

Abstract Submission: Making Sound Decisions in Waste Recovery

An Analysis of Existing and Emerging Deposit Return System (DRS) Models in the USA

Current Types of Systems in US

High level review of current 10 states in the United States with container deposit legislation: California, Connecticut, Hawaii, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, New York, Oregon, and Vermont. Content will include a comparison of the systems based on set criteria (deposit level, recovery performance, return models, automation, etc.), and which models have been most effective.

US DRS Systems that are Revamping

High level analysis of Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, Iowa, and California who are currently enabling changes to their container deposit systems. This discussion will include a review of 2022's introduced bills.

Industry Dynamics

Overview of consumer behaviour and attitudes towards DRS models, including accessibility issues and return to retail vs. depots.

Overview of regulatory conditions and requirements for DRS models to operate effectively and efficiently. These regulatory conditions are what shapes the current DRS models in the jurisdictions and help understand why some models are more effective than others.

Discussions on the impact of technology innovations, including automatic vending machines and AI technology, including smartphone App that helps to increase material recovery and encourage consumers to recycle more.

Future of DRS

Discussions on the growth of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) in the United States, and the increase in momentum for DRS. These discussions will include options on deposit model types (return to retail vs. depot systems) and an outlook on anticipated developments of deposit systems across the USA.



Adrian Vannahme, Vice President, Business Development

Adrian is an accomplished policy expert and consultant with twelve years of international experience in environmental policy. From his time in government, he is particularly familiar with the economic and structural impacts of environment policy, as well as with policy development and implementation. He has held various positions, such as, Chief of Staff for Ministers; adviser to the Premier of Manitoba; policy officer with the Foreign Office of Germany; and as Director of Stakeholder Relations for the Government of Manitoba's Climate Office. He has lived in numerous countries across Europe and North America, and has access to a wide network, information, and communications in a number of languages.