



# Glass...The Way It Is Current Conditions – Southeast and Beyond The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly

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# Glass...The Way It Is The Good, The Bad, The Ugly



#### Good

- Infinitely Recyclable many, many times
- Bottle-to-Bottle recycling = Highest and Best use
- 34% Recycling Rate; Is that "Good?"

#### Bad

- High Cost to Recycle with Single-Stream
- Causes Contamination; and Gets Contaminated (Lose/Lose)

#### Ugly

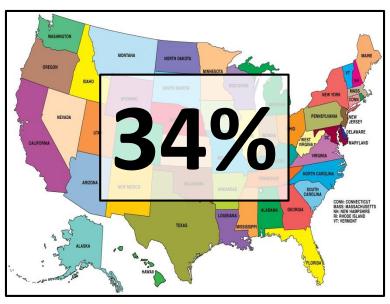
- Most Glass that IS recycled...is <u>NOT</u> Recycled
- Safety Implications
- Effect on entire supply chain...beyond the MRF



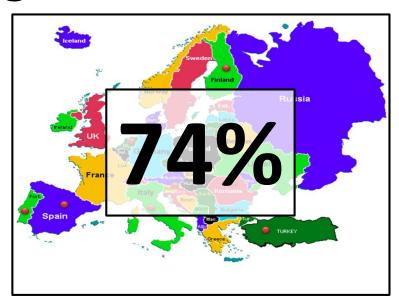




#### **Recycling Rates**



CDL States = 63% Non-Deposit States = 24%



Sweden 95%+

That's a big difference – What can we learn?

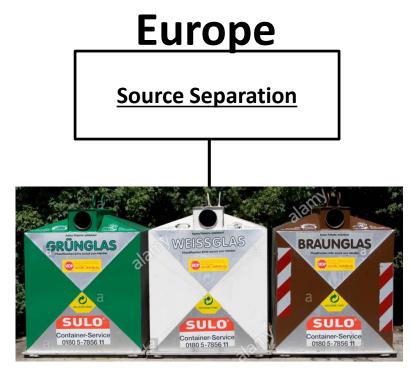


## Glass...The Way It Is



#### **Recycling Rate**









#### Glass...The Way It Is

- Most Glass that <u>Is</u> recycled is <u>NOT</u> Recycled –What?
   "We're lost but we're making good time"
  - -Yogi Berra

- "Some" glass goes "bottle-to-bottle"
- But most glass goes to:
  - Aggregate
  - Landfill Cover
  - Other beneficial uses; but <u>NOT</u> infinitely recycled
- Much recycled glass ends up in landfills
  - If not from MRFs, from later in supply chain
  - Becomes Non-Recyclable <u>PRIOR</u> to getting to MRF Glass equipment (too small, too contaminated to "save")





### **Glass...Beyond the MRF**

• Glass that is Recycled that never gets Recycled (ends up in paper bales or other commodity bales, ultimately landfill)









### **Glass...The Way It Should Be**

- Collaborative efforts to find better solution
  - GRC

Aggressive drop-off programs

More uses for recycled glass



# Glass...Somehow we need to get to this.... It can be done

