

The REMONDIS Group magazine

REMONDIS AKTUELL

remondis.com

Decision time

The new recyclables law offers a unique opportunity for the recycling sector to take a quantum leap forwards



An extra
95 kg



or just
5 kg

Services

District authorities and a private sector firm working together? Yes, it's possible! AWIGO Logistik GmbH is the latest public private partnership to join the "REMONDIS family"

Services

REMONDIS has acquired a 19.06% share in the regional service provider ENERVIE – a company supplying around 400,000 customers with water, electricity, gas and heat

Recycling

TSR has set up a new company called REMINE. Its goal: to efficiently recover greater volumes of high quality raw materials – also from the smallest of electronic devices

The courage to take the plunge

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Increasing resource efficiency

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ENERVIE – Water, energy, networks and services

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Dear Readers!

There have been waste management laws in Germany for over 40 years now. At least once a decade, politicians have made some groundbreaking decisions. The "Deponieverordnung" (Landfill Ordinance), the separate kerbside collection system for waste packaging and the "TaSi", which bans certain materials being taken to landfill and has been acting as a role model for many countries, are all examples of how they have succeeded in systematically moving the country's waste management sector away from landfills towards more recycling. These courageous decisions, which more often than not involve large investments, have primarily been implemented by private sector businesses but also by municipal waste management companies. We have reached that crossroads again. Germany has to decide which direction it wishes to move in and just how sustainable it wishes to become. The country's upper house, the Bundesrat, has instructed the Government to submit a draft bill for a new recyclables law by the end of the year, presenting a unique opportunity for them to catapult German recycling activities into a completely new dimension. It is a well-known fact that waste is a source of raw materials. According to a recent INFA study, a further 95kg of recyclable materials could be collected per person per year. The signals coming from the Ministry of the Environment, however, are not particularly encouraging. Here, they are obviously thinking of limiting this new law to waste packaging and wastes made of similar materials. When recycling bins were first introduced in Germany, they were used exclusively for collecting old sales packaging. The decision to allow them to also be used for waste made of similar materials was made a while ago now and it is estimated that this move would only increase the amount of recyclables collected by an additional 5kg per person per year. At REMONDIS, we believe even this figure to be illusory as our experience from collecting, sorting and recycling the contents of the recycling bins has shown that many people are already throwing wastes made of similar materials to packaging into the bin – an intelligent move even if they are not supposed to do this. If politicians limit the new law to just this area, then it will, for the most part, be completely ineffective. We are, therefore, calling on politicians to act as visionaries and be courageous. Make the most of this unique opportunity and set ambitious collection



Max Köttgen, Board Member

and recycling rates. This is the only way to ensure Germany has a secure supply of raw materials and that everything possible is done to prevent climate change.

Developing sustainability in the water and recycling sectors is just beginning in Asia. Materials recycling has been neglected in this region for far too long and has hardly been able to keep up with the exponential growth on the continent. Singapore is now looking to do more in this area. One of the latest projects of the country's National Environmental Agency (NEA) involves a new facility to process slag from waste incineration plants and recover ferrous and non-ferrous metals at the same time. REMEX is the company responsible for building and operating it. Once again, Singapore is forging ahead and acting as a role model for other densely populated regions in Asia.

Back in Germany, REMONDIS continues to extend its successful cooperation work with local authorities. The recently founded AWIGO Logistik GmbH is the company's latest joint venture – a public private partnership between the administrative district of Osnabrück and REMONDIS' regional company, REMONDIS Nord.

As always, I hope you enjoy reading about these and the many other topics in this latest issue of REMONDIS aktuell.

Yours

Max Köttgen

The courage to take the plunge

NEW RECYCLABLES LAW OFFERS A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO GROW SUSTAINABILITY IN GERMANY

Whilst passing the 7th amendment to the German Packaging Ordinance at the beginning of July 2014, the country's upper house, the Bundesrat, also instructed the German government to submit a draft bill for the long overdue recyclables law within the next six months. If the relevant players from the worlds of politics and business use this opportunity to set the right course for the future, then Germany can take a huge step forwards – towards greater sustainability, towards becoming less dependent on raw material exports and towards making massive inroads into preventing climate change. The potential is there. REMONDIS is calling on all those involved in the decision-making process to find the necessary courage to take the plunge and catapult Germany towards a more environmentally and resource friendly future.

An extra

95 kg

or just

5 kg



“If Germany is serious when it says it wants to grow sustainability and prevent climate change, then we need a recyclables law with ambitious collection and recycling rates.” Ludger Rethmann, REMONDIS Board Chairman

There is one thing that everyone agrees on: it is essential that the very most is made of the recyclable materials and energy found in municipal waste, as Germany and the EU have so few natural raw materials of their own. However, Germany – which likes to call itself the ‘world champions in recycling’ and acts as a role model for so many other countries – is still a long way from doing this. Just how far can be seen in a recent study carried out by INFA GmbH on behalf of GEMINI (a joint initiative). This study had two main aims: to draw up ambitious collection targets for the different types of segregated recyclable waste and to find out what the maximum – and realistic – materials recycling rates actually are.

Empirical “waterproof” study reveals true recycling potential

The INFA study looked at all standard recyclables: old paper, glass, organic and garden waste, metals, plastics, drinks cartons and old wood. In order to be able to get a realistic picture of the current situation in the German cities and districts and of their future collection and recycling potential, their settlement patterns were examined and divided up into five clusters according to population density. As the goal of a new recyclables law should be to grow materials recycling in Germany, the figures – giving the minimum volumes of recyclables (in kg) which could be collected per person per year – refer solely to recyclables which are segregated and collected separately. Moreover, it also took recyclable materials into account which are currently collected as part of the bulky waste collection service – both those picked up individually and those removed from the bulky waste for recycling.

Hard facts – not science fiction

This here is not waste science fiction. What makes this study so good is the fact that it bases its calculations on the volumes of segregated recyclables currently already being collected as well as on the potential volumes of recyclables which could be collected (also based on hard facts). Its data is based on the nationwide figures provided by public sector waste management businesses for 2011 and on the data gathered from analyses of different types of sorted waste. The results are as impressive as they are encouraging. The study presents two alternatives which could also be introduced gradually in a series of steps should they be included in a new recyclables law.

Option 1 is based on the average amount of recyclables actually being collected at the moment in each cluster and on the potential volume of recyclables still found in residual waste bins. An additional volume of recyclables – which could potentially be collected – was defined for each cluster and added to the current mean value. This figure was not simply the product of someone’s imagination. It was based on the maximum amount of recyclables known to be in residual waste as well as on that from bulky waste collections.

The Champions League

Option 2 effectively reflects the “Champions League of recycling”. It shows the true potential i.e. the maximum amounts that could be collected and recycled. These exemplary collection rates could be used as future benchmarks – and they are volumes which are already being achieved today by 25 percent of the public sector waste management businesses with, and indeed thanks to, the support given by their private sector partners. ▶

The recycling world champions can’t afford to rest on their laurels either

25%

The best possible scenario is already reality at 25% of the public sector waste management businesses



Go to www.remondis-aktuell.de to hear an interview with Herwart Wilms about this topic

Nothing will change unless politicians increase recycling rates

A figure defining the maximum volumes of recyclables found in residual waste was given in addition to the volumes actually being collected. This could be used by waste collection and recycling businesses as a guide should they not reach their intended collection targets. This figure is also oriented towards the amount of recyclables found in the residual waste collected by the public sector waste management businesses that are in the top 25 percent of each cluster. If, therefore, one quarter of all cities and districts already collect these ambitious volumes, then no-one can seriously try and claim that such targets are not possible. Ideally, the new recyclables law could set the standards and be an incentive for the remaining 75 percent, for them to catch up in their attempts to become more sustainable. This would then pave the way towards creating a genuine recycling society. The potential volumes listed in the INFA study for each individual fraction are staggering:

Even if other influences such as demographic and consumer changes were not taken into account, the amount of recyclables collected could be increased by 5.6 million tonnes or 70kg per capita (option 1) or even by 7.8 million tonnes or 95kg per capita (option 2) if all the cities and districts were to reach these targets.

Sustainable success is only possible if there is fair competition between the public and private sectors

It has now been proven that a further 95kg of recyclables could be collected per person per year in Germany

7,800,000t
95kg 

REMONDIS is showing how it's done – now it's the politicians' turn

Being Germany's largest recycling, services and water company, REMONDIS has already shown that it is technically possible to collect and recycle segregated waste efficiently. This family run company, based in Lünen, collects, sorts and processes up to 30 million tonnes of materials every year. Indeed, the private sector plays a decisive role here helping local authorities to reach their ambitious recycling goals. The majority of waste in Germany – around 95 percent – is collected by private sector businesses. Moreover, they process and sort approx. 98 percent of all waste and around 85 percent of all materials recycling activities are carried out by private companies.

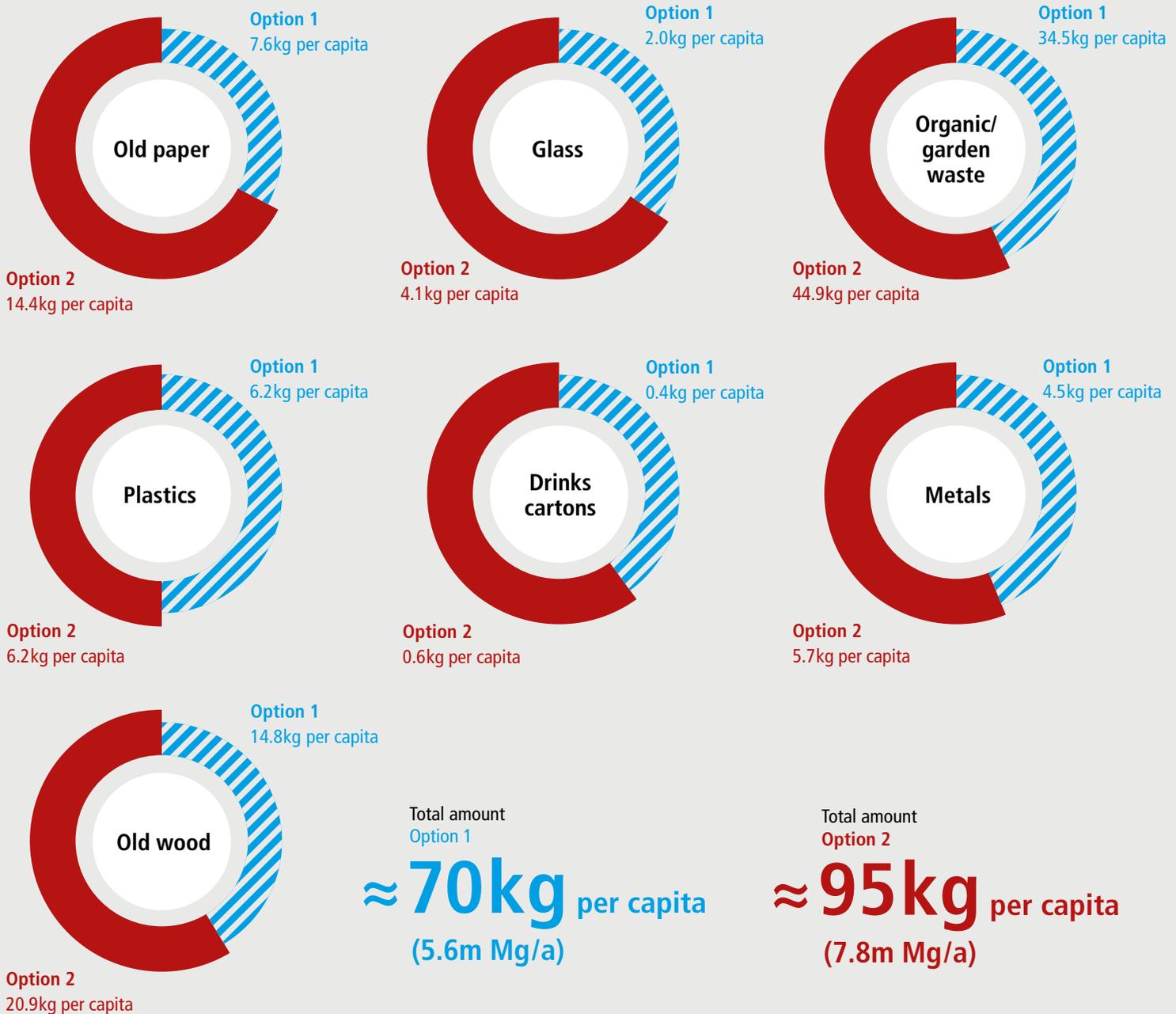
The same old story: 'Who should do the work?' rather than 'How much can we achieve together?'

