IBC HANDLING GUIDE: CURRENT GUIDELINE FOR THE SAFE APPLICATION OF IBCS

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AWARD WINNING SUSTAINABILITY: SCHÜTZ VASITEX RECEIVES THE “BASF AWARD OF EXCELLENCE”

Great success for SCHÜTZ VASITEX: Once again our Brazilian subsidiary has received the “BASF Award of Excellence”. With this the company acknowledges Brazilian suppliers who implement outstanding projects for the optimisation of processes in the supply chain.

The award winner for 2019 was determined in three categories, Innovation, Industry 4.0 and Sustainability. SCHÜTZ VASITEX competed, in the category Sustainability, against 16 other companies which were nominated for this 11th award by BASF. The company already received the Award for Best Supplier from BASF two years ago.

CEO Luiz Francisco da Cunha and Sales Executive Renata Carvalho, both from SCHÜTZ VASITEX, are delighted about this acknowledgement. The reconditioning process for used IBCs and drums already begins at the BASF factory premises in Guaratinguetá, in the east of the state of São Paulo. SCHÜTZ VASITEX has invested in facilities here for the preparation of packaging—including also contaminated agrochemical packages—already on site for the optimal
reuse of components and recycling of materials. The reconditioning then takes place in their production facility with a service office in Bonsucesso-Guarulhos. SCHÜTZ RECOBULK and F1 RECO drums are produced here from recycled PE material by SCHÜTZ VASITEX. The innovative packaging unites sustainability and excellent performance and has been certified by the Brazilian National Institute of Metrology Standardisation and the Industrial Quality INMETRO.

The ecological and economic advantages in the application of the industrial packaging from SCHÜTZ VASITEX, in a closed cycle, convinced the Jury of this coveted BASF Award. This way the manufacturer and consumer contribute to the conservation of precious natural resources. Furthermore the customer saves on costs of the otherwise laborious disposal of IBCs and contaminated parts in our globally proven environmentally friendly SCHÜTZ Return System.

**SCHÜTZ RECOBULK and F1 RECO drums are produced here from recycled PE material by SCHÜTZ VASITEX.**

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SCHÜTZ RECONTAINER: CROSS-BOTTLING IN THE HIGHEST QUALITY

SCHÜTZ reconditions with expertise gained over decades. In 1976 the company started reconditioning used IBCs and since 1980, as the first producer and reconditioner, guarantees the worldwide collection of used industrial packaging.

The prerequisite for this well-functioning circular economy is a high capacity, closely linked collection system with now 50 production and service locations around the globe. The SCHÜTZ TICKET SERVICE has become the largest producer-owned network for the collection and reconditioning of emptied IBCs. The emptied IBCs are fitted with original inner bottles and components produced in a globally standardised, eco-friendly process. The result, a one hundred per cent compatible RECOBULK in a standard specification made from a SCHÜTZ ECOBULK.

To expand the service of reconditioning, SCHÜTZ offers now with the new RECONTAINER cross-bottling – the reconditioning of IBCs from other producers – at the highest standard.

SAFETY THROUGH UNIFORM PROCESSES AND ORIGINALITY

As with the reconditioning of own IBCs, collected containers from other producers are evaluated according to the last filling product. The basis is a comprehensive internal product database, with more than 200,000 evaluated filling products which is constantly updated. Possible residues are removed and appropriately disposed of. Subsequently the inner bottles are replaced. The recyclable grid cage of the foreign producer is extensively cleaned and if necessary repaired, and then fitted with a new universal SCHÜTZ inner bottle. The specially developed inner bottle has been technically adapted to fit into the cages of numerous IBC models on the market. The inner bottle which was removed is recycled in an internal recycling system from which high quality HDPE recyclate is generated and then used within the closed cycle used to produce plastic components such as corner protectors and plastic pallets for the IBCs.
Furthermore the RECONTAINER is equipped with a new label plate which has also been optimised for the different grid cages, as adhesive residues of labels are unavoidable on the old label plates when they are only cleaned. Further components such as screw caps and discharge valves are replaced with new original parts during the inner bottle replacement process. Thus, the packaging specialist guarantees the highest quality in cross-bottling.

The advantages: Customers that use the RECONTAINER can rely on SCHÜTZ’s proven standards when using this packaging for their valuable filling products. The IBCs are delivered as a single-type standard specification. At the same time SCHÜTZ is contributing to the conservation of natural resources through the eco-friendly reconditioning of IBCs from other producers.
As an assistance for the safe application of the IBC system we have compiled comprehensive information – from filling to transport and storage, through to emptying. We offer our customers and users this in a comprehensively illustrated IBC Handling Guide.

