



# MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday, April 9, 2013

## International investment in Australian recycling

A group of international recycling companies today committed to supporting the roll out of a modern beverage container recycling system in Australia. The introduction of such a system would involve a capital influx of approx \$500m into sustainable infrastructure.

Stefan Ranstrand, CEO of European based TOMRA said that based on the experience in over 30 markets a well-designed, modern CDS would provide significant economic returns as well as community benefits. "Our assessment is that more than 3000 jobs will be created."

Carsten Schleeberger, Head of Deposit Systems at Rhenus, said that their German experience showed that both consumers and retailers were quick to embrace the system once it was fully implemented in 2006.

"Recycling rates are now consistently over 95%, and it is providing local industry with high quality material that adds significant local economic value.

"A CDS in Australia will reclaim at least 5 billion containers that are currently lost to litter or landfill every year, and that are conservatively estimated to be worth around \$120 to \$140 million annually", said Markus Fraval, CEO of Revive Recycling.

"The implementation of CDS will also deliver pure material streams that are the key to closed loop recycling, and which provide significant additional financial benefit to re-processors, stimulating local manufacturing operations."

Narelle Anderson, Managing Director of Envirobank Recycling, said that the newest CDS in the Northern Territory had also demonstrated added value to MRF operators by way of increased commodity value in the kerbside collections.

"In addition, the remote communities are now able to take advantage of the economic benefit a CDS delivers through employment and local fundraising opportunities.

"Those on marginal incomes now have the opportunity to supplement their incomes, easing cost of living pressures, by collecting containers at 10c each."

A network of automated and manual return locations would ensure convenient community access, and would include:

- Approximately 1,400 convenience points all over Australia providing easy return possibilities for consumers close to large supermarkets.
- A network of approximately 200-250 hubs to serve the commercial and industrial sector, as well as aggregate material for freight to reprocessors.

The upfront investments in infrastructure and jobs would be paid off through system handling fees which in turn are fully funded by unredeemed deposits and the extra reclaimed material.

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The companies represented are recycling industry leaders from Europe and the US who are here in Australia, together with Australian industry partners, discussing investment opportunities with Federal and State governments, and with industry stakeholders. They include:

REMONDIS ([www.remondis.com](http://www.remondis.com)) is one of the largest environmental service companies in the world with a turnover of approximately AUD 7.7 billion annually. Its Australian subsidiary, REMONDIS Australia, is among the top five Australian waste disposal and recycling companies, and its sister company Rhenus ([www.rhenus.com](http://www.rhenus.com)) is a major logistics company with a turnover of approximately AUD 4.2 billion.

REMONDIS and Rhenus are part of the Rethmann Group and successfully service and manage the extensive container deposit system in Germany.

Envipco ([www.envipco.com](http://www.envipco.com)) is an international reverse vending and sort technology provider with annual sales of approximately AUD 67 million.

Envirobank Recycling ([www.envirobank.com.au](http://www.envirobank.com.au)) is Envipco's Australian representative for distributing advanced reverse vending technology and sorting solutions and is a major CDS co-ordinator in the NT.

TOMRA ([www.tomra.com](http://www.tomra.com)) is a global leader in recycling and resource efficiency with annual sales of up to AUD 750 million. With an installed base of more than 67,000 systems in over 30 markets worldwide, TOMRA is the leading provider of reverse vending solutions for the return of used beverage containers.

Revive Recycling ([www.revive-recycling.com.au](http://www.revive-recycling.com.au)) is TOMRA's Australian distributor and operates the first example in Australia of the type of infrastructure proposed: a reverse vending machine facility capable of handling all deposit container materials and linked to retailers for redemption.

*Contact Stefan Ranstrand (TOMRA) or Markus Fraval (Revive Recycling) on 0417 572 474 for more information.*