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 trademark in Spain, 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

Do you want to find out which European countries offer a Green Dot licence and whether use of the Green Dot in that country is mandatory or not? Contact our advisors on **03450 682 572** or email info@valpak.co.uk for further information.

For 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 licence agreement which you can download from its website.

Companies printing the Green Dot on packaging sold in USA, Mexico and Canada must obtain the licence from Green Dot North America and pay the relevant charge/fee, the registration can be done on its website.

Use of the Green Dot in the UK

The packaging recycling system in the UK is based on the purchase of Packaging Waste Recovery Notes (PRNs) which are recycling certificates to prove that a certain amount of packaging has been recovered or recycled. The Green Dot is a meaningless trademark 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 or 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 **03450 682 572** or email info@valpak.co.uk

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