Unfortunately, practically all the discussions currently being held ahead of the legislative process regarding the new recyclables law are focusing on the question of who is responsible for what. And what's worse: the signals coming from Berlin indicate that the new recyclables law might focus solely on waste made of similar materials to packaging waste i.e. on just 1.5 percent of all household waste. If all this extra waste were to be collected, then this would increase the volume of recyclables collected by a mere 5kg per person per year. Nowhere near the volume that could potentially be collected, namely 95kg. Furthermore, it is questionable whether the collection of waste made of similar materials to waste packaging would actually increase volumes by 5kg per person. Companies currently commissioned to process waste packaging have noticed that local inhabitants are already throwing away products made of similar materials into the recycling bin – an intelligent move even though they are not supposed to do this. Instead of having ambitious recycling goals at the core of this new law, all signs are pointing towards the political decision-makers using it to simply clarify the different collection systems. This is not "taking the plunge".

A close look at the recycling bin

It is essential that the future of the dual system becomes a part of the whole "collection of recyclables in Germany" package. In light of the crisis facing the dual system (see also pages 8 & 9), REMONDIS has joined "GemIni" (a joint initiative to abolish the dual system) which is financed by various public and private waste management and recycling businesses. REMONDIS believes that priority should be put on looking at how to make the most of the potential hidden in household waste and not on focusing on the old and boring question: who should do the work – the public or the private sector. For a private sector firm such as REMONDIS, it would be a huge step forward if politicians were to change their position and concentrate instead on increasing the volumes of materials collected. It is possible to live with the current public procurement system as long as there is fair competition and local authorities are obliged to put the services, which local inhabitants are to receive, out to tender and not to squeeze the private sector out of the market via in-house arrangements.

Additional volumes of recyclables that could be collected in Germany according to INFA



Why increase volumes of recyclables by only 5kg if 95kg are possible?

The current recycling law does not really contain any notable incentives to encourage local authorities to have all their municipal waste recycled using high quality and environmentally friendly processes. To ensure this error is not repeated, the new recyclables law must make it clear

in which direction the waste management sector must move and create the necessary legal framework so that raw material efficiency is increased, the recyclable materials found in municipal waste undergo high quality recycling processes and further opportunities are opened up. REMONDIS will continue to do everything in its power to ensure that the very most is made of the raw materials found in waste.

Latest news

EKO-PUNKT extends operations to include consultancy and brokerage activities

REACTION TO THE 'DUAL SYSTEM' CRISIS

EKO-PUNKT

WORKING FOR THE FUTURE

Following the latest developments on the market, EKO-PUNKT GmbH is to cease its dual system operations run in accordance with the 'VerpackV' (Packaging Ordinance) at the end of this year and to offer consultancy and brokerage activities instead. Its customers can benefit from these brokerage services immediately as they have already been integrated into the company's portfolio. EKO-PUNKT's parent company, REMONDIS, took this decision in response to a further dramatic fall in the volumes of licensed sales packaging and the failure of the dual system operators to agree on effective countermeasures to stabilise the system.

EKO-PUNKT will continue to offer its customers the best services and the fairest prices

To further clarify the reasons behind this decision, EKO-PUNKT pointed to the latest agreements reached by the 'Gemeinsame Stelle' (clearing house). Despite months of trying, EKO-PUNKT believes it is impossible for the parties to agree on a business concept that will create a realistic solution for the continuance of the 'dual system'. EKO-PUNKT deeply regrets this situation. The legislator is in favour of a system that would be implemented by nine competing 'dual system' companies and call for voluntary commitment from all market players. Such a system presupposes a high level

of willingness on the part of all parties to fulfil their obligations and demonstrate solidarity. The relationship within the 'dual system' is, however, characterised by discord and mutual distrust. Looking at the results of the joint meetings of the 'dual system' businesses, it has become clear that this status quo is unlikely to change. Whilst they did manage – at the very last moment – to come to an agreement regarding volume distributions and market shares for the rest of this year, it is inevitable that the confrontations will resurface once they start discussing the first quarter of 2015.

"Being one of the honest system operators, we are unable and no longer wish to accept this situation."

Herwart Wilms, REMONDIS Managing Director



EKO-PUNKT's extended portfolio of services

Authorised agent in acc. with Section 11 'VerpackV' (Packaging Ordinance)



Developing, setting up & operating systems



REMONDIS Managing Director, Herwart Wilms, described the dramatic situation: "The volumes covered by independent take-back systems, i.e. the volumes of old sales packaging which shoppers supposedly return to the shop they bought it from, has increased from the completely unrealistic figure of 122,532 tonnes in 2013 to this year's ludicrous figure of 236,320 tonnes. Whilst the legislator has now banned independent take-back systems in its 7th amendment to the Packaging Ordinance, it has unfortunately failed to completely get rid of the other loopholes such as industry-specific take-back systems. What makes the system particularly unstable is the fact that there are no regulations about how it should be managed and monitored. This reflects the logic of the 'dual system'. With checks not being carried out, some operators will inevitably continue to try and create "dummy" licences to further reduce the volumes of materials they collect and so avoid having to shoulder the rising costs. The result: these "disappearing" volumes and funding shortfalls will spiral out of control at an ever faster rate. Being one of the honest system operators, we are unable and no longer wish to accept this situation."

The legislator has taken steps to try and counteract this worsening situation with its 7th amendment to the Packaging Ordinance, for example by banning independent take-back systems. Both REMONDIS and EKO-PUNKT have launched numerous initiatives in the past to try and stave off the negative development, including bringing in the Federal Cartel Office and filing charges against individual dual systems as well as starting a quality drive with the introduction of the

BDE Certificate. By signing up to this voluntary initiative, honest businesses were also able to underline their commitment to a system which ensures all sales packaging placed onto the market is licensed properly. None of these measures, however, has had the desired effect, nor has the ongoing amendment to the Packaging Ordinance. As a result, EKO-PUNKT has now decided to cease its dual system operations and offer its customers consultancy and brokerage activities instead.

Having extended its field of business, EKO-PUNKT can now offer its current and future customers a range of take-back solutions for all types of packaging based on Section 11 of the Packaging Ordinance (commissioning of third parties). Thanks to its extensive experience of the market, EKO-PUNKT is in a position to find the most suitable and cost-effective solutions for its customers' sales, transport and commercial packaging. Its services will also enable it to offer and implement all the options listed in the 7th amendment to the Packaging Ordinance. This covers both advice on licensing and the actual licensing of the sales packaging itself as well as setting up genuine industry-specific solutions. Moreover, its portfolio not only includes sales packaging: EKO-PUNKT will also be playing a key role in all take-back systems for products which companies are obliged to or voluntarily wish to take back. Furthermore, EKO-PUNKT can offer businesses with nationwide networks a whole range of waste management services. To achieve this, it will be able to use the national presence and capabilities of the REMONDIS Group.

Thanks to this move, EKO-PUNKT has once again greatly extended its service portfolio

Bienvenido al grupo REMONDIS



GROUP RECRUITS PROFESSIONAL TRUCK DRIVERS IN SPAIN



The logistics sector is booming. This upturn, however, is casting a long shadow as there is now a shortage of qualified truck drivers. And that's not all: this trend could be exacerbated over the coming years as more and more older drivers retire. According to the statistics published by DEKRA, tens of thousands of lorry drivers will be needed in the near future. On the other hand, unemployment levels are extremely high in countries such as Spain and Greece which are still suffering from the effects of the financial crisis. Many companies, therefore, are looking abroad to recruit qualified truck drivers – among them HR representatives from REMONDIS' south and south west regional companies and from FES in Frankfurt.

The company is being proactive in Rosenheim and training young people themselves to become professional truck drivers

They are well trained, young and highly motivated and yet they do not have a job. With an unemployment rate of over 25 percent – and more than 50 percent for the under 25s – this development is perhaps not so surprising. As their career prospects at home are so bleak, many young and well qualified Spaniards are now prepared to learn German and leave their homeland for a while in order to take up a job in Germany. "We have found an experienced cooperation partner with the DEKRA Academy which is helping us to find suitable truck drivers from other countries," explained Hans-Jörg Bopp, HR manager at Region Südwest, REMONDIS' regional company responsible for the south west of Germany.



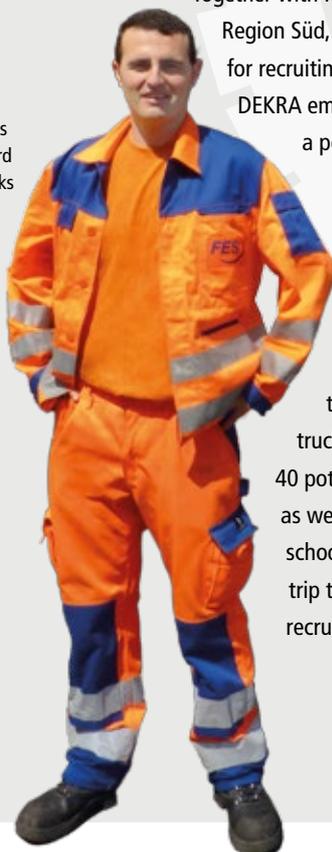
Daniel Lirola Medina (REMONDIS): Daniel Lirola Medina and Dario Marmolejo Castro joined REMONDIS this summer

Together with Maria Ettwein-Stern, HR manager at Region Süd, Nadja Haug, the person responsible for recruiting drivers at FES in Frankfurt, and two DEKRA employees, he visited the company FIMED, a personnel recruitment agency based in Valencia. There they first held interviews with seven people who had applied to be a truck driver. Later on in the day, they then took part in an information event where they gave a presentation about REMONDIS and the requirements of being a professional truck driver in the recycling sector. Around 40 potential applicants took part in the event as well as employees of local truck driving schools and the local press. "The aim of our trip to Spain was to find out about how to recruit foreign specialists so that we can pass

on this knowledge to other companies within the group. The interviews went particularly well – with both REMONDIS and FES wishing to employ six of the applicants," explained Hans-Jörg Bopp.

Once they had shown that they had taken part in an intensive German language course, the applicants received contracts of employment, initially for a fixed period of two years. "We are really pleased with our new employees. Their qualifications, work ethic and commitment are absolutely in keeping with our expectations. There are still a few problems with their German but these can be ironed out as they will continue to take part in a language course," concluded Hans-Jörg Bopp. The group is really pleased to be able to welcome these new employees to their team in Germany.

Carlos Valero is looking forward to his new tasks at FES



In the starting blocks

NEW APPRENTICES LOOK FORWARD TO THEIR FUTURE TASKS

On your marks, get set, go! The new apprentices have successfully finished school and are now setting off along a completely new path. Whether it be as an industrial clerk, chemical technician, IT specialist, gardener, chemical laboratory technician or professional truck driver, more than 600 young people joined REMONDIS and its sister companies, Rhenus and SARIA, on 01 August to begin their apprenticeship and learn about one of the many professions on offer – and are looking forward to the next few years with anticipation and excitement.

REMONDIS®
WORKING FOR THE FUTURE

One thing is clear: the water and recycling sector has established itself as one of the industries of the future and offers excellent career prospects. Sustainability, raw material shortages, resource conservation and climate change are not only popular subjects in the media but also have a considerable impact on business processes and the lives of individuals. And it is precisely these subjects that make up REMONDIS' core business. "I am really pleased to be able to work at a company whose business is aimed at improving living conditions on our planet. That makes me feel good," said Cathrin Berlinghoff, who is doing an apprenticeship to become an industrial clerk and a university course at the same time at the company's head office in Lünen. "I also felt it was important to do an apprenticeship in a company that operates on the international market. REMONDIS is one of the world's largest and most successful water and recycling companies. Perhaps, one day, I'll be given the opportunity to work abroad," she continued with a smile on her face.

However, REMONDIS does not only offer apprenticeship courses in commercial professions. Germany's leading recycling and water business also trains apprentices to enter environmental technology professions (e.g. recycling

and waste management specialists), logistics professions (e.g. professional truck drivers), industrial professions (e.g. industrial mechanics) and IT professions (e.g. IT specialists for applications development or systems integration). "As the REMONDIS Group provides such a wide range of services, we are able to offer a total of 50 different apprenticeship courses. Priority here is always put on the quality of the training," explained Anika Dirkmann, apprenticeship manager at REMONDIS. "We're really pleased that we have been able to once again increase the number of apprentices we have taken on compared to last year. Thanks to our successful apprenticeship programme, we are actively counteracting the shortage of specialists caused by demographic change," added Anika Dirkmann. A win-win situation is, therefore, created right from the very start both for those just starting their career as well as for REMONDIS.

The new apprentices have now left their starting blocks and are on their way to becoming qualified specialists. For the most part, it will be up to them themselves how they cross over the finishing line. They are, however, in an excellent environment which will very much help them on their way.

50!