The basis of our IBC Handling Guide is based on decades of expertise as the globally leading IBC producer and intensive application advice to our customers through our Technical Customer Service. The new, completely revised version consists of 10 chapters and over 100 pages, which not only provides the basics of the IBC configurations and components but also more detailed information on specific applications for example hot-filling or the application of containers in EX-zones. Besides safety related aspects the incorrect handling of IBCs in practice often leads to the loss of efficiency. The container, for example, is gradually damaged and as a result cannot be used for a long time. Processes are made unnecessarily complicated or the quality of the filling product is impaired. It is therefore recommended that even “experienced users” should occasionally consult the Handling Guide to compare their way of working with our recommendations, in order to recognise incorrect procedures that have been acquired unintentionally.
SAFE IDENTIFICATION OF CONTAINER

The responsibility for the choice of the suitable packaging in compliance with legal regulations lies solely with the filler. In this context the Handling Guide starts with an overview of the different IBC components and possible variants. For example the different colours of the inner bottles – natural, white or black offer the filling product varying degrees of protection against UV rays and visible radiation. The colours of the screw caps, discharge valve handles and caps provide information about the seals used and the general product standards. Green components from the FOODCERT program symbolise, for example, that these are suitable for special foodstuff applications. The variant specific labels for application suitability in EX-zones as well as the exact explanations of the variant labels are also available here.

FILLING INSTRUCTIONS

Should the container generally be suitable for the operational purpose, several points are to be taken into account with regards to process, filling level, filling temperature and ventilation. Generally the container should not be filled under pressure or subjected to pressure. When using pumps, tubes or other equipment the correct attachment of these is to be adhered to and the transmission of vibrations on to the inner bottle is implicitly to be avoided in order to prevent damage thereof. To prevent deformation of the inner bottle, the temperature of the filling product is not to exceed 70 °C. The threshold value of 60 °C may not be exceeded when an inliner is used. Depending on the boiling point of the different filling products maximum filling levels are specified and when closing, certain points are to be adhered to. The container may only be closed after a hot filling once the filling product has completely cooled down, unless sufficient aeration has been accounted for through a suitable venting device and the screw cap has been torqued to specification.

STORAGE AND TRANSPORT

The statutory regulations with regards to the international exchange of goods are generally very complex. The Handling Guide addresses important regulations and answers frequently asked practical questions for example, “How to stack IBCs safely?” Fundamentally the difference between dynamic and static load must be differentiated, the stacking load of the respective type of container and, of course, the filling quantity and density of the filling product must be taken into consideration.
THE EMPTYING PROCESS

General instructions for emptying are also dealt with under several points in the chapter on filling. For example, it is important to ensure that the container is placed evenly and securely and when connecting pipes the heavy shut-off valves, pipes, filters etc. must be supported separately to prevent the buckling of the fitting at the inner bottle. It is also important to facilitate the correct aeration and general pressure-less approach. When the discharge valve is opened for the first time, the originality seal must be removed: being either the normal aluminium foil or the peelable valve seal of the FOODCERT and CLEANCERT products. Our new safeguard system allows an easy and intuitive opening and closing without small parts like screws and pins, which need to be kept in order to secure the valve again after emptying. Should a dip-tube be used for emptying, this optimally takes place through the 2” opening in the top of the IBC.

REUSABILITY AND INSPECTION OBLIGATIONS

Generally IBCs can be reused, if prior to filling and dispatch for transport they are inspected and found to be free of corrosion, contamination or other damage. Depending on the filling product, the permitted period of use for the transport of hazardous goods is up to 5 years. A periodic inspection of every Dangerous Goods IBC is to be conducted after two and a half years at the latest.

CHEMICAL RESISTANCE AND DESIGN-TYPE TESTS

The filler of Hazardous Goods must ensure that the filling and the packaging for this is authorised and permitted for transport. Chemical resistance of the chosen packaging material as well as the material compatibility of further components coming into contact with the product e.g. seals, require a mandatory verification by the user. SCHÜTZ Technical Customer Service offers active and comprehensive technical support and advice. UN certified IBCs are subject to strict quality criteria and must prove their suitability by passing various design-type tests. The Handling Guide presents the corresponding tests as well as the criteria to pass these.
APPLICATION IN EX-ZONES AND OTHER SPECIFIC APPLICATIONS

Transport packaging can be electrostatically charged during use, for example by rapid filling, and during mixing and stirring processes. To avoid this it is mandatory to use EX-IBCs for easily flammable filling products and in EX-zones. Our guidelines provide information on the exact procedure, offers guidance on safe use and shows an overview of the different IBCs that are suitable. The SCHÜTZ IMPELLER is one of the certified components. Details on the safe and efficient application of the integrated IMPELLER are referred to in the Handling Guide – as well as the IBC variants with an integrated Inliner. A detailed instruction manual is available on the Website.

