



Press release

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Worldwide take-back system for lithium-ion batteries

SIMPLi RETURN: Vollmann and Jüsten appointed Managing Directors

+++ First joint appearance for joint venture between Saubermacher and Interseroh at the ICBR Conference from 26 until 28 September in Berlin

Feldkirchen near Graz/Cologne. The management of the first take-back system for lithium-ion batteries, SIMPLi RETURN, has been decided: Michael Vollmann (43) from Saubermacher and Claus Jüsten (45) from Interseroh were appointed Managing Directors, a role that they will share from now on. For the first time, on behalf of SIMPLi RETURN, they will be attending the 23rd International Congress for Battery Recycling (ICBR), which will take place next week from 26 until 28 September in Berlin.

Claus Jüsten, who has a degree in business administration, has been working in leading positions in the area of logistics at Interseroh for more than ten years, including as Managing Director of INTERSEROH Pfand-System GmbH. Michael Vollmann, who has an MSc. in Accounting and Controlling, has spent more than five years working in commercial management positions at Saubermacher, including the position of Managing Director Finance / Deputy CFO.

The SIMPLi RETURN joint venture brings Saubermacher, the world's leading batteries recycling specialist together with Interseroh, the leading provider of environmental services for the closure of product-, materials- and logistics cycles. In addition to holistic consulting services, the SIMPLi RETURN offer also includes the organisation of professional transport services and environmentally friendly recycling. It is oriented towards manufacturers and distributors of lithium-ion batteries from the industrial sector and electronic vehicles of all types.

"I am looking forward to my new tasks, says **Claus Jüsten**. "The combination of the recycling know-how of Saubermacher and the logistics and systems operating know-how of Interseroh offers a complete vertical integration and therefore promises considerable synergies." **Vollmann** adds: "The recycling market for lithium-ion batteries has a considerable potential for development. We are expecting double digit rates of growth per year, which means that the professional and sustainable recycling of these waste streams is imperative."

ALBA Group

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The logo for Saubermacher, featuring the brand name in a white, cursive script font on a red rectangular background.The logo for interseroh, consisting of a stylized circular icon above the brand name 'interseroh' in a bold, dark blue sans-serif font, with the tagline 'zero waste solutions' in a smaller, lighter blue font below it.

SIMPLi RETURN provides all services across the entire waste management chain around the world from a single source. Thanks to the optimised process organisation, placing orders is simple, the entire recycling cycle is transparent and comprehensible, and gap-free documentation is guaranteed. To ensure safe transport, special containers will be made available and the packaging of batteries will take place on-site. By using existing infrastructures and expertise, the global recycling service can be implemented very quickly.

You can find more information on SIMPLi RETURN at www.simplireturn.com.

About Interseroh

Next to ALBA, Interseroh is one brand under the umbrella of the ALBA Group. The ALBA Group is one of the leading recycling and environmental services companies as well as raw material providers worldwide and operates within Germany, Europa and Asia. In 2017 its divisions generated an annual turnover of approx. 1.8 billion Euros and employed a staff of about 7,500 employees. In 2016 alone ALBA Group saved almost 4.3 million tonnes of greenhouse gases compared to primary production and at the same time about 36.2 million tonnes of primary raw materials through its recycling activities. Further information on Interseroh can be found at www.interseroh.com.

About Saubermacher

Saubermacher Dienstleistungs AG is an international disposal and recycling company, whose headquarters are located in Feldkirchen near Graz. The family business was established in 1979 and is a competent partner for approx. 1,600 municipalities and over 40,000 companies. The company has around 3,050 employees in Austria, Germany, the Czech Republic, Slovenia, Hungary and the United Arab Emirates. The company is a leader in the sector of battery recycling and with their "Zero Waste" vision, pursues the objective of processing all materials at the end of their lifecycle in such a way that an increasing percentage of the original material can be recycled and fed into an (almost) never-ending cycle. You can find more information at www.saubermacher.at.

Free use of the attached picture is authorised, provided the source "ALBA Group" is acknowledged.

Picture caption:

The new Managing Directors of SIMPLi RETURN: Mag. (FH) Michael Vollmann (right) and Claus Jüsten (left).

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