

# International Confederation of Container Reconditioners

## International Code of Operating Practice

Steel Drums

Plastic Drums

Intermediate Bulk Containers

Kortrijksestraat 474  
8020 Ruddervoorde  
Belgium

[info@serred.org](mailto:info@serred.org)  
[www.serred.org](http://www.serred.org)

tel. +32 (0) 475 498 804

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## Introduction

In 1991, the International Confederation of Container Reconditioners – then known as the International Confederation of Drum Reconditioners - adopted the first International Code of Practice for the steel drum reconditioning industry. This Code of Practice was the first to be adopted by any industrial packaging organization, and one of the first to be applied to its members by any industry group on an international basis.

The Steel Drum Code of Practice set forth a series of general management principles applicable to all ICCR member companies, including the need to operate reconditioning plants in a manner protective of employee health and environmental safety, responding to community concerns, and ensuring that drums are produced in a manner compliant with all applicable governmental requirements.

In the intervening years, the international packaging reprocessing industry has evolved and ICCR member companies have developed highly sophisticated manufacturing systems capable of cleaning and reprocessing for reuse not just steel drums, but a wide range of reusable industrial packagings of varying sizes and designs, including plastic drums and intermediate bulk containers.

In response to the needs of today's modern reusable industrial packaging business, ICCR has updated the original Code of Practice to include the three primary industrial packagings reprocessed on an international basis, i.e. steel and plastic drums, and intermediate bulk containers. The revised Code of Practice retains many of the original management principles and general recommendations that together offer a consistent and coherent framework for the responsible operation of an industrial packaging reprocessing facility anywhere in the world.

Packaging emptiers are encouraged to use this Code of Practice as a tool by which to measure and assess the quality of their reprocessing partners. In agreeing to abide by the International Code of Operating Practice, ICCR member companies have made a commitment to continuous improvement of their facilities and products, environmental and employee protection, pollution prevention, and regulatory compliance. ICCR encourages emptiers to visit ICCR member facilities and determine for themselves the quality of ICCR member firms.

## Editor's Note

### International Confederation of Container Reconditioners

The International Confederation of Container Reconditioners (ICCR) is a world-wide group representing private container reconditioning companies. ICCR is governed by the three principle trade associations representing Japan, Europe and North America. ICCR membership also includes reconditioning firms operating throughout Australasia.

ICCR provides a coordinated effort on international regulatory, legislative and standards issues. The group holds observer status at the UN Sub-Committee on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, the International Maritime Organization and the International Civil Aviation Organization. ICCR plays an active role in standards development, and its members participate in national, regional, and international standards organizations.

Syndicat Européen Récupérateurs et Rénovateurs de Drums  
Kortrijksestraat 474  
8020 Ruddervoorde  
Belgium  
E-mail: [info@serred.org](mailto:info@serred.org)  
[www.serred.org](http://www.serred.org)  
tel. +32 (0) 475 498 804

Japan Drum Reconditioners' Association  
Nakanoshima Dai Bldg. 601c,  
3-3-23, Nakanoshima, Kita-Ku,  
Osaka 530-6106, Japan.  
Tel: (+81) 6-6443-4730  
Fax: (+81) 6-6443-6356  
E-mail: [jdrawest@mxq.mesh.ne.jp](mailto:jdrawest@mxq.mesh.ne.jp)

Reusable Industrial Packaging Association  
8401 Corporate Drive  
Suite 450  
Landover, Maryland 20785  
Ph: (+1) 301-577-3786  
[www.reusablepackaging.org](http://www.reusablepackaging.org)

### Australasian Container Reconditioners Association

ICCR Secretariat  
Mr. Lawrence W. Bierlein, Esq.  
1101 30<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Suite 500  
Washington, DC 20007  
Ph: (+1) 202-625-8355  
[larry@hazmat-lawyer.com](mailto:larry@hazmat-lawyer.com)