

CONAI joins PRO EUROPE

European countries with producer responsibility now all under the same banner

Brussels, 16 September - *PRO EUROPE, the organisation representing the systems for the collection, recycling and recovery of packaging waste in Europe and Canada, has welcomed CONAI as a new member, extending PRO EUROPE's presence to Italy.*

CONAI, the National Italian Packaging Consortium, is responsible for the recycling and the recovery of all packaging placed on the Italian market, and for promoting prevention measures to optimise the use of packaging materials, with reduced harm to the environment throughout the entire packaging life-cycle.

“We look forward to working with PRO EUROPE and its members” said Piero Perron, President of CONAI. “The cooperation with colleagues of our sector from all over Europe, will help the exchange of best practice and, beyond, will definitely strengthen our ability to support the development of an industry capable of recovering and valorising materials from the take back of packaging waste.”

Joachim Quoden, PRO EUROPE General Manager, has welcomed the organisation to the producer responsibility network, “CONAI is one of the oldest recycling and recovery systems in Europe, and has been a critical contributor to the implementation of the producer responsibility principle in Italy. We are delighted to welcome the organisation among our members; all European countries implementing the “extended producer responsibility” principle are now assembled within PRO EUROPE and this is excellent news for all our institutional and business partners. We and the existing PRO EUROPE members look forward to our future collaboration with our new colleagues in Italy”.

With CONAI joining, PRO EUROPE gains a 32nd member and extends its reach to a 26th EU Member States.

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Notes to the editor:

About PRO EUROPE

PRO EUROPE s.p.r.l. (Packaging Recovery Organisation Europe), founded in 1995, is the umbrella organisation for the packaging and packaging waste recovery schemes which mainly use the "Green Dot" trademark. PRO EUROPE acts as the authoritative voice and common policy platform for its members, representing the interests of all packaging recovery and recycling organisations mainly using the "Green Dot".

PRO EUROPE's members span 32 countries: 26 Member States (Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom), 2 candidate countries (Turkey, Croatia), Norway, Iceland, Ukraine and Canada.

The members of PRO EUROPE wish to demonstrate that the recycling of used packaging is an important step on the path towards the sustainable development that is necessary to safeguard our planet for future generations. Their work in Europe and worldwide is both successful and transparent.

PRO EUROPE is headquartered in Brussels. The President is Henri Meiresonne (Fost Plus, Belgium), the General Manager is Joachim Quoden, and Pascal Gislais and Ursula Denison act jointly as Secretary Generals.

For detailed information, please visit www.pro-europe.info

About CONAI

CONAI, National Packaging Consortium, is a private consortium of all packaging producers and users, working towards the recovery and recycling of packaging placed in the Italian market, with the aim of meeting statutory targets. CONAI guarantees National target achievement for all packaging, working as a market subsidiary.

CONAI safeguards the environment by embracing the entire packaging lifecycle, from production to end-of-life management. To this purpose CONAI promotes the adoption of environment-friendly packaging at source, and then co-ordinates the recovery and recycling of packaging after use.

CONAI works through six Material Consortia – steel, aluminium, paper, wood, plastic and glass – which guarantee the necessary links with local administrations for the take-back of packaging, mainly from separate collections.

CONAI doesn't use the "Green Dot" trademark.

For detailed information, please visit www.conai.org