REMONDIS is continuing its apprenticeship campaign – and now offers courses in 50 different professions



Andre Grewe is currently in the second year of his apprenticeship and is training to become an IT specialist for systems integration



Cathrin Berlinghoff, who is doing an apprenticeship and a university course at the same time, is currently learning all about sales and marketing applications



"48 Stunden Neukölln" festival of arts

The art of recycling

FINE ART PHOTOGRAPHER THOMAS LUETTGEN PRESENTS RECYCLABLES AS PIECES OF ART AT REMONDIS IN BERLIN

Focusing on the theme of "courage" this year, the "48 Stunden Neukölln" festival of arts (48 hours Neukölln) was officially opened in the Neukölln Arcaden shopping centre on 27 June. The paper processing facility on the grounds of REMONDIS' branch in Berlin was perhaps one of the more unusual exhibition sites but it was also one of the most powerful among the approx. 300 art projects. Working together with REMONDIS GmbH & Co. KG, the artist Thomas Luetngen from Leverkusen put together a display of his fine art photography. Entitled "Earth Worth – cycle of life", his exhibition aims to link the cycle of life with sustainability and recycling.

Thomas Luetngen's art is an appreciation of our planet

With his collection of large-scale photographs, Thomas Luetngen is calling on the public to demonstrate courage and take a look at their own habits and at the way they consume and throw away products. The title of his project, "Earth Worth – cycle of life", has a number of different meanings: at its core is an appreciation of our planet, its resources, its ability to provide us with a place to live and its incalculable importance for humanity. The cycle of life describes the symbiotic relationship between people, animals and plants: all must share this living space but it is the responsibility of humans alone to look after it.

This artist reinforces his message by combining the senses of sight and touch. The recyclables addressed in the photos are presented with and by themselves. Thus, we find paper on paper, shown logically on wood, metal as an aluminium print, PET bottles on plastic film etc. Thomas Luetngen creates works of art which not only grab our attention but which also make us aware of the importance of the things we carelessly

discard every day: these are valuable materials in every sense of the word.

Lutz Wedegärtner, branch manager of REMONDIS GmbH & Co. KG Berlin, was really pleased to be able to participate in the festival: "Being one of the largest employers in Neukölln, we are part of the "Kiez" neighbourhood and it is great that we can play an active role in the people's lives here. Thomas Luetngen is an artist whose work involving recyclables is closely connected to our everyday business. This is the first time that we have seen recycled materials shown in such a beautiful way."

The venue of this free public exhibition was the paper sorting hall at REMONDIS' Lahnstrasse branch. Throughout the festival, the hall – normally a place full of paper and cardboard being processed for recycling – made way to art. The photos were hung on large blocks of paper and cardboard weighing several tonnes which, combined with the flair of a modern industrial plant, provided an effective backdrop for the photographer's works of art.





The message conveyed in Thomas Luetzgen's art, namely to grow sustainability, is communicated on a variety of levels

Stefan Tschentscher, managing director at REMONDIS in Berlin, underlined the significance of the project: "People are fascinated by art. Thomas Luetzgen's photographs have succeeded in bringing sustainability, a subject so close to our hearts, to the attention of the visitors in a completely novel way. Presenting recycling as art can help to make people more aware of the importance of using our planet's limited resources in a more sustainable manner." Many visitors were attracted to the "Earth Worth – cycle of life" exhibition and it will soon be taking part in a road show travelling to a number of cities around Germany. REMONDIS is supporting

Thomas Luetzgen with the current planning process so that as many people as possible are able to appreciate his powerful works of art. REMONDIS will post the dates and places of the planned road show on its website, www.remondis.de, and in the next issues of its REMONDIS aktuell magazine as soon as they have been announced.

The "Earth Worth – cycle of life" exhibition will be travelling around Germany next year

THOMAS LÜTTGEN
BORN IN 1952, WORKS AS A PHOTOGRAPHER AND
FINE ART PHOTOGRAPHER

Thomas Luetzgen's "Earth Worth – cycle of life" exhibition focuses on the importance of handling our planet's resources sustainably. He has succeeded in highlighting the beauty of everyday objects and invites people to share his point of view. Using his own special style, he transforms waste into a work of art underlining its importance as a raw material in the cycle of life on Earth. He forces those viewing his work to look at the photos more intensely by combining figurative and abstract imagery. He further intensifies this by giving the materials two functions, namely as the subject and as the backdrop of the photograph. luettgen.com



"We must change the way we see things if we wish to preserve our values."

Thomas Lüttgen, fine art photographer

Close to our customers

Synergies in the Saarland

REMONDIS ACQUIRES PARTS OF THE SAAR UMWELT GROUP



What do the Saarland and REMONDIS have in common? At first glance, the question would appear to be difficult to answer. However, a look at the Saarland's new slogan, "Great things always come from small beginnings", reveals some interesting similarities. REMONDIS, for example, began as a small forwarding business and is now one of the world's largest recycling, services and water companies. Despite its global growth, REMONDIS still places great importance on "small" regional projects. One example can be found in the Saarland, where its regional company, Region Südwest, has acquired a number of businesses from the Saar Umwelt Service Group – with retroactive effect from 01 January 2014 – once again strengthening its presence in the region.

Saar Umwelt Service GmbH is an amalgamation of Saar Entsorgung GmbH, Saar-Müll-Dienst GmbH and Kleiner Recycling GmbH. In addition, Saar Entsorgung owns a fifty percent share in SWG Saarbrücker Wertstoff GmbH, a joint venture with the City of Saarbrücken which also holds a 50 percent share in the business. In addition to the head office in Kirkel, this transaction also involves the acquisition

director of REMONDIS Region Südwest. The former owner of the Saar Umwelt Group, Axel Rösner, expressed his pleasure at "finding a partner like REMONDIS that is interested in further expanding my company and in securing the jobs of my employees." Axel Rösner will also be supporting REMONDIS in an advisory capacity over the next few years. The Saar Umwelt Group's services cover all waste management activities involving household waste and wood as well as paper, card and cardboard, making them an ideal addition to REMONDIS' portfolio in the south west region. The four new locations handle a significant volume of materials, namely around 120,000 tonnes, every year. Paper, card and cardboard make up their largest fraction with the companies processing 52,000 tonnes a year. This is followed by commercial, industrial and household waste suitable for thermal recycling (approx. 35,000 tonnes) and by wood (just under 27,000 tonnes a year). "We want to unite the potential of the various locations and create synergies in order to further improve our portfolio and provide both private households and commercial and industrial businesses with even better services," concluded Georg Eicker.

"Our goal is to be as close as possible to our customers."

Georg Eicker, REMONDIS Managing Director responsible for the South West Region

of business locations in Saarwellingen, Saarbrücken and Petersberg in the Westpfalz region. These new businesses are an excellent addition to the Region Südwest's existing network between Dillingen and Pirmasens in the Saarland. "Our goal is to be as close as possible to our customers. These new locations from the Saar Umwelt Group fit into our regional concept perfectly and will help us to get a lot closer to this goal," explained Georg Eicker, managing

The Saar Umwelt Group operates more than 100 waste collection vehicles



KlimaExpo.NRW – Recycling to prevent climate change

NRW LAUNCHES KLIMA.EXPO TO ENCOURAGE INNOVATION AND EDUCATION AND PREVENT CLIMATE CHANGE – ITS MOTTO: “A DRIVING FORCE FOR PROGRESS”

The state government of North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW) has launched a new initiative, KlimaExpo.NRW, which is to primarily focus on implementing the ‘energy turnaround’ (i.e. switching from fossil fuels to renewables) and reaching the targets set out to prevent climate change. The goal of the Expo is to make successful, future-oriented projects, which are aimed at protecting our climate, accessible to the public and so present the technological and economic potential of the state of NRW. Moreover, as the Expo project is due to run for eight years, it is also being seen as a kind of think tank and breeding ground for new ideas.

Recycling prevents climate change

The waste management and recycling sector is also playing an important role in the Klima.Expo, as it has already helped Germany to reach the first sub-goal set out in the Kyoto Protocol: to reduce methane emissions by a factor of 20. What is particularly notable about this sub-goal is that methane is approx. 26 times more harmful to the climate than carbon dioxide. By simply closing landfills to household waste and other types of waste with an organic content of > 5%, emissions of methane – which is produced as the organic material rots – have been able to be reduced by a factor of 20.

Besides the success in this area, the waste management and recycling sector has made a further contribution towards preventing climate change: simply by operating an effective recycling sector, which focuses on generating energy as well as on reducing energy consumption, more greenhouse gases are avoided than produced.

The Lippe Plant as a Best Practice Project

The Lippe Plant will, therefore, soon be opening its doors and gates to the public to enable all those interested to see how the recycling sector works and how it can help to prevent climate change. If the ‘energy turnaround’ is to be achieved quickly and if businesses are to be operated in an energy efficient and environmentally friendly way, then innovative resource-efficient technologies are needed as well as a secure supply of raw materials. This, in turn, requires modern and efficient recycling processes. The Lippe Plant is already home to a wide variety of recycling facilities which enable numerous materials to be recovered and returned to production cycles or to generate climate-neutral energy. By developing new technologies, the company can create new recycling systems and increase the number of materials it is able to recycle. Today, REMONDIS is already able to produce many primary products from the secondary raw materials it has recovered at the Lippe Plant and so substitute large quantities of primary fossil and mineral raw materials. Thanks to its activities, REMONDIS is playing a major role in reducing carbon emissions as well as emissions of many other harmful gases such as methane.

Methane is

26x

more harmful to the climate than carbon dioxide

Factor of

-20

Thanks to recycling, Germany has already reached the first sub-goal set out in the Kyoto Protocol: to reduce methane emissions by a factor of 20

South East Asia

Increasing resource efficiency



REMEX HELPS SINGAPORE TO FURTHER DEVELOP ITS RECYCLING SECTOR

Singapore is one of the most densely populated countries in the world with very little land and very few raw materials of its own. With this in mind, the Government of this Asian city-state is pushing ahead the development of a resource-efficient society. In line with this, Singapore's first ever facility for processing waste incinerator slag is due to start operations in the near future. A REMONDIS Group company has been commissioned to build and operate the plant: REMEX Mineralstoff GmbH.

The project in Singapore to process slag and recover raw materials will be acting as a role model in Asia



“As industrialisation grows, so, too, does the demand for metals. By recycling metals from waste incineration processes, we are helping to ensure that the very most is made of our existing resources.”

Venkat Patnaik, Managing Director M/s REMEX Minerals Singapore Pte

This new facility for processing slag from waste incineration plants and recovering ferrous and non-ferrous metals is a project initiated by the NEA (National Environment Agency) in Singapore. Having put out the project to tender, the agency awarded the contract to REMEX. This REMONDIS subsidiary has extensive experience of this type of work and already operates similar facilities in the Netherlands and Germany. In order to set up and operate the facility in Singapore, REMEX founded a local branch which is being run under the name, M/s REMEX Minerals Singapore Pte. Ltd.

Large volumes of small metal parts

REMEX is to begin construction work on the Singapore slag processing and metal recovery plant this October. The facility is due to start operations in the summer of 2015 and will be able to process approx. 650,000 tonnes of incinerator slag every year.

The slag will be coming from Singapore's four waste incineration plants which are also the country's biggest energy producers. At present, magnet separators are in use which are only able to recover larger pieces of ferrous metal. The disadvantage of this conventional process is that valuable non-ferrous metals, such as aluminium and copper, and small iron pieces remain in the slag residue and are lost forever.

Once REMEX's facility is up and running, it will greatly increase the country's recycling rates as it will also be able to filter out non-ferrous metals as small as one millimetre in size. Recovery rates of ferrous metals will also grow considerably as the facility will have the capability to recognise and remove pieces that are four millimetres or bigger. All in all, around 90 percent of the ferrous metals and over three

quarters of the non-ferrous metals will be able to be recycled. To reach these targets, REMEX will be relying on both well-established machinery, e.g. magnet separators, as well as on state-of-the-art processes, such as the technology the company developed itself in the Netherlands. Moreover, it will be installing special eddy current separators to ensure even the smallest of metal pieces are recovered.

Recycled products for the building trade

This new slag processing plant will not only be pushing forward metal recycling, which is so important to Singapore. The NEA is also looking ahead and has its eye on the largest material fraction: the leftover slag itself. If treated correctly, this material could be used as a substitute material in road and earthworks projects – for example as an aggregate in concrete products. Such products include paving stones, concrete slabs for building paths, kerbstones, concrete blocks and armour stones for protecting river banks and coastlines. Recycling slag for use in construction projects is already practised in Europe and provides an alternative to sending such material to landfill.