COLLECTION AND RECONDITIONING OF IBCS

The SCHÜTZ packaging concept is particularly well-known for its ecological and economic sustainability, which combines the best of a single and multiple use system. The service and important conditions with regards to the collection and reconditioning of emptied IBCs offered by SCHÜTZ TICKET SERVICE are, also at the end of the use of the packaging, true to the motto: Back to the onset.

REQUEST HANDLING GUIDE NOW:
tcs@schuetz.net

IMPORTANT GUIDE – NOW AVAILABLE

The new Handling Guide can be requested immediately. It offers important and general guidelines and recommendations for the daily use of SCHÜTZ containers and answers FAQs on IBC applications. For further questions about the safe and efficient applications of our containers and to specific applications, SCHÜTZ Technical Customer Service will gladly assist you personally with an individual consultation.
We have followed many reports in the media since the agreement of the Climate program by the Federal Government in autumn last year which were inaccurate. Horror scenarios of the immediate banning of oil heating systems to compulsory replacement of fossil fuel systems were conveyed. The ban on oil heating systems does not comply with the regulations. SCHÜTZ as the leading manufacturer of oil tank systems would therefore like to take a stand.

Fact of the matter is: Should one have an existing oil heating system, one does not need to be further concerned about having a heating supply. Oil heating systems may be installed in Germany even after 2026 if they are combined with a renewable energy source. We have summarised this and other positive facts about oil heating systems in close collaboration with the consumer initiative “Sicherer Öltank”:
NO STOPPING OF OIL HEATING!
Oil-fuelled technology will remain permissible beyond 2026

Oil heating remains allowed: The climate decisions of the Federal Government have clearly allowed the further use of oil heating systems beyond 2026 with the fulfilment of official requirements in combination with renewable energy, right of continuance and specifications due to infrastructure.

The “Old-one” can stay: The right of continuance remains unchanged for existing oil heating systems and they must therefore not be removed overnight. The conversion to a more modern solution remains voluntary!

Missing “Gas Infrastructure”: An oil heating system remains a legitimate source of heating if there is no gas connection available (this is often the case in rural areas).

THE OIL HEATING SYSTEM – VIABLE AND SUSTAINABLE!
Modern oil-fuelled technology convinces with ecological advantages

Energy efficient Technology: Due to the fully developed condensing boiler technology, modern oil heating systems use 30% less energy in comparison to previous models and reduce CO₂ emissions by one third.

Minimal Emissions: Condensing technology, low-sulphur heating oil as well as the increased use of organic oil result in low-pollutant emissions.

The Hybrid solution: Efficient condensing technology combined with renewable energy – the so called hybrid solution is a responsible form of heat supply.

Eligibility for subsidies: The importance of this hybrid solution has also been recognised by politicians and has been manifested in the Climate Protection Program for 2030. Subsidies for regenerative hybrid energy from BAFA of up to 35%!

Future scenario “Oil turns green”: Greenhouse gas neutral, liquid energy sources (E-Fuels) could in future supplement fossil fuels like heating oil or possibly replace them in the medium term. A new oil tank system is a sensible investment for the future regardless of the fuel. If one invests in an oil tank system today, one will also have the benefit of this system in the future.

Secured supply of raw materials: Never before have we had the oil reserves which we have today – there has been a 50% increase in the last 12 years.
OIL HEATING – REPLACE NOW AND BENEFIT IN THE LONG TERM!

An investment in proven technology means optimum cost efficiency

**Minimal investment costs:** The change to an oil-fuelled condensing boiler is mostly an attractive investment for the owner of an old oil heating system. The acquisition costs normally stay manageable as existing connections can often be used which can lead to a saving of up to 30%!

**Lower consumption costs:** Due to the modern oil-condensing technology, the consumption costs compared to the old system are reduced by 30%, with which the investment costs for a new system are already amortised with a few years.

**Reliable technology:** For decades now oil-condensing technology, along with gas, are considered to be the preferred form of heating in Germany. Extensive experience has led to the longevity and reliability of oil fuel technology. Outcome: Few malfunctions, few disruptions.

**Less-expensive fuel:** Heating oil is considered one of the less-expensive alternatives. Additionally, the consumer can benefit from the advantage of reserve filling when the fluctuating prices are at their lowest!

