SWARCO REFURBISHED SIGNS







WHAT HAPPENS TO OBSOLETE TRAFFIC SIGNS?



- · According to German Highway Code over 1 million small StVO-traffic signs are newly produced every year.
- The carrier plates for all new traffic signs are aluminum blanks with a high-quality alloy, which are produced using a very energy-intensive forming process. This is associated with very high CO2 emissions.
- · The carrier plates of the disused traffic signs are recycled, i.e. melted down, in aluminum plants. Due to the high-quality requirements for traffic signs, traffic signs cannot be made from 100% recycled aluminum, but only from aluminum alloys, which may only contain up to certain percentages of recycled aluminum. Therefore, there are no recycled signs, only new ones!
- · The reason for replacing a traffic sign is usually that the lettering is out of date or the retroreflection decreases over time and only in rare cases because of the carrier plates.

So how much more environmentally friendly would it be if the used aluminum signs could be reused - without melting them down and without any loss of quality in the alloy?



WE REFURBISH USED SIGNS! THROUGH OUR "REFURBISHED SIGN" REMANUFACTURING **PROCESS**







- · SWARCO DAMBACH GmbH uses a process in which the aluminum carrier plates are decoated from the foils and can be reused without reshaping by melting down.
- · This significantly extends the "first" life of a sign! The coating can be renewed several times. A "second" life after recycling by melting down can follow, only much later!
- The decoating of the aluminum sign is environmentally friendly and completely chemical-free. Only household waste is produced, which does not have to be disposed of separately.
- The aluminum carrier materials are sifted, sorted according to shape, size and perforation, decoated and stored.
- The new coating is applied by painting and laminating.
- · Refurbished signs may only show minor signs of wear on the edges and possibly on the back, but these are not caused by the decoating process and do not affect the functionality of the sign in any way.
- · Signs refurbished in this way retain their RAL quality mark and BAST approval.



THE SWARCO SIGN CYCLE

SIGN REFURBISHMENT

- · Decoating of the signs
- · Environmentally friendly disposal of the resulting regular household waste
- · Storage of the carrier materials sorted according to shape, size and perforation
- · Refurbishing by repainting and laminating with film
- · Delivery and assembly of refurbished signs



SIGN COLLECTION

- · Collection of used signs
- · Credit note in the amount of the scrap price for crediting
- · Sorting of the signs according to "refurbable" and "for disposal"
- · We hand over the signs to be disposed of to a recycler for environmentally friendly recycling of the signs (melting down)



CO₂ BALANCE

The CO2 footprint of refurbished signs is 88% lower than the new signs, even if alloys with added recycled aluminum were used in their production.

Reduced CO2 footprint per m2 - In Scope 3, the CO2e value of a 600 Ronde VZxx is 9.4kg Co2e. With a refurbished sign from SWARCO, the value for the same VZ is 1.1kg CO2e. A saving of 88% can therefore be achieved.

A third-party certification company has verified our special processes in accordance with DIN EN ISO 14067:2019-02.



ALL THE BENEFITS OF REFURBISHING AT A GLANCE



- We refurbish used signs and feed them into a sustainable remanufacturing management ("cradle-to-cradle").
- Compared to new aluminum / Alu-Dibond signs, the production of the carrier plates is eliminated. Refurbished signs therefore have an 88% lower CO2 footprint than newly produced traffic signs, even if they contain a proportion of recycled aluminum.
- As a customer, you do not pay more, compared to newly manufactured traffic signs, but produce far less CO2.
- In addition to the RAL quality mark, each sign is given a green "SWARCO Refurbished Sign" mark.
- Used signs can be refurbished several times, as the aluminum carrier sign has an extremely long service life before it has to be recycled. Therefore:

Low CO₂ footprint at **NO EXTRA CHARGE**

First refurbish, then recycle!



SWARCO | The Better Way. Every Day.

SWARCO's leading idea is to improve quality of life by making the travel experience safer, quicker, more convenient, and environmentally sound.

With more than five decades of experience in the industry, the Austrian traffic technology corporation produces and provides a large range of products, systems, services, and turnkey solutions for road marking, urban and interurban traffic management, parking, and public transport. Cooperative systems, infrastructure-to-vehicle communication, e-mobility, and integrated software solutions for the Livable City complement the group's future-oriented portfolio.

More than 5500 traffic experts are keen to shape together with all stakeholders in the traffic industry the transition from conventional traffic management to value-added services fit for the traveler in the digital age.

SWARCO's products, systems and solutions contribute to greater road safety and intelligent traffic management in 80 countries and generate revenues of almost 1.2 billion euros.

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