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PRESS RELEASE

Supporting the Circular Economy: Profile Houses introduce Stillage Management Schemes

Brussels, 01 October 2019 – The European PVC Profile Industry will implement stillage management schemes across Europe until Q1 2020. Thereby the return of stillages by window manufacturers to their profile suppliers shall be ensured, facilitating a sustainable use of this reusable packaging.

By Q1 2020, profile houses across Europe will have implemented either rental, deposit or CRM schemes that encourage customers to return stillages. In case of persistent overstock customers will need to financially compensate the sustainability damage they cause. External auditing by the third-party EPPA will ensure that any of the three management options is correctly implemented. Thereby, it is verified that the ultimate goal, i.e. circular management of stillages is achieved.

In the context of climate change, the Circular Economy is a top priority for European PVC Window Profile Houses. Reusable instead of single-use packaging constitutes a major element the industries' declared aim of becoming more circular. For years, the industry has therefore used durable steel stillages instead of single-use wood stillages.

However, reuse is only possible if the packaging is retrieved after use. Returned stillages do not need to be replaced by new ones, hence saving natural resources for producing them.

Furthermore, profile houses remain in control of the packaging they have circulated in the market. They can maintain their own amount of stillages thereby ensuring safe use of this reusable shipment method.

It is for this reason that the industry has developed three different stillage management schemes to live up to its ownership responsibility of steel stillages.

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About EPPA

The European PVC Profiles and related Building Products Association EPPA represents the manufacturers of PVC window systems and related building products in Europe. About 25,000 employees process about 1, 4 million tons of PVC creating a turnover of €4 billion with profile systems and building products. Based in Brussels, EPPA provides a common platform for bundling national activities in the fields of PVC window technology, recycling, environment and public affairs.