



Verein zur Verleihung
des Zertifikates eines
Entsorgungsfachbetriebes

PRESS RELEASE

PETER HODECEK NEW CHAIRMAN OF THE V.EFB

The Austrian association for awarding the Certification of Waste Management Companies (V.EFB) has a new chairman. Peter Hodecek succeeds Helmut Stadler, who held the office for fifteen years. The EFB is a recognized and proven industry-specific certification standard. As V.EFB chairman, Peter Hodecek represents over 100 certified waste management companies with 200 locations of the private and municipal waste management and recycling industry in Austria.

“With the EFB certification, we have created an extremely high standard for waste and resource management in Austria, which will continue to be the ‘priority lane’ for this industry in the future,” said Peter Hodecek in his inaugural address and confirmed the commitment that for the selection of applicants "quality over quantity" is in the foreground.

The international orientation of the V.EFB will also be an essential point in the future, as there is currently a paradigm shift in the industry in which EU legislation is a priority topic. As an example, the draft of the EU battery regulation should be mentioned, which will have to be implemented directly in national law in the future. A close cooperation with the EVGE, the European association of the Communities for the Certification of Waste Management Companies, is aimed for. In order to create benefits for certified waste management companies, the EU requirements should also be harmonized in the EFB regulations.

The reform process of the V.EFB regulations was also completed in the current year. The new reform measures will result in further simplifications for certified waste management companies, as well as in some cases in new requirements, which will, however, benefit the company itself. The focus was on simplifications in checking the volume flows and insurance coverage. In future, the volume flows will be checked using an online tool on the V.EFB homepage. A graphic representation of the mass flow is generated automatically. The programming of an industry-specific self-risk assessment tool is currently being carried out in cooperation with GrECo International. In order to simplify the certification process, an upload tool for the submission documents will be created in the internal area of the homepage.

It is very important to maintain contact and exchange with the authorities. As a result, further simplifications are to be introduced in the administrative procedures and in public tenders for certified waste management companies.

A certified waste management company should be the lead company for authorities and for insurance companies!



Peter Hodecek, Ph.D. MBA, Chairman (V.EFB). Copyright: V.EFB Büchler

About the V.EFB:

The V.EFB was founded in 1999 by the Association of Austrian Waste Management Companies (VÖEB) and Austrian Association of Water and Waste Management (ÖWAV); in 2002 ISWA Austria and in summer 2013 the Association for Waste Disposal and Resource Management of the Austrian Chamber of Commerce (WKO) joined as additional members. At the V.EFB, the most important interest groups in the recycling and waste management industry are represented as members but also on the board.

The V.EFB organization is represented by the board of directors, the advisory board, experts and a branch office. These panels are composed of experts who represent all relevant areas of the waste management and recycling industry. The V.EFB advisory board is responsible for deciding whether to award, update or withdraw the certificate for a certified waste management company. Assessment and deviation reports prepared by the V.EFB experts and forwarded to the advisory board serve as the basis for this. The approved V.EFB experts are environmental verifiers with specific industry approvals for the waste management and recycling sector. They carry out the audits at the companies on site. In this way, the assessment for a certified waste management company is ensured at a very high level. The guiding principle of the V.EFB when selecting waste management companies is "quality over quantity".

The V.EFB was legally anchored with the register ordinance to the Austrian Environmental Management Law and is equivalent to EMAS nationally. Since then, two ways of certification are possible:

- Standard certification EFB and
- EFB plus certification (which is legally equivalent to EMAS)

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