

History

ECOTREL asbl (non-profit association) has been founded on the 19th of February 2004 on the initiative of the GME (federation of importers of electrical materials) by 43 private companies representing the most important producers, importers and retailers.

ECOTREL has for mission to take over the obligations of producers or importers by:

- registering them to the authorities
- financing the take-back and treatment of WEEE
- providing a guarantee for the take-back and treatment of future WEEE issued from appliances placed on the market after the 13th of August 2005

Legal background

The modified Luxembourgish regulation initially transposing the directives 2002/95/CE and 2002/96/CE and now the directive 2012/19/EU forces:

- **producers and importers:**
 - to finance the take-back and treatment of WEEE from the exit of the selective collection points according to their current market share for the historical WEEE
 - to provide a guarantee for the take-back and treatment of appliances placed on the market after the 13th of August 2005
- **retailers** to take back free of charge WEEE from household on a one-for-one basis and all WEEE smaller than 25 cm even if there is no purchase of a new appliance
- **municipalities** to take back free of charge all WEEE from households and to sort and store them

A voluntary agreement has been signed between the ministry of environment, the municipalities and the private sector. This agreement specifies the rights and obligations of each stakeholder.

Start of operation: 1st of January 2006

WEEE categories covered

ECOTREL takes over the obligations concerning all 10 categories of the WEEE directive both for household and professional appliances (if they have similar characteristics for the treatment).

Members

More than 675 members participate through individual membership agreements.

Financing system

Producers and importers pay a recycling fee when they put appliances on the Luxembourgish market. The recycling fee represents the administrative, collection, treatment and communication costs of ECOTREL. The fee is calculated in €/unit per defined subcategories of appliances.

Producers and importers who are not member of federation depending of the confederation of commerce or of the federation of artisans pay an additional annual membership fee to ECOTREL.

Collection system

ECOTREL services the following collection facilities:

- municipal collection points: 27 municipal parks
- retailers: submit to conditions
- sorting centre: 2

Retailers have access free of charge to municipal parks for small quantities and to sorting centres for big quantities.

Logistic and treatment partners

ECOTREL proceeds to a call of tender every 5 years. Logistic and treatment partners are called to offer a full service following the specifications of the voluntary agreement, CENELEC standards and other applicable regulations for all or a part of the territory of Luxembourg and for all or several collection categories of WEEE.

ECOTREL proposes a cooperation agreement to professional collectors and social economy actors that are allowed to take back WEEE in Luxembourg and that prove that they work in the state of the art in compliance with the proximity principle. A list of all recognised actors is available on the website of ECOTREL.

Results

10.6 kg of household WEEE/inhabitant have been collected on behalf of ECOTREL in 2016.

Special features

ECOTREL provides a very easy homepage to its members in order to fulfill all administrative tasks paperless.

In 2009, ECOTREL together with to the confederation of commerce, the federation of artisans and de Fedil (federation of industry) have founded ECOBATTERIEN asbl, the compliance organisation that takes over the obligations of producers and importers of batteries in Luxembourg.

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Further information

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