Transport by ship to Semakau Island

The site selected for REMEX's Singapore slag processing plant is an industrial area covering 1.4 hectares and located right next door to the Tuas Marine Transfer Station. The leftover slag residue will be transported from here by ship to the Island of Semakau. This island primarily consists of deposited slag covered in soil so that its surface area increases year on year. Singapore allows nature to take its natural course on the island, as previous projects have shown this to be the best solution. Today, Semakau has its own thriving biosphere with rich tropical vegetation and a wide variety of animal species

REMEX®
WORKING FOR THE FUTURE

“The construction of REMEX's facility to recover metals is part of our long-term plan to improve resource efficiency.”

Ronnie Tay, CEO of the National Environment Agency (NEA), Singapore

Special processes have been developed to treat waste incinerator slag enabling it to be used as a high quality building product so that it can substitute and conserve primary raw materials

Asia

A common goal



THE GLOBAL CHALLENGES FACED BY THE RECYCLING SECTOR CAN ONLY BE TACKLED EFFECTIVELY IF ALL COUNTRIES WORK TOGETHER

An interview with Thomas Breilkopf, Board Member responsible for production activities at REMONDIS SE & Co. KG, on slag processing in Singapore, the challenges brought about by the economic boom in Asia and the responsibility of the international community to protect global supplies of raw materials.

Mr Breilkopf, looking at REMONDIS' international activities, I see you also operate in the countries in east Asia. How long has the company been in this region?

Thomas Breilkopf: We've been operating in east Asia for more than twenty years now. Our very first project in the region was to open a plastics recycling facility in Taiwan. From there, we transferred the concept of a sustainable economy with a strong recycling set-up to China and have been steadily developing our business there since then.

What are the stand-out features of the emerging economies in this region?

Thomas Breilkopf: These countries need well-functioning recycling, service and water management systems to cope with the consequences of their rapid economic growth and the ever-growing number of consumer products. Many of the regions, however, do not yet have the necessary knowledge, technologies or infrastructures to create a healthy balance between their economic boom and the needs of the environment.

There is also a global component to our activities in Asia: sustainability and environmental protection do not stop at a country's border. The Earth has only one atmosphere, one common water supply and very limited amounts of natural resources. The challenges created by this can only be tackled if all countries work together.

REMONDIS is now working together with Singapore's National Environmental Agency to push forward the processing of slag and the recovery of metals in the country. Can Singapore act as a kind of role model for other regions in Asia?

Thomas Breilkopf: Singapore is a city-state with very few natural resources of its own, so it has to keep a very careful eye on recycling and the environment. The country, therefore, perfectly illustrates the conditions linked to increased industrialisation and densely populated areas. It is truly impressive to see how quickly and how efficiently this nation has tackled the challenges.



Thomas Breilkopf, REMONDIS Board Member, gives a realistic appraisal of the markets in Asia



Singapore is a modern country and one of the most densely populated regions in Asia

Singapore has shown that a lot can be achieved – and not in a seemingly never-ending process but within a relatively short period of time. The slag processing and metal recovery facility, which REMEX has developed on behalf of the Environmental Agency and which should be up and running by the middle of next year, is a further step along this path: global recycling rates can and must be increased. The systematic recovery of materials is the only way to safeguard raw materials over the long term – in Singapore as well as in all other regions of the world.

Many of the countries in Asia are still in the early stage of their industrial development and so can avoid the mistakes made by the “older” industrial nations. Are they making the most of this opportunity?

Thomas Breitkopf: It would certainly be ideal if the emerging countries considered environmental aspects in the early stages of their economic development. By doing so, they could prevent environmental damage from actually occurring and ensure their industrial growth is set up on a solid base. However, to achieve this, it is essential to raise public awareness of sustainability. A further precondition is having sufficient funds to be able to finance the creation of effective recycling and efficient waste management systems.

Are the services offered by REMONDIS in the various countries around the world basically the same?

Thomas Breitkopf: Each country has its own special requirements which depend on how advanced its economy is, on the density of its population and on its rural or urban structures. We always, therefore, offer bespoke services. The one common denominator is that REMONDIS always uses its experience gathered from similar projects carried out in different regions. Thus, the new slag processing facility in Singapore will benefit from REMEX’s know-how from operating similar facilities in Europe. The country’s options might even go beyond our western standards, for example using the slag as a substitute building material. Singapore is planning to look at different ways of using processed slag to produce concrete blocks and other concrete products – a process which is still being set up in Germany and one that is already being practised in the Netherlands.

Biogas from Coesfeld

AN ALTERNATIVE IN UNCERTAIN TIMES: BIOMETHANE INSTEAD OF NATURAL GAS



Germany has very few sources of energy of its own and is particularly dependent on Russia for its supply of natural gas. Every year, the country consumes around 900 terawatt hours of natural gas, of which more than 800 terawatt hours need to be imported. Russia supplies just under 39 percent of this gas, namely 315 terawatt hours. For a while now – and not just since the outbreak of the crisis in the Ukraine – energy experts, politicians and the private sector have been looking at ways to reduce Germany’s dependency on natural gas imports. A recent study carried out by experts working at the Fraunhofer IWES (Fraunhofer Institute for Wind Energy and Energy System Technology) has identified a number of ways of doing this, including the use of biomethane as a substitute for natural gas. RETERRA already has such a scheme up and running.

Local biogas could help compensate for the decline in German natural gas production

In 2007, the Federal Government set a new target for 2030: 108 terawatt hours of energy should be produced by Germany itself from biogas. Whilst the country is still a long way from this goal, experts agree that biogas could at least help compensate for the decline in German natural gas production. In line with this plan, RETERRA, one of the leading companies for processing and recycling organic residual materials in Germany, opened up a new anaerobic digestion facility at its compost plant in Coesfeld on 30 April.

Increasing commitment to produce energy from biogas

In addition to this, Gesellschaft des Kreises Coesfeld zur Förderung regenerativer Energien mbH (GFC) has built a plant to process the biogas generated. GFC’s plant cleans the biogas by removing any unwanted substances and then concentrates the methane

content of the gas from ca. 56% to over 97%. The result is a gas of the same quality as natural gas which can then be fed into the gas network. Both plants use state-of-the-art technology and are making a valuable contribution towards the country’s ‘energy turnaround’ (i.e. to change energy supply from fossils to renewables). Prior to this, organic waste had been processed in a conventional composting facility at the Coesfeld-Hoeven composting plant owned by RETERRA West GmbH & Co. KG. Against the backdrop of the increased demands resulting from the energy turnaround and the need to reduce the country’s dependency on energy imports, the company decided to change the way it processed biomass. As part of this new concept, RETERRA West GmbH & Co. KG has built an additional biogas plant with a throughput capacity of 40,000t which will primarily be used for processing organic waste from organic waste bins.



“Producing biogas of the same quality as natural gas can help immensely to reduce our dependency on Russia to supply us with energy.”

Aloys Oechtering, Managing Director of RETERRA



Norbert Rethmann at the official opening of the biogas plant



(from left): District Director Joachim L. Gilbeau, Karl Schiewerling (MP), Norbert Rethmann, Honorary Chairman of the Rethmann Group, District Administrator Konrad Püning, State Secretary Dr Maria Flachsbarth

Compost and biogas – a win-win situation for Coesfeld

The rest of the organic and garden waste will continue to be used, together with the digestate from the biogas plant, to produce compost at the Coesfeld composting plant. This facility has the capacity to handle 68,000t. The plant's composting facility has also been completely refurbished and adapted to fulfil the latest emission requirements set out in the 'BImSCHG' (Federal Emissions Act). All of the biogas produced at the biogas plant is sold to GFC. Plans are for this facility to produce more than 20 million kilowatt hours of gas every year.

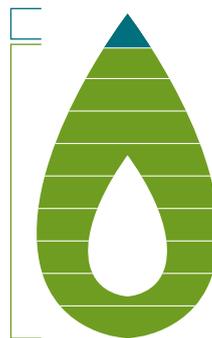
The biogas processing facility, built by GFC at the same time, cleans the biogas and removes CO₂, sulphur and water to produce a clean gas mixture of the same quality as natural gas. This gas is then fed into Thyssen Gas' overhead pipe

directly reducing the demand for natural gas and, as a result, the dependency on energy imports and the geopolitical issues connected to this. At present, there are very few plants in Europe that are able to produce gas from waste that is of the same quality as natural gas. Thanks to their investment, RETERRA and GFC are making an important contribution towards producing a climate-friendly supply of energy for the future.

At present, there are very few plants in Europe that are able to produce gas from waste that is of the same quality as natural gas. This might be about to change

100 TWh

800 TWh

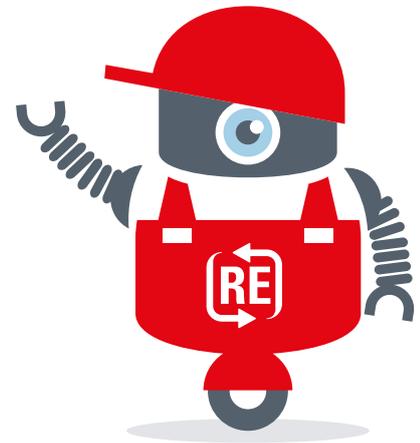


Every year, Germany consumes around 900 terawatt hours of natural gas, of which more than 800 terawatt hours need to be imported

RETERRA, a fully owned REMONDIS subsidiary, accepts, processes and recycles organic raw materials using them to produce high quality products. Such material includes plant and tree cuttings or compostable household waste, from which quality-assured composts are produced. In addition, RETERRA also accepts organic residual waste, such as food waste, which – depending on its suitability – is used in the biogas plant or to produce animal feed. The company's portfolio is rounded off with sewage sludge fertiliser for agricultural use and environmentally friendly fuels produced from biomass.



THE RECYCLING PROFESSIONALS – on the road to save our raw materials



OUR RECYCLING PROFESSIONALS ARE TOURING THE COUNTRY TO RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT THE SHORTAGE OF RAW MATERIALS

For a long time now, humans have been consuming more raw materials than our planet is able to replenish – and demand continues to grow. This means that natural reserves of raw materials are becoming scarcer and scarcer and some will even have run out by the end of this century. Yet raw materials are essential for our lives. They provide us with food, ensure we have light and heat and are needed to produce our everyday goods. We all know that our planet's reserves of raw materials are limited and so we must learn to handle them in a sustainable way.

The aim of the RECYCLING PROFESSIONALS is to make people more aware about the need to recycle, save our raw materials and prevent climate change

What exactly is a “raw material shortage”? What has it got to do with the collection of recyclables?

It is precisely these questions that are at the core of our educational project, THE RECYCLING PROFESSIONALS. Launched just over a year ago, the project was developed together with experienced teaching specialists and is aimed at kindergarten and school children. Its goal is to make young people more aware of the subjects of recycling waste and the shortage of raw materials, teaching them the most important facts through fun and entertainment.

This year, the RECYCLING PROFESSIONALS have extended the reach of their mission to save our raw materials and have gone on an “environmental tour” around the country.

Stopping off at public events – such as the 19th Festival of the Environment in Berlin, the fairflair in Mülheim, the festival for children and teenagers in Stuttgart and the NRW Day in Bielefeld – the team of experienced teachers have been showing the children which recyclables belong in which bins and why it is so important to segregate waste. At the same time, the RECYCLING PROFESSIONALS try to pass on the

message to all those taking part that recyclable materials should be handled responsibly. The subject of recyclables is, therefore, looked into in detail using fun and creative activities.

The RECYCLING PROFESSIONALS' circus tent is the place where it all happens. Whether it be a wall building activity, a creative recyclables stand, a recyclables race, the company's RECYCLING KIDS board game, films about recycling or a singing workshop – everything has been developed especially for children and fits together and complements each other perfectly.

Lutz Wedegärtner, branch manager of REMONDIS Berlin, was delighted by the RECYCLING PROFESSIONALS' event in Berlin: “The wide range of activities put on in the RECYCLING PROFESSIONALS' tent was perfect for families with kids. Everyone was attracted by the mixture of games, workshops and infotainment: the children could take part in the games and learn about the importance of segregating waste and the adults were also able to ask any questions they had about the shortage of raw materials and recycling.”



Go to www.remondis-aktuell.com to see a film made during the RECYCLING PROFESSIONALS' trip to Stuttgart

A really fun way to learn – the “RECYCLING KIDS” board game



The RECYCLING PROFESSIONALS have been a hit with children and adults alike during their tour around Germany



The Berlin branch also took a close look at the “RECYCLING KIDS” board game during the 19th Festival of the Environment in Berlin. Developed by REMONDIS, this award-winning game is great fun to play and teaches children how to separate household waste. The Berlin branch is now planning to introduce the board game to schools in Berlin to continue this mission to save our planet’s raw materials.

The RECYCLING PROFESSIONALS’ tour around Germany has proven to be a hit with children and adults alike and it has, without a doubt, achieved its goal of making the visitors more aware of the environment.



