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Understanding the Reverse Chain Structure of the Glass Bottles in São Paulo

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Abstract

The study analyzes the structure of glass bottles reverse logistics in Sao Paulo city, using the decision framework proposed by de Brito e Dekker (2002) outlining the questions how, why and what reverse logistics happen. The study used primary and secondary data to construct the scheme of the structure and understand the operational of the dynamic. There are multiple stakeholders, highlighting the big presence of the informal sector represented by the waste pickers organizations and the bottle pickers. There are additional elements present in some glass bottles, that are not projected to disassembly and are considered as impurities by the customers. The removal of such elements makes the pre-processing more difficult. In Brazil, there are enough instruments to regulate the responsibilities of the manufacturers, distributors and merchants. We outline that the main barriers of the reverse logistics in the case of the glass are due to little cover of the selective waste collection, the laborious handling and pre-processing stages and the lack of economic incentives for the glass recycling market.

Keywords: reverse logistics, post-consumer package, glass, recycle
