Container Deposit Scheme

Container Deposit Scheme
Quarterly Report

1 July to 30 September 2012
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1 Introduction

The Northern Territory Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) commenced on 3 January 2012. The aim of the program is to reduce beverage container litter and increase resource recovery across the Northern Territory.

There are five CDS Coordinators approved to operate in the Northern Territory, they are: NT Coordinators, Envirobank NT, Statewide Recycling, NT Recycling Services and Marine Stores. Their role is to work with the Collection Depots and beverage manufactures to recycle, reuse or appropriately dispose of approved containers. Territorians can collect their 10 cents in return for each approved container at a Collection Depot.

Collection Depots are currently operating in Berrimah, Pinelands, Katherine, Alice Springs, Tennant Creek, Elliot and Finke. Reverse Vending Machines can be found at Parap and Charles Darwin University. There are also mobile Collection Depots and systems operating from time to time throughout the Territory.

Remote collection points are now operating successfully in Ali Curung, Barkly Shire, Booraloola, Hermannsburg and at the Ranku Community on Bathurst Island.

2 Key Definitions

Containers returned: the number of containers that have been aggregated and returned to Coordinators from Collection Depots.

Return rates: the total percentage of container numbers that have been returned to Coordinators in relation to the total number of containers sold in the Territory.

Containers redeemed: the number of approved containers that have been accepted by Collection Depots to give a 10 cent refund to the community.

Redemption rate: the percentage of containers redeemed at Collection Depots compared to beverage container sales in the Northern Territory.

PET (polyethylene terephthalate): the product plastic beverage containers are made from (for example, water bottles).

HDPE (high-density polyethylene): materials that some juice containers are made from.

LPB (liquid paper board): material utilised in the packaging of beverages such as popper juices. LPB also includes ASEPTIC which is the packaging of beverages in a sterile container, used for example in long life UHT beverages.

Other containers: steel, foil sachets and other plastics including biodegradable, photosensitive and plant-based plastics. Also includes resin types established since 1988 and those marked with the number 7.
3 Sales Data and Return Rates

During the July to September 2012 quarter, 40 352 547 approved containers were sold in the Northern Territory. 16 856 657 of those containers were returned to CDS Coordinators. This equates to a return rate of 41.77% across all material types (see Table 1). That is, 41.77% of all containers sold in the Northern Territory have been recycled through the Container Deposit Scheme.

This is an increase of 5 102 484 containers returned to CDS Coordinators, compared to the previous quarter.

Table 1: Beverage Container Sales Returns and Return Rates to CDS Coordinators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container Material</th>
<th>Total Containers Sold</th>
<th>Containers Returned to CDS Coordinators</th>
<th>Container Return Rates (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aluminium</td>
<td>17 693 338</td>
<td>8 249 889</td>
<td>46.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PET</td>
<td>7 571 671</td>
<td>2 840 596</td>
<td>37.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glass</td>
<td>11 390 825</td>
<td>5 020 836</td>
<td>44.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDPE</td>
<td>1 073 331</td>
<td>92 991</td>
<td>8.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LPB</td>
<td>2 623 382</td>
<td>652 345</td>
<td>24.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>40 352 547</strong></td>
<td><strong>16 856 657</strong></td>
<td><strong>41.77</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During the July to September quarter, 46.63% of aluminium containers sold in the Northern Territory were returned to CDS Coordinators. This was followed by 44.08% of HDPE containers and 37.52% of PET containers (see Figure 1).

Figure 1: Beverage Container Sales and Returns by Material Type
4 Containers Redeemed at Collection Depots

A total of 15 036 354 containers were redeemed at Collection Depots over the third quarter of the Container Deposit Scheme’s operation in the Northern Territory. This is a redemption rate of 37.33% (see Table 2). The number of containers redeemed at Collection Depots is different to the number of containers returned to CDS Coordinators due to some containers from the previous quarter not actually being delivered to the CDS Coordinators until the current quarter.

Table 2: Total Container Sales and Redemption Rates to Collection Depots

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container Material</th>
<th>Total Containers Sold</th>
<th>Containers Redeemed at Collection Depots</th>
<th>Container Redemption Rates (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aluminium</td>
<td>17 693 338</td>
<td>8 402 805</td>
<td>47.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PET</td>
<td>7 571 671</td>
<td>2 763 841</td>
<td>36.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glass</td>
<td>11 390 825</td>
<td>3 294 128</td>
<td>28.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDPE</td>
<td>1 073 331</td>
<td>156 062</td>
<td>14.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LPB</td>
<td>2 623 382</td>
<td>440 921</td>
<td>16.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td>5597</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>40 352 547</strong></td>
<td><strong>15 063 354</strong></td>
<td><strong>37.33</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The number of containers redeemed at Collection Depots in the third quarter is up 47.14% on the first quarter and 19.25% on the second quarter (see Figure 2).

Figure 2: Number of Containers Redeemed at Collection Depots by Quarter
Of the containers redeemed there were:

- 8,402,805 aluminium cans;
- 2,763,841 PET containers;
- 3,294,128 glass containers;
- 156,062 HDPE containers;
- 440,921 liquid paper board containers; and
- 5,597 other containers, including other plastics and steel.

56% of all containers redeemed were aluminium, 22% were glass and 18% were PET (see Figure 3)

Figure 3: Collection Depot Redemptions by Material Type

The redemption of these containers equates to over $1.5 million in deposits that have been paid out to families, schools, community organisations and commercial operators in the Northern Territory over the July to September 2012 period.

Redemptions by Region

Collection Depots operating in the Greater Darwin Region, include the depots located in Berrimah, Pineland, Parap and Charles Darwin University. Areas outside of Darwin (Other) include depots in Katherine, Alice Springs, Tennant Creek, Elliot and Finke.

- 10.76 million containers were redeemed in the Greater Darwin region; and
- 4.3 million containers were redeemed in areas outside of Darwin (see Figure 4)
An additional 2.9 million containers were redeemed in the third quarter compared to the second quarter. 2.09 million of these were in the Greater Darwin region which is a 24.11% increase. 0.81 million were in areas outside of the Greater Darwin area representing a 23.14% increase.