Recycling

Pragmatic decisions in Berlin

TSR COOPERATES WITH BERLIN RECYCLING AT THE 'WESTHAFEN' IN BERLIN

Pleased with the new set up: Michael Theis (Board Member responsible for Finance at Berliner Stadtreinigung), Carlo Zandonella, Petra Gutsche (both at the Berlin city development senate department), Bernd Fleschenberg (Managing Director of TSR), Marina Dankert (regional manager for the east of Germany) and Hanno Thielmann (Managing Director of Berlin Recycling GmbH)

Sometimes it is a good idea to reallocate land to increase the efficiency of a business and generally make things easier. This is precisely what has happened in Berlin. Berlin Recycling GmbH and TSR have swapped grounds at the Westhafen (Western Harbour) in Berlin – a win-win for all involved.

For many years now, TSR has been renting two different areas at the Westhafen inland port in Berlin – Westhafen I and Westhafen II. A new plan was drawn up in 2013 to merge these activities and run them at a single location in Berlin to cut transport costs and grow efficiency. By doing so, the equipment and logistics solutions could be deployed far more effectively – and the distance between buildings would be much shorter. Thanks to the company's contacts at Berlin Recycling GmbH, an extremely pragmatic solution was found for this plan: Berlin Recycling, which, at the time, operated a glass recycling plant on grounds adjacent to Westhafen II, was interested in relocating to TSR's Westhafen I area. In exchange, TSR would get Berlin Recycling's old grounds which cover more than 20,000 square metres and are right next door to its other operations.

An exchange which was completed in June and has made everyone very happy: Berlin Recycling now has grounds that are equipped with state-of-the-art technology and are large enough to tranship the 60,000 tonnes of old glass it collects in Berlin. In turn, TSR has found a good subtenant for Westhafen I. Over the next few months, TSR will be implementing its plans to ensure the new grounds are used effectively. "Besides the investments, which have already been or are yet to be implemented, we will, of course, adapt our business operations and logistics processes to the new situation," explained regional manager, Marina Dankert. "By doing so, we hope to increase our turnover rate." The work to convert the grounds is expected to be completed next year.

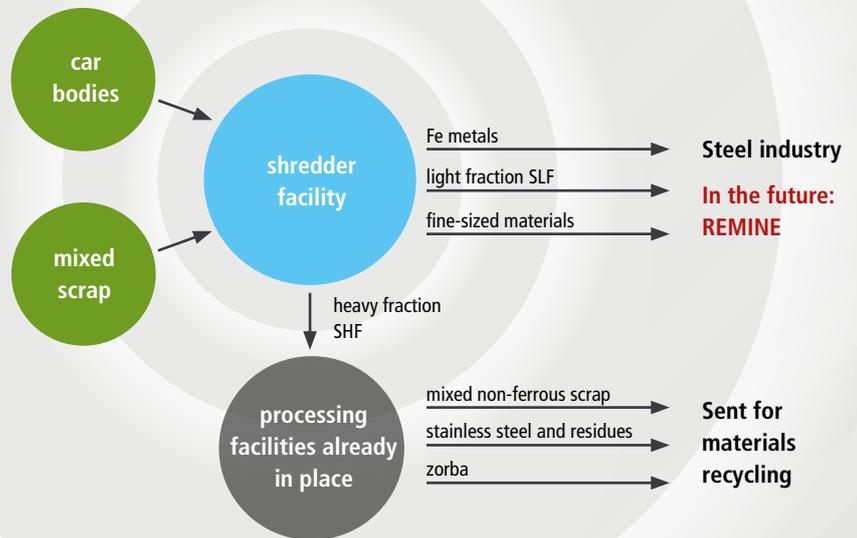
The Berlin switch over – by swapping grounds, both businesses can now operate more efficiently

REMINE – more recyclables, less waste

TSR TO LAUNCH INNOVATIVE METAL & PLASTICS RECYCLING PROCESSES WITH ITS NEW COMPANY

For decades now, TSR Recycling GmbH & Co. KG has been one of the main suppliers of the steel industry providing businesses with eight million tonnes of scrap iron every year. Besides operating shears and balers, the Group also owns ten shredder facilities including two mega-shredders (6,000 horsepower). TSR has now set up a new company, REMINE, which will be employing more complex sorting processes in order to improve the way the different materials in the shredder output are separated from each other. Its goal: to efficiently recover more high quality raw materials from residual and/or waste materials.

The so-called ‘shredder heavy fraction’ (SHF) generated by the shredding process contains valuable non-ferrous metals and is already being successfully processed by TSR with all the metals being sent for materials recycling. Over the last few years, however, the company has observed a general trend towards a miniaturisation of electronic components. There has, for example, been a dramatic increase in the number of very small data cables or compact electric motors built into cars. In some cases, over 100 of these mini-motors are installed in upper mid-range vehicles. As the high quality metals found in these motors weigh so little, they often fall into the ‘shredder light fraction’ (SLF) category.



Improved recycling rates thanks to better sorting processes

REMINE’s aim is to take the metals and plastics in the light fraction, separate them strictly according to type and then ensure that each individual fraction is sent on to the most appropriate processing facility. This is all possible thanks to the technological progress made by the recycling sector. New types of equipment and technology are now available on the market that are able to make more of the materials contained in the shredder light fractions compared to the machines that have been used up to now. At the same time, minimum recycling rates of end-of-life-vehicles (ELV) are to be increased in 2015. The current changes made to the recycling law could mean that the compulsory recycling rates will not be reached unless this new technology is used.

The next challenge: composite materials

Valuable metals are increasingly being replaced by plastics – for example in toys, car interiors and even in temperature critical areas in vehicle engines. Other future challenges will

include composite materials such as carbon fibres. In order to find a solution to these challenges, REMINE GmbH is setting up a completely new type of modular processing facility at TSR’s location in Brandenburg. For the first time, a whole range of different materials will be examined individually and then separated according to their composition.

At the end of the day, this kind of recycling is, effectively, a production process which uses its technology to recover the greatest possible amounts of marketable plastics and metals as well as other recyclable fractions. By using state-of-the-art technology, the company will be able to reduce volumes of waste and increase resource efficiency.

Innovative sorting technology improves recycling processes



The beginning of a promising partnership

REMONDIS AWARDED A PPP CONTRACT IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT OF OSNABRÜCK

Once again, REMONDIS has further underlined its position as an attractive business partner for local authorities having entered into a further public private partnership (PPP): a joint venture between the north German district of Osnabrück and REMONDIS' regional company, REMONDIS Nord, is to start operations on 01 January 2015. Around 350,000 local inhabitants will benefit from this new collaboration.



At the beginning of July, REMONDIS Region Nord and the district's company, AWIGO Abfallwirtschaft Landkreis Osnabrück GmbH, founded a public private company which is to be run under the name AWIGO Logistik GmbH. The district authorities own a 51 percent share in the new PPP company and REMONDIS Nord a 49 percent share. The district will be performing all commercial tasks involved in the operational side of the business; REMONDIS will be providing the fleet of vehicles as well as the necessary logistics know-how. Their mutual goal is to unite the district authorities' regional business knowledge with REMONDIS' international know-how to create the best possible economic and ecological results. AWIGO Logistik GmbH is to officially start its work in January 2015; the cooperation agreement is due to run until 2030.

Stringent requirements for a successful collaboration

The decision to work with REMONDIS was taken as part of a Europe-wide tender process. The company was clearly able to demonstrate the quality of its work during this process beating the offers submitted by its competitors following two rounds of negotiations last March. Whilst comparing the various proposals, the authorities not only looked at the economic aspects of the bids but also at the level of quality offered, closely examining subjects such as innovation, organisation and quality management. Moreover, the list of criteria also called for those submitting a bid to draw up various concepts to demonstrate how such a strategic partnership could be set up so that it is both reliable and sustainable. This meant, therefore, developing a concept that would not only lead to an effective collaboration but also provide for fair contractual conditions and joint decision-making processes.



REMONDIS Board Member, Thomas Conzendorf, and Dr Michael Lübbersmann, District Chief Executive of the Administrative District of Osnabrück, (centre, left to right) flanked by the two future managing directors of AWIGO Logistik: Wolfgang Steen (left) and Christian Niehaves (right)



“We have established this PPP company to push forward our goal of further improving customer services and cost effectiveness.”

Christian Niehaves, Managing Director of AWIGO Abfallwirtschaft Landkreis Osnabrück GmbH

Maximum efficiency thanks to logistics know-how

The tasks of the public private joint venture will be to collect recyclables and residual waste from households and businesses, including organic waste, bulky waste and old paper and cardboard. The services are to be offered across an area covering a good 2,000 square kilometres. Consisting of 34 districts and 31 nature reserves, the administrative district of Osnabrück is well known for its rural communities. With its population spread out across this large area, an intelligent recycling logistics system is needed if top quality services are to be offered and costs kept to a minimum. To provide efficient services, organisational know-how and a modern fleet of vehicles are key.

A cooperation model with tangible benefits

The initial stages of this collaboration have already brought about some positive outcomes: the foundation of AWIGO Logistik GmbH will lead to the creation of up to 50 jobs. The local inhabitants living in the district are to be provided with an excellent overall package with high quality and low cost

services. At the same time, the administrative district has access to the REMONDIS Group’s extensive expertise and wide range of plants and facilities.

“The foundation of AWIGO Logistik underlines once again the importance REMONDIS puts on working closely with local authorities,” commented Wolfgang Steen, managing director of REMONDIS Nord. REMONDIS has already entered into a number of public private partnerships in north Germany, e.g. in Bremerhaven, Kiel, Schwerin and Pinneberg. Wolfgang Steen continued: “By founding a PPP company, local authorities are able to tap into REMONDIS’ potential. This offers them a far better alternative to running such businesses on their own or indeed selling them off completely to the private sector.”

Whether it be in Bremerhaven, Kiel or Schwerin: REMONDIS Nord is a popular partner for local authorities in north Germany, where it has entered into several different public private partnerships



The foundation of AWIGO Logistik GmbH will lead to the creation of up to 50 jobs



Awigo provides modern services wherever they are needed – also using its own logistics systems

Refinery undergoes TÜV inspection

RUHR OEL GMBH IN GELSENKIRCHEN SELECTS XERVON TO MANAGE SHUTDOWN

XERVON®

WORKING FOR THE FUTURE

What is a matter of course for car drivers, also applies to the operators of large industrial plants. At regular intervals, the TÜV inspectors turn up at the gates to check operations are running properly. Such events involve large amounts of maintenance work and it goes without saying that inspecting one of the largest refineries in Germany is not quite as simple as checking a vehicle. A whole range of tasks need to be coordinated – from the meticulous planning work, to sophisticated logistics, to the complicated scaffolding, insulating, welding and metal work – so that the plant is approved for a further five years. There are only a handful of companies able to provide all the services required for such a complex task. XERVON is among this small group.



The refinery and petrochemicals plant in Gelsenkirchen uses 12 million tonnes of crude oil to manufacture a range of 50 different products. These include the premium fuels sold under the "Aral" brand name, heating oil, jet fuel, bitumen and petroleum coke as well as approx. 3 million tonnes of petrochemical products which are primarily sold on to the plastics industry. The two plants operated by BP here are located in two separate districts of Gelsenkirchen (Scholven and Horst), cover a total area of around 360 hectares and provide jobs for around 1,750 people. The production facilities are owned by Ruhr Oel GmbH, a joint venture between BP and the Russian oil company, Rosneft. Founded in the 1930s to produce liquid fuels from coal, the plant has since become one of the most modern refineries in Europe and one which places great importance on subjects such as safety and environmental protection.

This year's turnaround – aka TAR – took place at Ruhr Oel's Scholven plant between 26 April and 16 July 2014. Regular maintenance work has to be performed at refineries every

five to six years. Individual facilities have to be shut down for several weeks to enable the inspectors to do their work. What though exactly happens during such a shutdown project?

As soon as the plant section has been turned off, mobile cranes are brought in and set up right in the middle of the production plants. Scaffolding is erected, insulation removed, containers opened up, engines, compressors and fittings dismantled. These steel giants, so-called columns used for manufacturing petrol and other products, are literally taken apart and stripped down into their individual component parts so that they can be carefully inspected. Safety and environmental protection are top of the list of priorities during such projects. Every part is cleaned, meticulously examined and, if required, repaired or replaced and then put back together again – right down to the very last screw. Once the facility has been turned back on again and everything works properly, the specialists take down the scaffolding and remove the cranes and any other equipment needed for the turnaround work. The plant section is then given the "TÜV seal" which is valid for the next few years.

