



DATE: July 23, 2019

TO: Depot Network

RE: **New POR Requirements**

On June 19, 2019 the BCMB Board of Directors approved an amendment to the Depot By-law to require all depots operating at an annual volume of 6 million containers or more to have in use a Point of Return System by December 31, 2020. Item 10.29 below is the addition to the By-law. To view the full Depot By-law, please visit the BCMB website at this link:

<https://www.bcmb.ab.ca/about/governing-documents/>

10.29 Depots handling six (6) million Containers per year or more must have a Point of Return system in the Depot by December 31, 2020, which meets the requirements as established by the BCMB from time to time, including the ability to display to the customer the number of Registered Containers at each refund rate, and the total refund payable to the customer.

Prior to this amendment, the By-law required “depots handling in excess of ten (10) million Containers” to have a POR system (item 10.28 of the Depot By-law). It was agreed upon by the Industry Leadership Committee that depots handling 6 million containers per year or more are financially able to implement a POR system and that the industry benefits from the use of POR in depots.

Depots that handle 6 million containers per year or more that do not currently have a POR system are required to submit a business plan to the BCMB by January 1, 2020, which details the steps that the depot will take to acquire and install the POR system by December 31, 2020.

Depots are free to source a vendor for their POR system, however as stated in the Depot By-law, the system must meet the requirements as established by the BCMB. Please see the BCMB’s POR Requirements document affixed to this notice.

If you have any questions regarding the new requirements, please contact Jeff Linton, President, BCMB at:

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**BEVERAGE CONTAINER MANAGEMENT BOARD
INDUSTRY POINT OF RETURN REQUIREMENTS**

Effective December 31, 2020, Depots handling six (6) million containers per year or more must have an approved Point of Return Software System (POR) in use in their Depot. POR has demonstrated improved customer confidence, operational efficiency, and system accuracy. It is for these reasons that the industry has adopted the mandatory use of this technology.

What is an Industry approved POR?

- A POR can be purchased from any vendor but must have the following basic functionality to qualify as meeting industry standard and be approved for use:
 - Each counting station must have individual customer facing screen, unless otherwise approved in writing by the BCMB.
 - Each screen must display orders as they are counted including the number of beverage containers at each refund rate and the total refund payable to the customer;
 - Customer facing stations must match number of counting stations reported on their Uniform Code of Accounts (UCA);
 - Must produce a receipt that meets the minimum cash register receipt requirements as outlined in item 10.27 of the Depot By-law;
 - Must be able to produce and transmit an industry standard R-Bill in print and electronically that meets the requirements specified in Schedule “E” of the Service Agreement;
 - Must be able to connect to the internet; and
 - Must have the ability to track customer orders that are dropped off to be counted and paid at a later time.

New Depot Permit – Start up

- All newly established Depots, regardless of volume, must have a POR that meets the above requirements.
- The expectation with a newly established Depot is that the operator must have the POR installation included in the construction timelines within their Permit Application. The POR would have to be installed prior to an operating permit being issued by the BCMB.



**BEVERAGE CONTAINER MANAGEMENT BOARD
INDUSTRY POINT OF RETURN REQUIREMENTS**

New Depot Permit - Existing Depot Sale

- All Depots, regardless of volume, that are sold to a new operator that previously used POR must continue to operate with POR.
- All Depots, regardless of volume, that are sold to a new operator that did not previously use POR must supply, at minimum, a signed letter of intent outlining the plan, with enforceable timelines, to purchase and install POR in the Depot. This letter of intent would be part of the Applicants Permit Application. The POR would have to be installed within ten (10) months of their initial permit date. This would be confirmed by inspection prior to renewing their permit at the expiry of the initial one-year permit.