

## Technical Committee Newsletter

### No 9 - October 2020

Welcome to technical committee newsletter number 9, written by the AVA technical committee specifically for technical managers in the industry. We hope you will find it interesting. We would appreciate any comments or suggestions for items to be covered in future newsletters.

#### Energy Labelling



The Ecodesign Regulation on measurement of the energy consumption of chilled vending machines has been published as 2019/2024 and the Regulation on the labelling of machines as 2019/2018. The Regulation requires manufacturers to measure the energy consumption according to EN 50597 and to register this reading on the official database and then to put the relevant rating on a label on the machine. Gone are the days of A+++.

As this is a new Regulation the highest rating that you could

have would be a C and carousel vendors are likely to be around F or G. Unfortunately, the gases used as refrigerants are also changing and, as the new gases will not be drop-in replacements for R134a, the designs of chilled food machines are going to change significantly. The EVA asked for a delay in the implementation of the labelling regulations so that manufacturers only need measure the energy consumption of the machines with the new gases but the Commission has responded that they see no reason for a delay.

The new regulation applies throughout the union from March 1 2021, while the ban on R134a commences in January 2022. The label has to be clearly visible on the front or top of the machine. While the UK will have left the EU, these regulations will still be applicable in the UK

There is a small problem. The Commission decided that they did not like the wording of one section of the standard on testing combination machines and used their own wording. As a result the standard has to be changed and the new standard will not be available until at least October 2021 so at present there is no way for manufacturers to measure the energy consumption of this group of machines that complies with the regulations.

#### Automatic Vending Association

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## The Engineers' training programme



The AVA Engineers' Competency Training Courses are designed to help companies of all shapes and sizes comply with today's legislation whilst keeping the costs to a minimum. The courses provide vending-specific electrical training for all levels of engineer, from new starters to those with years of experience looking to refresh or further develop their skills. Successful course completion leads to

a certificate of competence which is City & Guilds recognised.

The **Part 1** course has always been a two-day course. Current restrictions on travel and safety meant that we have had to re-think this. Along with Phil Watts, the course tutor from ASCOT, we have now completed alterations to the foundation course, to support an on-line one-day course as a solution.

The delivery will now be carried out via Microsoft Teams. Therefore, engineers can join the 'class' from home or at work, without the need for travel or an overnight stay: Something they can do even if on furlough.

**How will it work?** Companies or candidates apply to take the course for a specific date.

- They will be invoiced; when paid the AVA will register delegates. There will be a minimum five delegates per course, but these can be from different companies.
- Those registered will be sent the study notes and an eight-page exercise booklet by Phil which the delegates can practice with, whilst using the student course pack, prior to attending the course.
- Phil will deliver the course which will start at 9am, finish at @ 5pm and have a 45-minute break at 12.30pm.
- Exam papers are then sent by Phil to the delegates as an email pdf. They will be allowed two days for completion and return.
- Exams will be marked by Phil and results will be sent to Steve for him to distribute.

Dates are yet to be set, but we expect the first course to be in early Autumn. Additional dates can be added depending upon demand.

If you would like to find out more, please contact [steve.collins@the-ava.com](mailto:steve.collins@the-ava.com)

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## Apprenticeship



The apprenticeship scheme attracts government funding to train young people in specific job-centred skills. There are two ways in which companies can have an apprentice. In some parts of the country local colleges are keen to encourage apprenticeships and they have offered to tailor courses to the needs of companies. Several vending operators have benefitted from this. In this arrangement a college tutor picks out modules from the courses they are running which are appropriate for the skills that a vending engineer will need. They also guide and assess the tuition the apprentice is receiving at work and set the test at the end – the End Point Assessment – that the apprentice

takes to complete their apprenticeship. The other option is the apprenticeship in Drinks Dispense which has been set up by the pub and soft drinks industries at Wolverhampton College. Here, rather than be a single apprentice doing modules from different courses, there is a cohort of apprentices from different companies doing the course together. The first cohort is well on its way to finishing and the second is due to start in January 2021. Covid 19 has had an effect and more of the tuition is not on-line but there is still practical training at Wolverhampton College.

## Recycling

The Scottish government has put the legislation in place to introduce a deposit return scheme in 2022. At present it seems as if the rest of the UK will have such a scheme in 2023. The Scottish scheme is planned to include glass bottles.

In the meantime, the AVA has been responding to a HM Treasury consultation on the single use plastics packaging tax. Given the amount of money the government has spent on dealing with coronavirus they will be looking for money wherever they can so there is no doubt that there will be a tax on single use plastic that does not contain recycled material. It is likely to be introduced in Spring next year.



The tax will apply to single use products where the main constituent is plastic so it does not apply to paper cups. The current suggested level is £200 a tonne of plastic which equates to roughly £2

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a case of plastic cups.

The tax requires manufacturers or importers of plastics that claim to contain recycled material to have concrete evidence of this. The government has made it clear that a certificate from the manufacturer will not be sufficient evidence and they will expect much more detail including evidence of the source of the recycled material. The proposed penalties for claiming to contain recycled material without adequate evidence are severe and importers may find it easier and cheaper to just pay the tax.

### **Plastic bans**

The ban on plastic stirrers (plus straws and cotton buds) comes into force on the 1<sup>st</sup> October and manufacturers and operators have 6 months in which to use up existing stocks. More detail can be found on the Government website [HERE](#)