What sounds so simple is in fact a huge project that lasts for several months and begins well before the actual shutdown is due to take place. XERVON has been providing its services at the refinery for a number of years now and has around 170 employees permanently on site to carry out scaffolding and insulation work and ensure the operations there run smoothly 24/7. A much bigger team was needed for the turnaround however: over 600 employees took part this time including 120 insulation specialists, 200 scaffolders and 300 welders and metal workers from XERVON's mainte-

Thanks to XERVON's support, top levels of safety were maintained during the turnaround carried out at Ruhr Oel GmbH



nance division. The volumes of material needed for the scaffolding alone were immense, with the weight of the erected scaffolding totalling approx. 6,000 tonnes. To be able to handle such amounts, XERVON operates its own warehouse on the refinery's grounds. Preparation work for the turnaround began on 06 January when the first scaffolding structures were also erected. The actual maintenance work was carried out in a two-shift operation during the project's core period from 05 to 28 May. Transport logistics within the grounds were essential right from the start – for example while the heat exchangers were being dismantled and reassembled. Here, the tube bundle was removed, transported to where the maintenance work was to be performed, washed with high pressure jets, inspected and, if required, parts replaced or repaired before being returned and put back into the facility. Other maintenance tasks here also included measuring the thickness of the tube walls as well as removing and reinstalling any insulation materials.

Stable scaffolding is essential to be able to carry out all this work. One special feature of the plant in Gelsenkirchen is that the scaffolding structures need to be freestanding to prevent the facility parts from being damaged. Freestanding scaffolds that are higher than 27 metres need to be calcu-

lated by structural engineers. Indeed, some of the structures erected at Ruhr Oel in Scholven were much higher than this 27-metre mark. The quality of XERVON's work was underlined by the massive storm that hit the area on Whit Monday. Whilst buildings, vehicles and trees in Gelsenkirchen suffered badly from the storm, each and every scaffold erected by XERVON withstood the hurricane-force winds. Having passed this "test", work was able to be started up again immediately so that the first machines could be turned back on again on 29 May. The project was completed and the plant's operations back to normal by the middle of July. Thanks to XERVON's help, Ruhr Oel in Gelsenkirchen has received the TÜV seal of quality – and confirmation for the next five years that its plant is fit for purpose.



The quality of XERVON's work was underlined by the massive storm that hit the area on Whit Monday. All of XERVON's scaffolding withstood the hurricane-force winds



620 
6,000t

620 XERVON employees erected around 6,000 tonnes of scaffolding material and carried out the maintenance and insulation work

ENERVIE – Water, energy, networks and services

REMONDIS ACQUIRES A SHARE IN ENERVIE – SÜDWESTFALEN ENERGIE UND WASSER AG

ENERVIE – Südwestfalen Energie und Wasser AG is a regional association of energy providers based in the City of Hagen. ENERVIE was created as a result of a merger between Mark-E AG and Stadtwerke Lüdenscheid and is one of biggest regional energy suppliers in Germany. It has a large catchment area covering South Westphalia (with the towns of Hagen and Lüdenscheid) and the Märkischer Kreis district. All in all, ENERVIE supplies water, electricity, gas and heat to around 400,000 customers. Having taken over the 19.06% share in the company previously owned by RWE, REMONDIS has now joined this regional provider.

REMONDIS received great support from the municipal shareholders and has been made very welcome by its new partners

On 25 August 2014, all of the municipal shareholders unconditionally approved the transfer of the shares owned by RWE Deutschland AG to REMONDIS Wasser & Energie GmbH. The company's managing directors, Markus F. Schmidt and Andreas Bankamp, were really pleased to become part of ENERVIE. "The fact that the municipal partners in the ENERVIE Group have been so welcoming confirms our belief that this acquisition was the right move and that we should continue to extend the work we do with utilities companies and local authorities," explained Markus F. Schmidt. Andreas Bankamp added: "We are particularly pleased that the company has such high levels of expertise in the area of sustainable water management which we will be able to combine with our years of know-how. Besides the treatment and supply of top quality drinking water, facilities such as pumped storage hydroelectric

power stations and run of river plants will become ever more important as Germany switches its energy supply from fossils to renewables."

Water + energy = life

Whilst the name ENERVIE encapsulates the service portfolio of a 'system-relevant' provider, it also stands for 'energy for life'. A look at the services provided by the company clearly shows that it is not only interested in supplying energy. Besides owning shares in nine local public utility companies and regional providers, including Hagen, Lüdenscheid, Altena and Meinerzhagen, ENERVIE also operates numerous water production and supply facilities with a sales volume of over 17 million cubic metres in Hagen and Lüdenscheid alone. Other areas of operation include the Treckinghausen waterworks, which extracts drinking water from the Verse Dam,



(from left to right): **Erik Höhne**, Board Member responsible for technology at Enervie Südwestfalen Energie und Wasser AG, **Andreas Bankamp**, Managing Director REMONDIS Aqua GmbH & Co. KG, Managing Director REMONDIS Wasser & Energie GmbH, **Ivo Grünhagen**, Board Spokesperson at Enervie Südwestfalen Energie und Wasser AG, **Wilhelm Jasperneite**, REMONDIS GmbH & Co. KG (Bochum, RV West), Managing Director REMONDIS Münsterland Verwaltungsgesellschaft mbH, **Markus F. Schmidt**, Managing Director REMONDIS Energy & Services GmbH & Co. KG, Managing Director REMONDIS Wasser & Energie GmbH, **Wolfgang Struwe**, Board Member at Enervie Südwestfalen Energie und Wasser AG

the Hengstey waterworks on the Hengstey reservoir and the Hasper Dam waterworks. There is even a salmon farm on the Hasper Dam. ENERVIE's network of water pipes alone are around 1,300 kilometres in length; its total network reaches a length of approx. 12,500 kilometres.

Water also generates energy

Wherever nature permits, ENERVIE also uses water to generate electricity. Examples of this can be found at the Finnentrop pumped storage hydroelectric power station, which – together with RWE's Koepchenwerk – is the largest of its kind in the German state of North Rhine-Westphalia, and the run of river plants on the River Lenne in Werdohl and Plettenberg. ENERVIE uses the dips in the river to generate hydropower, the cleanest way to produce electricity – absolutely no CO₂ to be found at all! Thanks to its commitment in the water sector, this company is popular with its customers and municipal partners alike. Around 1,500 employees provide top quality services for its more than 400,000 customers in South Westphalia generating a turnover of around 1.1 billion euros. All this means that ENERVIE is the perfect match for REMONDIS with sustainability being the most important guiding principle for both businesses. ENERVIE has drawn up strict environmental guidelines for all its fields of business and compiled manuals for its different divisions describing how they should be implemented. Moreover, it continuously monitors its operations to ensure they are being adhered to. It is constantly looking at ways to optimise its business – such as cutting carbon emissions by installing more efficient technology in the group's plants. In addition, ENERVIE has created incen-

tives to encourage their customers to opt for regenerative products and technologies: for example by introducing its KlimaFair tariff and promoting energy-saving processes.

ENERVIE supports innovative sustainability projects

Just like its new shareholder, the ENERVIE Group is constantly thinking ahead and working for the future. One example here is its commitment to renewable energy, opening its first wind farm back in 2011. There are many more examples though. The opening of the group's new head office this year will be a further demonstration of its forward-looking concept to make the cooperation work within the ENERVIE Group even more efficient. Moreover, it will be using more

“We were really pleased to see the reaction of the municipal shareholders who were unanimous in their decision to allow REMONDIS to purchase a share in ENERVIE.”

Markus F. Schmidt, Managing Director of REMONDIS Wasser & Energie GmbH

energy-efficient technology and renewable energy wherever possible at its new buildings – such as having solar panels on the roofs of the halls. This new concept has also meant its fleet of vehicles can be optimised, cutting fuel costs and so helping to conserve natural resources and protect the environment. This, too, is a perfect example of how committed ENERVIE is towards creating a sustainable future. Just like REMONDIS – and now they can join forces and work towards this goal together.

Sustainability is top of the list of ENERVIE's priorities

Recycling



Würth opts for RESPRAY

AEROSOL CANS SHOULD BE DROPPED OFF AT THE RECYCLING CENTRE, THE MOBILE HAZARDOUS COLLECTION CENTRE OR INTO THE RESPRAY BOX



Recycling aerosol cans is a job for true specialists. The RESPRAY full-service system guarantees that full, partially full and empty aerosol cans from commercial and industrial businesses are safely collected, transported and recycled across the whole of the country. REMONDIS Industrie Service has launched its new collection service to help companies that have to regularly discard old aerosol cans or PU foam containers. Industrial firms, the building trade, garages, specialist shops and DIY stores and even pharmaceutical firms and hospitals can benefit from this practical service.

Würth's head office (the photos show two of the head office buildings)



RESPRAY collects, transports and recycles aerosol cans and PU foam containers on behalf of its industrial and commercial customers

Würth and REMONDIS: a strong partnership

Adolf Würth GmbH & Co. KG is the market leader for assembly and fastening materials and is not only one of the REMONDIS Group's biggest suppliers, it has also been a RESPRAY customer since the beginning of the year.

At the beginning of July 2014, REMONDIS Industrie Service began supplying 130 of Würth's businesses around the country with RESPRAY boxes (at least two per location) in which the unwanted cans can be discarded. Moreover, it is also responsible for collecting, transporting and recycling these hazardous materials. UPEX is also playing a role here. Businesses which purchase the WÜRTH cold cleaning agent for garage cleaning systems – available via both

its webshop and its business locations – can have their used cleaning water collected and recycled for free. This service is carried out by UPEX.

Good for the environment

At the same time, Würth is also helping to protect the environment as RESPRAY guarantees to recover as many materials as possible when recycling the aerosol cans: the cans' aluminium and tinplate content is recovered and returned to production cycles. The contents and propellants are recovered wherever possible. Those which cannot be recycled are disposed of using environmentally friendly processes. By offering this full-service package, REMONDIS is helping its customers to make their production processes across the country even more sustainable.



Working with the oil industry

REMONDIS INDUSTRIE SERVICE ON THE ROAD TO RECYCLE OLD OIL PACKAGING

Since the beginning of the year, REMONDIS vehicles have been a regular sight at thousands of retailers selling mineral oil products in Germany including petrol stations and workshops, DIY stores, retail chains and oil retailers. These vehicles are on the road for the company, *Gebinde-Verwertungsgesellschaft der Mineralölwirtschaft mbH (GVÖ)*, which selected REMONDIS Industrie Service to be its new partner.

Hamburg-based GVÖ has licence agreements with over 150 partners from the mineral oil sector and is responsible for collecting and recycling their used oil containers. It set up its system in response to the German Packaging Ordinance which came into force in 1998. This stipulates that manufacturers and distributors are responsible for collecting and recycling any sales packaging they place onto the market. This obligation can, however, be transferred to a third party – such as GVÖ.

Collection from 8,284 outlets

GVÖ's services are financed by the licence payments received from its partners. As a result, people purchasing oils, fats, antifreeze, additives and similar oil-based products are able to return their sales packaging – no matter what the brand

and free of charge – to any retail outlet that sells products from GVÖ's partners. This system is also free of charge for the retailers; they must only cover the initial cost of providing suitable containers to store the returned packaging.

REMONDIS collects the empty plastic and metal containers from a total of 7,324 outlets in the state of North Rhine Westphalia and 960 outlets in Hamburg and ensures they are recycled using eco-friendly processes. If they wish, the retailers can also use other REMONDIS services. Christian Kürpick, project manager at REMONDIS Industrie Service, explained: "We are happy to help our customers wherever we can, for example inspecting and maintaining their oil and petrol separators, collecting their garage waste or collecting and recycling their old aerosol cans."

REMONDIS Industrie Service has been offering its customers safe solutions for their hazardous waste for many years now



REMONDIS collects empty plastic and metal containers from a total of

8,284
locations

A wide range of consumers

According to the German Packaging Ordinance, the term "consumer" not only refers to private individuals but also to restaurant businesses, public administration buildings, schools, hospitals, doctors' surgeries, charity organisations, freelancers and cultural and recreational facilities. They can all use GVÖ's take-back system for used oil containers.

Poland

Working together for greater sustainability

REMONDIS AQUA'S NEW ACQUISITION CREATES
AN IDEAL BASIS FOR INVESTMENTS



The REMONDIS Aqua Group has further intensified its commitment to the Polish market: in June, it acquired a 40 percent share in the municipal water and wastewater company owned by the City and District of Trzemeszno. Working together, they now intend to further improve water management, recycling and services in the region.

REMONDIS Aqua works together with local authorities, associations and industrial businesses in Poland

The District of Trzemeszno is situated west of Warsaw and comprises the City of Trzemeszno itself as well as 40 different towns and villages. In the past, water management and recycling services had been provided by a company fully owned by the local authorities. Things have changed recently, however, with REMONDIS Aqua acquiring a 40 percent share in the municipal business in June. Just two weeks later, at the beginning of July, the company began operating under its new name, REMONDIS Aqua Trzemeszno Sp. z o.o..

