have a good overview of which political instruments are suitable to maximize benefits for both the consumer and the environment", says Umberto Raiteri, ERP President and CEO. "With yesterday's vote for harmonization and fair competition, the MEPs have taken an important step forward towards a regulatory framework that will help reducing free-riding in waste management and increase the volume of product waste collected and recycled."

EPR is a key instrument in the Circular Economy that has been strengthened by the ENVI committee vote. Harmonized rules and enforcement are crucial to establish a level playing field among producer responsibility organisations (PROs) in a flexible and competitive environment.

As the only pan-European PRO for WEEE, batteries and packaging ERP welcomes the ambitious general requirements for EPR schemes adopted by the MEPs. The requirement for clearly defined rules and responsibilities for each stakeholder in waste management and the establishment of an independent authority to oversee the implementation and PROs' compliance are important instruments for an open and dynamic and at the same time reasonably governed market environment.

ERP calls upon the Parliament and the Member States to keep a high level of ambition in the course of the legislative process in order to guarantee good governance and fair competition for EPR schemes in Europe.

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About ERP

The European Recycling Platform was founded in 2002 in response to the introduction of the European Union's Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive. ERP's mission is to ensure cost effective implementation of the directive, for the benefit of the participating companies and their customers. As of June 2014, the Landbell Group, an independent recycling and resource specialist, based in Germany, has become a shareholder of ERP SAS.

ERP is the first WEEE compliance scheme authorised to operate in Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden and the UK thus passing on the advantages of multinational recycling operations to the consumer. ERP has proved to be the most competitive solution for companies in the countries where operates now offering WEEE, Batteries, Packaging and PV panel compliance services and know-how.

For more information on ERP, please visit www.erp-recycling.org or contact press@erp-recycling.org

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