

Press Release

IFCO donates environmentally friendly RPCs worldwide

IFCO SYSTEMS supports food banks worldwide by provisioning free RPCs and co-financing refrigerated vans

PULLACH, GERMANY, 11. December 2018: Since the beginning of its initiative for the support of food banks in 2009, [IFCO SYSTEMS](#), the leading global provider of reusable packaging solutions, has donated more than 280,000 RPCs (Reusable Plastic Containers) to food banks. In addition, the company supports the food banks with voluntary work of IFCO employees and by co-financing refrigerated vans.

“A better supply chain serves us all. This is why we support food banks around the globe with our reusable plastic containers (RPCs) to optimize their supply chain processes – enabling them to better fulfill their mission every day, and yet reduce waste,” said Wolfgang Orgeldinger, CEO of IFCO SYSTEMS. “IFCO is pleased to support the food banks in their endeavors to help those in need. Since we started our initiative in 2009, IFCO has not only provided thousands of RPCs, but also made monetary donations, co-financed dozens of refrigerated transporters and allocated hundreds of volunteering hours to help reduce hunger worldwide.”

As a global player, IFCO supports activities in different countries all around the globe. For instance, in 2018 the company has been supporting the following food banks and charities:

IFCO Germany provided RPCs to 46 food banks in 2018, bringing their cumulative support to 152 food banks by the end of 2018. The free provision of about 16,000 RPCs during the year contributes to process optimization at these food banks and significantly reduces waste. Disposal costs for one-way packaging are also saved. Thanks to the contractual cooperation with [Tafel Deutschland e.V.](#), four more food banks could be supported with the financing of refrigerated vehicles – bringing the overall figure of sponsored vans in Germany to 62 since the start of the initiative back in 2009.

IFCO UK donated a new Mercedes Sprinter van to [Bradford North Foodbank](#), part of the Trussell Trust Foodbank Network, in July 2018. The van is used to aid the food bank in its work supporting locals in need of emergency food. The new van replaces the private cars, which were previously used to deliver food to the five distribution centers of Bradford North Foodbank.

IFCO Italy makes a financial contribution of 400 Euro to [Banco Alimentare](#) every year. Furthermore, IFCO Italy donated 500 Euro to Associazione Cometa, a non-profit organization helping children in Burkina Faso.

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IFCO Spain supported the Valencia-based food bank [Banco de Alimentos de Valencia](#) by lending 660 Magnum Boxes to be used for food collections. For the first time, IFCO volunteers also helped to collect food from local supermarkets at the end of November.

IFCO France again donated 4,000 Euro to the [Banque Alimentaire de la Loire](#). On the last weekend of November, the Banque Alimentaire organized a national campaign in big supermarkets with the aim of collecting donated food items that are subsequently distributed to people in need via humanitarian organizations or charities. As in previous years, the IFCO team also helped collecting food donations in an Intermarché supermarket on November 30th. In total, IFCO France supported 12 food banks by lending 64,344 RPCs in 2018.

IFCO Austria donated over 1,800 RPCs to foodbanks in Wels, Vienna and Eugendorf. Some additional crates were used during the Radieschenfest which is celebrated every year in April when the year's first radish is harvested in the town of Hall.

IFCO Greece participated in two charity events arranged by the organizations Lifeline and [Sylogos Elpida](#) (ELPIDA), the Association of Friends of Children with Cancer. On May 29th, ELPIDA organized a charity concert and IFCO Greece bought tickets for their employees to attend. Lifeline is an International Humanitarian organisation founded by HRH Crown Princess Catherine. It focuses on raising funds for hospitals and foundations in Greece. Theodosios Staikopoulos, Country Manager of IFCO Greece, attended a Lifeline charity dinner on behalf of all IFCO Greece employees. In June, IFCO Greece also donated 200 Euros to support the Church Genesis which handed out food vouchers to people in need. Furthermore, RPCs will be donated to the organization [MAZI GIA TO PAIDI](#) in order to collect food in December.

IFCO Brazil continued its support of local food banks by lending RPCs for collecting produce at retail distribution centers. Around 3,200 crates were used in 2018.

“We want to reduce the gap between rich and poor and are thus more convinced than ever that the work of the food banks is a very important contribution to support people in need and we will therefore continue our successful cooperation with them in the future”, said Wolfgang Orgeldinger.

IFCO is part of the global supply chain solutions company Brambles Limited. Brambles collaborates with well over 100 food banks worldwide and is a partner of the Global Foodbanking Network, a non-profit organization that fights world hunger, supporting and strengthening food banks in more than 30 countries.

Download picture material at <ftp://presse.hbi.de/pub/IFCO/Foodbanks/>

Additional information

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IFCO is the leading global provider of reusable packaging solutions for fresh foods, serving customers in 50+ countries. IFCO operates a pool of over 290 million Reusable Plastic Containers (RPCs) globally, which are used for over 1.3 billion shipments of fresh fruits and vegetables, meat, poultry, seafood, eggs, bread, and other items from suppliers to grocery retailers every year. IFCO RPCs ensure a better fresh food supply chain by protecting freshness and quality and lowering costs, food waste and environmental impact compared to single-use packaging. More: www.ifco.com.

For more information, please contact:

IFCO:

Daniela Carbone

VP - Global Marketing

Tel.: +49 (0)89 74491-323

Daniela.Carbone@ifco.com

www.ifco.com

Agency:

HBI Helga Bailey GmbH

Corinna Voss, Stefan Schmidt

Tel.: +49 (0)89 99 38 87-30 / -47

ifco@hbi.de

www.hbi.de