

Returpack – Sweden



Why it Started

- Introduction of the aluminium can in Sweden
- Worries of increased littering
- Legislation on a deposit system
- Deposit system for aluminium started 1984 and for PET 1994
- The initiators were the Packaging industry, the Brewery association and the Grocery trade

Pantknappen

Rädda Barnen

Din penn gör skillnad

Stöd Rädda Barnen

The Deposit Ordinance

"Anyone who as a business, bottles **ready to drink** beverages in **plastic bottles or metal cans** or as a business, imports **ready to drink** beverages to Sweden in **plastic bottles or metal cans**, shall ensure that the bottle or can belongs to a **authorized return system**."

Our Owners



SVERIGES BRYGGERIER



FÖR BÄTTRE AFFÄRER
livsmedels
HANDLARNAS

Collection - Grocery Trade

- 3100 Retailers
- 5100 RVM's
- 94% Volume from the retailers
- 50 Pantamera Express at municipality recycling centers



Other collection

- 9500 collectors; traffic stores, restaurants, pizzerias, camping sites, skiing resorts, festivals, sports clubs....
- Where the fun is!



Returpack Highlights

- 1 site
- 70 employees
- 6 230 articles
- 12 389 customers
- 1 026 CO2e emissions
- 2,15 billion cans and bottles
- 3,1 billion SEK in turnover

Recycling Rates

- 19 870 tons of aluminium
- 23 244 tons of PET
- 1 377 tons of HDPE (closures)
- 84,9% recycling rate (Returpack only)
- ~10% lost in border trade (Sw/No)
- ~3% lost to other metal/plastic collection



Our Logistics

- Planned by Returpack but operated by 3rd party partners
- Collection trucks with separate compartments for metal and PET collect at grocery stores
- 24 Intermediary warehouses
- Volume trucks to Returpack site
- Other collection through wholesaler or producer back haul with Returpack pickup at their warehouses
- Sustainable transports all running on fossil free fuel

Collection Structure

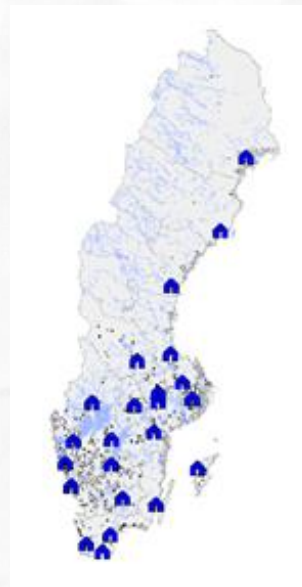
Stores with RVM



Wholesale collection
(cartons and sacks)



Intermediary
warehouses

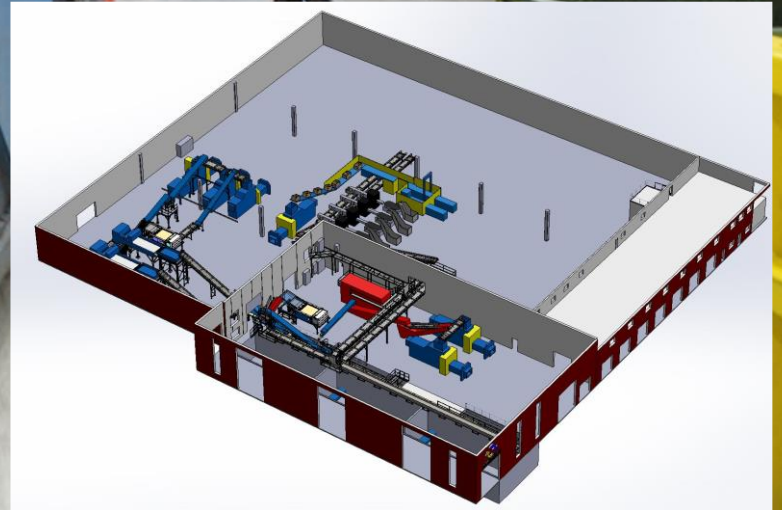




Our Sorting Plant

Focus areas:

- Safety
- Quality
- Productivity



Material sales

Aluminium – to Constellium and Novelis for the production of new cans



Constellium

Novelis



Material sales

PET material – to Veolia PET Svenska AB

- Clear, transparent PET → foodgrade PET,
- Coloured, mixed PET → other use like plastic straps, furniture, textiles, etc.



Veolia (Cleanaway)

- [URRC process](#) for bottle-to-bottle recycling
- [EFSA](#) approved



50% recycled PET



Material sales

- Plastic caps
- HDPE sold to Axjo – plastic cable drums



Key principles for material sales

- Returpack is the owner of all collected materials (bottles, cans, caps). No claims for the material or value of it from producers or trade.
- Returpack sells the processed (sorted, cleaned, baled) material to material buyers, based on agreements between Returpack and the material buyers. Price is based on arms length negotiations between Returpack and the material buyers.
- The proceeds from the material sales is an income to Returpack, that helps to cover for the costs of running the return system, like collection, processing and admin.
- To promote the circularity of the materials, Returpack, by choice, only sells its materials to buyers that will support can-to-can or bottle-to-bottle circularity.
- Returpack material buyers, processes the materials and sells it onwards to their customers, like can, food packaging or pre-form suppliers. Returpack has absolutely no insight in those agreements or prices.

Key principles for material sales (cont'd)

- To promote the circularity of the recycled PET material, beverage producers being part of the Swedish deposit system may agree directly with Returpack's buyer (Veolia) regarding the supply of URRC (food grade) rPet flakes. These agreements are arms length transactions between Veolia and the producers with no Returpack insight into terms and conditions.
- Majority of the volumes sold in the Swedish market use local rPet from the Swedish return system as part of the Pet bottle composition. From start producers have been supportive of our local bottle-to-bottle recycling and activities to improve quality of feedstock.
- The remainder of the rPet being produced is then sold at market prices to other customers.

Key Factors for the “Success”

- Uniform products (content, material and shape)
- Products designed for recycling
- 100% material recycling, no waste
- Encouraging communication to consumers - brand
- Collection and recognition through machines
- A reasonable deposit (1kr, 2kr)



TACK FÖR ATT DU PANTAR!



THANK YOU!