

Your 5 Step Guide to Packaging Licensing

What is the packaging licensing all about?

You might or might not have heard of the „Verpackungsgesetz“ that comes into action January 1, 2019. We've looked into it and will try to explain what needs to be done.

As a professional that sells products, you're responsible for the disposal/recycling of all kinds of packing that is involved in your sales and will end up in your clients trash bins. As you obviously won't be able to go to your clients homes and claim it back so you can dispose it yourself, the so-called „dual system“ will take care of this trash and therefore you as the sellers have to pay a licence fee to the dual system.

That's actually not new. What is new is that from 01.01.2019 on we also have to be registered at an official platform from the Zentrale Stelle Verpackungsregister called „LUCID“. Probably so authorities can check better whether companies are doing it correctly or not.

- Everybody that gives or sends packaging to end clients needs a license and a registration.
- There's no free minimum amount. Even small amounts of packaging need to be licensed.
- It doesn't matter whether you use new or used packaging (although, if you have written proof that your packaging was already licenced by the producer, you don't need to licence this part of your packing).
- The LUCID system is something that concerns packaging that ends up at German customer's homes. For all other countries you ship to, you'd have to research whether they have a similar system and if applicable license your packing there as well.
- Sales packaging includes both product packaging and shipping packaging.
(If you stumble over the term "transport packaging" that means packaging that is used to wrap stuff you buy from another professional. As far as we know, you're not responsible for licensing transport packaging.)
- Licensing only concerns packaging for B2C (end consumers), not B2B customers (business clients).

Disclaimer: This guide is made available by the Berlin Kreativ Kollektiv e.V., and is intended to give you a general understanding of the requirements surrounding packaging licensing, and is not intended to provide legal advice. We do not guarantee for the accurateness of the information provided in this guide. If you have more questions, please contact an expert.

Here's your 5 step plan to easily get this matter done:

1. Create a LUCID account

Create an account at <https://lucid.verpackungsregister.org> ("Zentrale Stelle Verpackungsregister", also called "LUCID") and note down your registration number. The platform is available in German and English.

2. Get your packaging licence

If you haven't done it already, get a license for the packaging you're expecting to use in the upcoming year. This is to be done outside LUCID with one of the following companies of the so-called "dual system". They might ask for your LUCID registration number though.

- [BellandVision GmbH](#) (min. 69 €)
- [Der Grüne Punkt – Duales System Deutschland GmbH](#) (min. 140 €)
- [INTERSEROH Dienstleistungs GmbH](#) (min. 49 €)
- [Landbell AG für Rückhol-Systeme](#)
- [Noventitz Dual GmbH](#) (min. 41,70 €)
- [Reclay Systems GmbH](#) (min. 7,22 €)
- [RKD Recycling Kontor Dual GmbH & Co. KG](#)
- [Veolia Umweltservice Dual GmbH](#)
- [Zentek GmbH & Co. KG](#) (min. 54 €)

(checked Dec 1, 2018; no guarantee for prices listed above.)

Most of them have an online calculator that shows you the expected price in one click. Some have minimum fees which will probably not be in favour of small businesses, so better compare prices.

3. Enter your business info

Enter a number of info about your business into your LUCID account. Here's a [list of all info](#) you'll need during the process.

4. File a "volume report"

File a volume report in your LUCID account by simply entering the exact info from your packaging license.

5. Next year: File a "closing volume report"

Once the year is over (until May 15 of the following year), state what amount of packaging you actually used.

-> Repeat once a year.

For more info, here's a (German) FAQ: <https://www.it-recht-kanzlei.de/verpackungsverordnung-faq.html>

(Created for you by Eva Zahneißer)