High expectations

REMONDIS Aqua Trzemeszno serves around 15,000 local inhabitants. Each year, the three waterworks in the region process a total of 520,000m³ of drinking water on behalf of their private and commercial customers and the Trzemeszno sewage treatment plant around 280,000m³ of wastewater. In addition to its water management responsibilities, the company also operates in the recycling sector and provides road-cleaning and winter services.

Volume of wastewater treated at the Trzemeszno sewage treatment plant (approx.)

280,000m³ 
of wastewater

Volume of drinking water supplied to private and business customers each year

520,000m³ 
of drinking water

REMONDIS Aqua Trzemeszno provides services for around

15,000 
local inhabitants



A special event was organised to celebrate the signing of the acquisition agreement – a great start to a promising partnership

Both the region of Trzemeszno and the mayor, Krzysztof Derezi ski, have high expectations of this partnership with REMONDIS Aqua. Their joint goal is to further develop this partly privatised firm and create a modern, customer-friendly service company that perfectly unites sustainability and economic efficiency.

Finance secured for urgent investments

From point of view of corporate law, this joint venture was carried out by Warsaw-based REMONDIS Aqua Sp. z o.o. REMONDIS Aqua’s foreign subsidiary excelled during the tender process, in particular thanks to its levels of expertise and know-how gathered from similar partnerships such as those with the Polish districts of Drobin and Toszek.

One special feature of this cooperation agreement with Trzemeszno is that the acquisition was completed by increasing the nominal capital. This means that all the funds put aside for the acquisition remain inside the company and can be used to finance investments which are so urgently needed.

These planned investments cover all infrastructures including the drinking water and sewer pipe networks and the waterworks themselves. Priority has also been put on modernising the sewage treatment plant where plans are in place for the mechanical treatment processes to be improved. By optimising the various processes, the partners are looking to increase quality and so improve the discharge values. Furthermore, an intermediate storage structure is to be built which will be able to hold excess water during heavy rainfall.

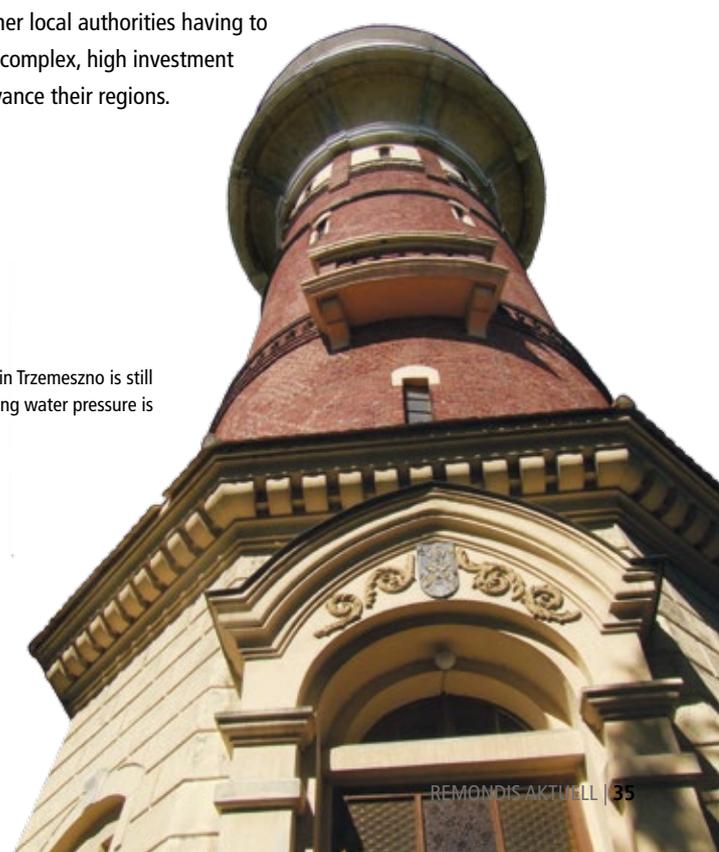
A promising business model for other local authorities

With the company looking to further improve the quality of its services, plans have also been drawn up to upgrade in-house structures, including modernising the fleet of vehicles, renovating the head office building and setting up a modern customer centre. These investments will be accompanied by initiatives to promote work safety and a comprehensive programme of further training courses for the 53 employees. A meeting has already taken place at LWG Lausitzer Wasser GmbH & Co. KG in Cottbus (also a REMONDIS Aqua joint venture) giving those taking part the opportunity to exchange experiences.

For REMONDIS Aqua, this cooperation work with the City and District of Trzemeszno is a further important step in its goal to strengthen its water management activities on the Polish market. Moreover, this partnership can act as a role model for the many other local authorities having to cope with similar such complex, high investment projects in order to advance their regions.

The focus of REMONDIS Aqua’s international activities is on the markets in Poland, Russia, Spain, Turkey and India

The historic water tower in Trzemeszno is still in operation today ensuring water pressure is kept at the right level



Everything crystal clear in Brandenburg

A SUCCESSFUL TIME FOR THE REMONDIS GROUP COMPANIES AT THE 2014 BRANDENBURG DAY

Acting as the main sponsors with their motto "A strong group for a strong Brandenburg", REMONDIS and EURAWASSER enjoyed a successful time at the 2014 Brandenburg Day, which was held in the south of the state in Spremberg this year.



Christine Herntier, Mayor of Spremberg, and Dr Dieter Woidke, Minister President of Brandenburg, were given a present when they visited the stand

A small selection of REMONDIS' vehicles were on show in Spremberg

A strong group for a strong Brandenburg

"Brandenburg means a great deal to us. Many of the wide-ranging services provided by REMONDIS, one of Germany's largest family-run companies, are focused on this region. What was most important for us here though was that the visitors to our stands could find all the information they needed, that they could get to see the technology we use close up and that our youngest guests were kept entertained with a variety of attractions – all of which, of course, involved water," explained Marten Eger, regional manager at REMONDIS Aqua GmbH & Co. KG responsible for the east of Germany.

Not only REMONDIS and EURAWASSER attended the event. LWG Lausitzer Wasser GmbH & Co. KG from Cottbus, Wasserverband Lausitz Betriebsführungs GmbH (WAL-Betrieb) from Senftenberg, a subsidiary of REMONDIS Aqua GmbH & Co. KG, REMONDIS Brandenburg GmbH and TSR GmbH all set up stands to present their comprehensive portfolios. Besides being able to take

a close look at the modern vehicles used by the companies, the visitors could also learn more about a whole range of subjects – such as the interesting apprenticeship courses offered in Cottbus and Senftenberg, the water being used to create the new Lusatian Lakeland resort, the CCTV systems deployed to inspect water pipes, the mobile "GIS system" and the companies' eco-friendly decentralised waste management solutions. The drinking water bar was also extremely popular on this hot July weekend with almost 9,000 cups of water being handed out to the visitors. Brandenburg's Minister President, Dr Dietmar Woidke, also took this opportunity to quench his thirst and was warmly welcomed to the stand by Marten Eger. Marten Eger described just how wide-ranging the REMONDIS Group's activities are in Brandenburg. Over 1,400 jobs have been created in the water, service and recycling sectors in the south of Brandenburg. Dr Martina Münch, Minister of Education, Youth and Sport in the state of Brandenburg, also spoke to Marten Eger to learn more about the excellent apprenticeship programmes on offer within the REMONDIS Group.

All in all, it was an extremely successful event with an incredible atmosphere thanks to the perfect weather and, first and foremost, the approximately 80,000 visitors who took part.

Dr Dietmar Woidke, Minister President of Brandenburg, was welcomed to the stand by Marten Eger, regional manager at REMONDIS Aqua responsible for the east of Germany



Award-winning apprenticeship courses

EURAWASSER NORD PRESENTED WITH THE GERMAN CHAMBER OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE'S "TOP TRAINING COMPANY" AWARD FOR THE 7TH TIME

The big day was on 17 May 2014: Robert Ristow, managing director of EURAWASSER Nord GmbH, attended the "TOP Training Company" awards ceremony to receive the company's certificate and award from Claus Ruhe Madsen, President of the Chamber of Industry and Commerce (IHK) in Rostock.

"It is a great honour for us to receive this award again. This underlines our many years of commitment to training young people and sends out a clear signal to potential trainees and apprentices that we offer high quality and practically relevant training courses as well as excellent career prospects. Whilst many businesses are having to cope with fewer applications, our strong reputation has meant that our application numbers have remained stable and, in some cases, even increased," commented Robert Ristow. Each year, the Chamber of Commerce awards the title, "TOP Training Company", to businesses in recognition of their efforts to train young people. The "TOP Training Company" award is a great advertisement for the excellent training opportunities on offer in the region. To be able to qualify for the award, the Chamber of Commerce takes a close look at the companies, concentrating on aspects such as bespoke help given to apprentices, career prospects after their apprenticeship has finished and general support offered by the firms.

A wide variety under one roof

EURAWASSER Nord GmbH – which supplies drinking water and treats wastewater on behalf of the City of Rostock and a further 76 neighbouring districts – teaches around 20 apprentices every year. It offers seven very different apprenticeship courses helping those taking part to become industrial electronics engineers, specialists for wastewater technology, specialist water supply technicians, industrial clerks, IT specialists for applications development, specialists for constructing sewer networks or pipe specialists. The apprentices at EURAWASSER Nord are involved in the business right from the very beginning and learn all about the latest state-of-the-art technology relevant to their course.

The "TOP Training Company" awards ceremony at the IHK in Rostock (from left to right: Claus Ruhe Madsen, President of the IHK in Rostock; Robert Ristow, Managing Director of EURAWASSER Nord GmbH; Jens Rademacher, Managing Director of the IHK in Rostock; Harry Glawe, Minister for Economic Affairs for the State of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern)

EURAWASSER Nord GmbH has committed itself to taking on all their apprentices who have done well in their course, initially for a period of 12 months. Moreover, apprentices who have been particularly successful are given a grant if they wish to study and professional support by enabling them to do internships. Apprentices that are taken on after their apprenticeship have the opportunity to do a three-month internship abroad at one of the companies in the REMONDIS Aqua Group to learn more about the business. "Our plan – namely to ensure we can cover our personnel requirements with qualified and motivated employees trained by ourselves – is proving to be a success: Seven of our eight apprentices, who finished their course in 2012, now have a permanent contract of employment with our company," commented Robert Ristow. The apprentices are paid in accordance with the collective wage agreements and receive additional allowances for travel, accommodation and learning materials. "I'm really pleased that I decided to do an apprenticeship at EURAWASSER Nord," said Filip Jahnke, who has been working at the company for several weeks now having successfully completed his apprenticeship to become a specialist for wastewater technology. The new apprenticeship year has just begun – EURAWASSER Nord has welcomed six new apprentices to its company.



The "TOP Training Company" award is a great advertisement for the excellent training opportunities on offer in the region



Photo: Mathias Rösensthal

KNOW-H₂OW on tour

MOBILE CUSTOMER CENTRE ENABLES EURAWASSER NORD TO GET CLOSER TO ITS CUSTOMERS

EURAWASSER

Just what is the quality of the drinking water in Rostock? How are the water rates and wastewater charges actually calculated? What should be done in the case of a burst pipe or some other disruption? With its new mobile information centre, which was on the road for the first time at the beginning of the year, EURAWASSER Nord is now giving the more than 300,000 local inhabitants in the region a further opportunity to learn more about the business of drinking water and wastewater. Experienced and capable employees are on hand to answer all their questions as well as give them valuable tips.

The new mobile centre can answer any question EURAWASSER's customers may have about water and wastewater

The area covered by EURAWASSER Nord GmbH stretches 80 kilometres southwards from the boundary of the administrative district of Rostock and comprises a total of 77 local authorities as well as the City of Rostock itself. EURAWASSER Nord, a company owned by REMONDIS Aqua since 2012, currently has four branches in this region – including its main customer centre in Rostock – and the launch of its new mobile centre (KNOW-H₂OW-MOBIL) has enabled it to further improve its local services. "We want to accommodate our customers' wishes and take the time that is needed to answer their questions and listen to their concerns – no matter whether they are of a general or a more specific nature," explained Thomas Ronge-Leiding, managing director of EURAWASSER Nord. "We hope that our mobile centre's

unusual name and its attractive graphics will awaken the interest of our customers and encourage them to talk to us about the subject of water and, at the same time, it signals just how much we wish to speak to them." It is not always easy to get into personal contact with people in rural regions. This minibus will, therefore, be travelling around the region – for which the two water and wastewater associations, Warnow-Wasser- und Abwasserverband and Abwasserzweckverband Güstrow-Bützow-Sternberg are responsible – and act as an advice centre for EURAWASSER. "We will be travelling to different towns and villages where will park on the main squares to reach as many people as possible. We want to make it as easy as possible for local inhabitants to talk to us, to have their questions answered and to get the personal advice they need," stressed Thomas Ronge-Leiding. The mobile customer centre is equipped with a laptop, table and seating accommodation allowing the employees to sit down with their customers and fully answer any questions they may have regarding their water pipes, metres or bills.

