

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 | No | 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 | Zaļasis 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.

