To:

UIC and EPAL

Copied: the Nis signing

Exchangeability in the European Pallet Pool

ECR national initiatives signing this communication work in the FMCG Industry to promote efficient and effective practices for the interface processes between manufacturers and retailers, in order to serve the consumer better, faster and at a lower cost.

After the split between EPAL and UIC in 2013, we welcomed the press releases from the two bodies, which confirmed, on a formal level, the unrestricted exchange of both pallets. Such an unrestricted exchangeability is fundamental in order to guarantee efficient relationship processes in the supply chain.

With this email, we would like to bring to your attention that in the current state, on a substantial level, there is evidence of differing quality levels between the two types of pallets, due to a lack of total conformity of some UIC pallets with the specifications.

Research carried out in the field shows that the controlled pallets have, in some cases, defects, which could potentially jeopardize the pallet performance (in terms of load bearing capacity and strength) and consequently their safety performances. Please find attached some documented evidence*.*

With the aim of reducing/eliminating such differences and restoring the conditions that enable a substantial exchangeability of the two pallet pools, we would like to see measures which can guarantee that the production and repair are fully compliant with the specifications and that the quality checks for the two pools are fully aligned in terms of accuracy and frequency.

Yours faithfully

ECR National Initiatives from Austria, Check Republic, Croatia, Hungary, Italy, Poland