ADVANTAGES OF THE MODERN OIL TANK GENERATION

**Space saving:** Tank-in-Tank system replaces previous, stonewalled and specially coated containment trough.

**Odour barrier prevents unpleasant smell of oil:** Today tanks consist of new plastic materials with a highly efficient diffusion barrier. Advantage: No oil smell in the house.

**Overfill protection ensures double safety:** Overfill protection is mandatory today.

**Easy installation:** Modern oil tanks are space saving and fit through any door frame.
WE BRING CORMASTER® HONEYCOMBS INTO EXCELLENT SHAPE FOR YOU.

As pioneers in the development, production and application of high-tech honeycomb cores, SCHÜTZ offers the optimum light-weight solution for every field of application.

Contact us with your product ideas and requirements – we would be pleased to be involved in a common project!
FAST HELP AROUND THE GLOBE
SCHÜTZ IS PRODUCING FACE SHIELDS AND IS SUPPORTING THE WORLDWIDE PRODUCTION OF DISINFECTANT WITH ITS IBCS

The continuous spread of Coronavirus worldwide is presenting a challenge for the medical care of people. Employees in the healthcare sector urgently need protective equipment like face masks and face shields to perform their work. These medical supplies have become very scarce. Due to the necessary special hygienic measures disinfectant is now also in short supply. To relieve the situation SCHÜTZ has started producing face shields for hospitals and care facilities in record time at its headquarters in Selters. Furthermore we are supporting numerous relief efforts worldwide to stop the spreading of COVID-19.

There is also a shortage of protective equipment in the Westerwald (Germany) during the Corona pandemic. One of our employees whose wife works in a local hospital gave us the incentive for the necessary expansion of our product portfolio. Driven through the high local demand he initiated the project for the production of face shields by SCHÜTZ. The shield consist of three parts, a mount, a rubber band and a plastic foil. With the help of decades of experience in the processing of plastics and injection moulding we were able, within 2 days, to produce the required injection moulding tool, in our tool shop, for the production of the shield mount in large quantities. Within a short period of time and as a first relief we were able to supply local hospitals, clinics, care facilities and midwives with face shields, free of charge. As a feedback to this aid package numerous hospitals and care facilities that could not cover their vast requirements for face shields contacted us. To quickly meet these demands and increase our capacities accordingly, large quantities of material for the special production were immediately sourced. Therefore we are now in the position to produce large quantities of face shields as a complete set for self-assembly and to offer these at cost price. Facilities throughout Germany can now obtain face protectors directly from SCHÜTZ.

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SCHÜTZ IBCS IN USE AGAINST COVID-19

In a long standing partnership with BASF we have been involved in many projects together and are therefore also supporting the “Helping Hands” project. BASF is taking an unbureaucratic approach to closing the supply gap during the pandemic and is supplying clinics and doctor’s practices in Metropolitan Rhein-Neckar region with free hand disinfectant.
For the temporary production at the Group’s main site in Ludwigshafen all legal and technical conditions had to be met as hand disinfectant had not been part of the BASF product range in the past. The Company has the necessary know-how and some of the raw materials for production. The raw materials in stock were reassigned at short notice and further still required raw materials were purchased externally. The IBCs for the disinfectant were supplied by SCHÜTZ. These IBCs comply with the latest packaging safety requirements for sensitive hygiene products. In support and recognition of this project the company is supplying every second container free of charge to BASF. As an environmentally friendly bonus, the IBCs are collected free of charge from end users by SCHÜTZ TICKET SERVICE and recycled internally as part of our sustainable reconditioning process.

Many of our worldwide locations are also showing enormous commitment to the participation in similar projects in their countries:

Our plant in Thailand donated 100 IBCs to the government for a hydrogen peroxide based disinfectant used for the cleaning of public areas.
SCHÜTZ Benelux delivered several loads of IBCs free of charge for measures to aid the containment of COVID-19. A pharmaceutical company and a gin producer in Belgium deployed the packaging for the production of an alcohol-based hand disinfectant and supplied it to the University clinic of Ghent.

SCHÜTZ Container Systems in the US is also aboard with similar campaigns: Our locations in several states of the USA made IBCs and PE Drums available for the production of disinfectant and the transport of required raw materials available.

SCHÜTZ Indonesia, in collaboration with the Trade Association, donated disinfectant to the Karawang region. Furthermore, our location close to Jakarta distributed care packages to their neighbouring Margamulya Village. The cartons contained basic foodstuffs like noodles and rice which went to a total of 1,810 families who were particularly affected by the restrictions imposed due to the struggle against the virus.

We are pleased with our own measures and the support of many international initiatives, to be active in the fight against Coronavirus!