Besides having a good stock of informative brochures and leaflets on board, the minibus also carries all forms that may be required as well as water metres to enable the employees to demonstrate exactly how they should be read. Moreover, the younger visitors can find out all about the different apprenticeship courses on offer in the water management sector. The customer is certainly king as long as EURAWASSER and its KNOW-H₂OW minibus are on the road!



Getting much closer to its customers – EURAWASSER's KNOW-H₂OW van

Infrastructure and innovation – the challenges facing local authorities

REMONDIS EURAWASSER FORUM HELD IN BREMERHAVEN



Politicians, scientists and water experts from across the whole of Germany travelled to Bremerhaven recently to take part in the 9th REMONDIS EURAWASSER Forum. Focus this year was on the challenges that local authorities will have to face in their attempts to set up a modern and sustainable infrastructure. What tasks must they perform, what costs are involved, and how should they handle the ever growing demand for new investments with a declining and ageing population?

The guest speakers from across the country looked at these questions from a variety of angles and suggested possible answers. This year's keynote speech was given by Prof. Kurt Biedenkopf. He talked about the importance of having a sustainable infrastructure at business locations and explained how expanding an infrastructure can influence both the quality of life of the local residents and their mobility. Young people will only remain in rural regions if the infrastructure in such areas are oriented towards the future i.e. if there are well equipped schools, universities and hospitals. He stressed, however, that the process of setting up such an infrastructure also causes considerable inconvenience for the local population. It is essential, therefore, that local residents are closely involved in the planning process in order to get their support for such projects. Ivo Grünhagen, Board Spokesman at ENERVIE – Südwestfalen Energie und Wasser AG, then took the stage to discuss the challenges which regional energy providers will have to face. In particular, he emphasised the fact that energy production and consumer demand will have to be linked together by intelligent networks in the future.

Prof. Josef Stockemer, Vice Chancellor of the University of Bremerhaven, called for more long-term partnerships between the business and science communities and

demonstrated just how important it is for the two to collaborate. Prof. Meinhard Schulz-Baldes, coordinator of Bremerhaven's project to become a climate-friendly city, gave an impressive talk explaining how Bremerhaven has implemented a number of measures to help it on its way to becoming a climate-neutral city. One of its goals, for example, is to have cut its carbon emissions by 40% (compared to 1990) by 2020.

Experts from the REMONDIS Aqua Group then showed how local authorities can implement efficient renovation and investment strategies despite rising costs and how modern technology – such as REMONDIS Aqua's proprietary REMONDIS TetraPhos® process to recover phosphorus – can help operators to run cost-efficient plants and networks. "Research and development activities are an essential element of our daily business at the REMONDIS Aqua Group. They enable us to discover technical solutions for current and future challenges so that we can fulfil our role as a future-oriented partner for our municipal and industrial customers," emphasised Andreas Bankamp, managing director of the REMONDIS Aqua Group, in his opening speech – a strategy, he continued, which was also reflected in the company's new strapline "Working for the future".

The keynote speaker Prof. Kurt Biedenkopf and Melf Grantz, Mayor of Bremerhaven, were among the prestigious speakers at this year's event

The REMONDIS EURAWASSER Forum is one of the leading events in Germany to focus on sustainability and other important future issues

News in brief

REMONDIS apprentices build the best soapbox cart



Photo: Joachim Busch

The REMONDIS team's soapbox cart on the main stage

Build a colourful soapbox cart and then race it down the 30-metre track. This was the goal set for the various teams of apprentices that took part in the "Racing Slam" on the

grounds of the company, Hella, in Lippstadt on 19 July. Among the participants: a REMONDIS team. The apprentices had two hours to create their cart before taking part in the race. Besides timing the competitors – the race was won by the WLE/RLG team from Lippstadt – the organisers also had an award for the best or funniest soapbox cart. This prize was presented to the REMONDIS team from Lünen. "We really enjoyed taking part. The whole thing was great fun," the winners exclaimed. A total of five teams from Münster, Lippstadt, Harsewinkel and Lünen took part in the race.

A large number of spectators turned up on the day to watch the 'Racing Slam', take a close look at the soapbox carts and cheer on the teams. The 'Slam' was one of 12 competitions held during the first "Westphalia Slam" – an event organised by the "Westfalen-Initiative" from Münster, whose goal is to promote the various strengths of the Westphalian region. The winners of the prizes were selected by the spectators who awarded points to the individual participants.

News in brief

Ford present ARGE TWM with its World Excellence Award

ARGE TWM, an association between REMONDIS GmbH Rheinland, Kluthe and Buchen, was presented with the Ford Motor Company's World Excellence Award at Ford's head office in Detroit / Dearborn on 22 May 2014 in recognition of the company's quality, cost performance and delivery. These awards are given to Ford's suppliers who exceed company expectations and distinguish themselves from their peers by achieving the highest levels of global excellence in quality, cost and delivery performance. 51 of the more than 20,000 suppliers working with Ford were presented with this award. This is the highest recognition that the automobile manufacturer awards its suppliers. During the awards ceremony, Hau Thai-Tang, group vice president, Global Purchasing, stressed the importance of the suppliers for the company and for its success: "Ford Motor Company is extremely proud to recognize the excellent performance of our suppliers and their contribution to our success. Your companies' commitment to quality, cutting-edge technology and cost efficiency



ARGE TWM being presented with its World Excellence Award: (from left to right) Hau Thai-Tang, Group Vice President, Global Purchasing; Marcus Rolffs, Managing Director ARGE TWM; Mark Fields, Chief Operating Officer; Raj Nair, Group Vice President, Global Product Development

is a vital part of the One Ford plan. Thank you for helping Ford achieve our business objectives and deliver world-class products and outstanding value to our customers."

REMONDIS once again takes part in the "Lünen Apprenticeship Evening"

Just before this issue went to print, we learned that this year's "Lünen Apprenticeship Evening" had taken place and had once again been a great success. A large number of young people living in the region took part in the event visiting REMONDIS and five of its subsidiaries – market leaders in the water and recycling sector – as well as the Lünen branches of the companies Aurubis, Caterpillar and Steag, the Mersch Medical Centre and the local fire brigade to learn more about the various apprenticeship courses on offer. Those people who made their way to REMONDIS' head of-

office, the Lippe Plant, were able to find out about a total of twelve different apprenticeship courses – ranging from various commercial professions to becoming a truck driver, an IT specialist or a vehicle mechatronics engineer. We will, of course, give more details about the evening in our next issue of REMONDIS aktuell.



REMONDIS Rhineland supports the Birlikte Festival

This June, Cologne hosted a music festival as part of its annual event to mark the NSU nail bomb attack in 2004. The "high society" of the German music scene – including BAP, Udo Lindenberg and many others – travelled to this free event to perform their songs and promote peace and understanding among all people, no matter what their backgrounds or religion. REMONDIS Rhineland was there to ensure everything ran "cleanly" during the festival, setting up 205 portable toilets throughout the area. With one of the worst storms for years approaching Cologne, the event had to finish earlier than expected but the REMONDIS toilets were able to withstand the gale-force winds. This service is part of REMONDIS' event management portfolio – which

not only includes portable toilets but also planning and implementing the whole range of waste management services required for both major festivals, such as the well-known Rock am Ring, and smaller events.

205

REMONDIS Rhineland provided 205 portable toilets for the festival





Whit Monday storm

Caught up in the storm

LOCAL RESIDENTS REMAIN CALM AFTER THE WHIT MONDAY
STORM – A BIG “THANK YOU” TO ALL OUR CUSTOMERS

REMONDIS®
WORKING FOR THE FUTURE

On the evening of Whit Monday, 09 June 2014, the German state of North Rhine-Westphalia – the most heavily populated region in the country – was hit by one of the worst storms since Hurricane Kyrill. Thunderstorms, torrential rain and hail left a scene of devastation in their wake. With the winds reaching speeds of up to 145 kilometres an hour, trees were snapped in half like matchsticks blocking access to roads for days. Some streets were impassable – which meant REMONDIS’ collection vehicles were also unable to get through.

The NRW police and fire services were called out around 17,000 times because of the storm

According to the statistics published by the insurance companies, this storm caused damage amounting to at least 220 million euros across the state of North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW). One unpleasant side-effect of that night was that waste bins were unable to be emptied as neither public nor private sector vehicles could get to them. Over a week was needed to clear the main streets and the larger side roads in the towns affected by the storm. Only then was the traffic able to flow more or less normally and the waste able to be collected. Despite these region-wide obstructions, our hotline remained relatively quiet. The local residents across the state proved to be both understanding and patient and, in the majority of cases, helped our colleagues working on the collection lorries by taking their wheelie bins to central collection points on the main roads or putting them back in

their normal place and simply waiting for the next regular collection day.

We at REMONDIS would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all those affected – for your understanding, patience and active support. Collecting waste is a bit like housework: you notice it the most when it hasn’t been done. As and precisely because natural phenomena, such as the Whit Monday storm ‘Ela’, are as unpredictable as they are uncontrollable, we make every effort no matter what the situation to get operations back to normal and offer our customers the best possible service. Many thanks for supporting us in our work – even if we sometimes arrive a little later than expected.

> Impressions



◀ Julia Brecht and Philip Moede were both awarded the highest grade possible for their apprenticeship exams and were officially named the best in their year by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry



▲ Federal President Joachim Gauck visited the REMONDIS Recycling Professionals during this year's summer festival in the gardens of Bellevue Palace. Entertainer and teacher, Friedhelm Susok, explained the Recycling Professionals concept to the President



◀ The REMONDIS team at their exhibition stand at the IFAT 2014 in Munich

During his visit, Christian Pegel, Minister for Energy, Infrastructure and Development in the State of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, was shown around Schweriner Abfallentsorgungs- und Straßenreinigungsgesellschaft by Matthias Hartung and Erwin Braatz, both managing directors of REMONDIS Nord

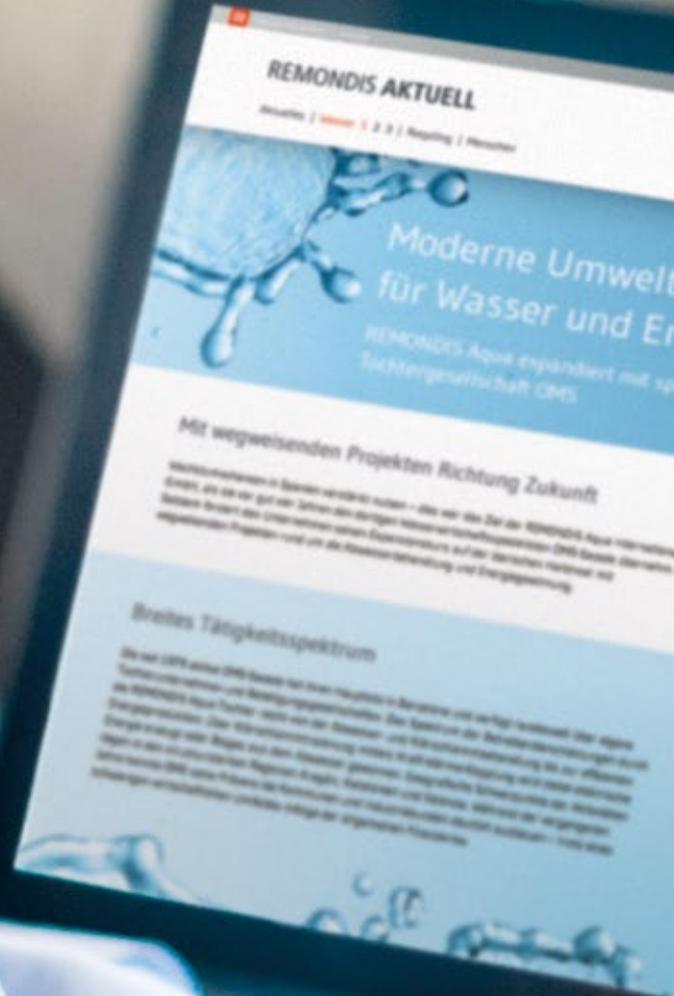


◀ (from left to right): Kirsten Heesch-Belz, management assistant, and Wolfgang Steen, Managing Director of REMONDIS Region Nord, taking part in the traditional regatta during the 2014 Kieler Woche sailing event

Norbert Rethmann, Honorary Chairman of the Supervisory Board of the RETHMANN Group, and Herwart Wilms, REMONDIS Managing Director, talking to customers at the IFAT



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