

Guidance on Use of the Green Dot in Europe



Introduction

The Green Dot is a widely recognised symbol in many European Countries. It signifies that for each piece of packaging, a financial contribution has been paid to a national packaging recovery organisation. The Green Dot is a mandatory trade mark in some countries which means that the first person considered to place packaging onto the market must pay a licence fee to use the Green Dot in that country and ensure that the Green Dot is printed on their packaging. The definition of the first person to place packaging on the market can vary from country to country.

Use of the Green Dot in Europe

The table below shows each of the European countries that offer a Green Dot licence and whether use of the Green Dot in that country is mandatory or not.

Country	Is the Green Dot Mandatory?	Who Issues the Licence?
Austria	No	Ara
Belgium	No	Fost Plus
Bulgaria	No	Ecopack
Croatia	No	Eco-Ozra
Cyprus	Yes	Green Dot Cyprus
Czech Republic	No	Eko-Kom
Estonia	No	Eto/Ero
Finland	No	Green Dot is not recognised
France	Yes	Eco-Emballages
Germany	No	Der Grüne Punkt
Greece	Yes	HERRCO
Hungary	No	Okó-Pannon
Iceland	No	Green Dot is not recognised
Ireland	No	Repak
Israel	No	TMIR
Italy	No	Green Dot is not recognised
Latvia	No	Latvijas Zāliņš Punkts
Lithuania	No	Zaļaisiņš Taskas
Luxembourg	No	Valorlux
Malta	No	Greenpak
The Netherlands	No	Green Dot is not recognised
Norway	No	Grønt Punkt Norge
Poland	No	Rekopol
Portugal	Yes (only on primary household packaging)	Sociedade Ponto Verde
Romania	No	Eco-Rom Ambalaje
Serbia	No	Sekopak
Slovakia	No	Envi-pak
Slovenia	No	Slopak
Spain	Yes	Ecoembes
Sweden	No	Repa/Fti
Turkey	No	Cevko
Ukraine	No	Green Dot is not recognised

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For any countries that do not offer the Green Dot, Pro Europe (the umbrella organisation which administers the use of the Green Dot) offers a royalty-free worldwide licence agreement which you can download from their [website](#).

Companies printing the Green Dot on packaging sold in USA, Mexico and Canada must obtain the license from Green Dot North America and pay the relevant charge/fee.

Use of the Green Dot in the UK

The packaging recycling system in the UK is based on the purchase of Packaging Recovery Notes (PRNs) which are recycling certificates showing that a certain amount of packaging has been recovered/recycled. This means that the Green Dot is a meaningless trade mark in the UK.

In order to ensure that the Green Dot is not misused and does not mislead UK consumers, a licence can only be issued to companies in the UK if they are exporting packaging/packed goods to Europe. Valpak holds the licence for the Green Dot in the UK.

Contact Us

For more information on the Green Dot and how we can help you with environmental legislation overseas please call **01789 208725** or email Env.compliance@valpak.co.uk.

