

## **FREE independent pallet audit offered for UK drinks industry companies**

EPAL, the dominant pallet pooling system in continental Europe, and the largest in the world – is offering FREE independent pallet audits to UK Drinks industry companies, conducted by SGS – the global leader and innovator in inspection, verification, testing and certification services.

EPAL regulates the manufacture and repair of all pallets – both new and repaired - bearing its registered trademark . Its strict quality assurance measures are designed to protect the health and safety of users, the reliable transportation of goods and the fair exchange of pallets of equivalent quality at their final destination. It also reduces the chances of pallet breakage – a key source of damaged stock within the drinks industry.

Paul Davidson – CEO of EPAL in the UK and Ireland explains -  
'Organisations need to know that they can trust ALL pallets supplied bearing the EPAL trademark to be fit for purpose – including second hand. To the naked eye, it is difficult to check humidity or load bearing qualities without specialist training & equipment. SGS bring specialist knowledge and equipment with them and can quickly identify whether pallets supplied with the EPAL trademark meet the quality control standards to which they are designed. '

EPAL has made all UK and Irish pallet manufacturers and repairs aware of Community Trade Mark registration 000472415 in classes 6,16 and 20. This collective mark protects all aspects of the EPAL pallet pool, including without limitation:- repair and refurbishment, inspection and maintenance of standards and specifications.

EPAL has acted in many markets in Europe to protect its trademarks and will do similarly in the UK if necessary.

Should any EPAL trademarked pallets be found to be substandard, EPAL are advising drinks industry customers to return them to the supplier and demand replacement approved EPAL repaired pallets.

For more information about this offer, report substandard EPAL pallets, or find a list of EPAL approved manufacturers and repairers, please visit [www.brepal.org.uk](http://www.brepal.org.uk), or call Paul Davidson on 01223 479594

ENDS

### **Notes to Editors**

- EPAL is the largest pallet pool in the world with 500 million pallets in use and 70 million added annually.



- In the UK EPAL grew by 22% in 2008.
- New research shows that using EPAL pallets can be 25% cheaper than renting pallets.
- EPAL has the toughest quality control in the world, all partners received unannounced visits from independent inspectors at least monthly.
- New size 1000 x 1200 pallet compatible with UK standard distribution.
- EPAL has solutions for all pallet users – importers, exporters and home trade industries.
- For more information about EPAL, call Paul Davidson on 01223 479594, email [davidsonpaulj@googlemail.com](mailto:davidsonpaulj@googlemail.com) or visit [www.brepal.org.uk](http://www.brepal.org.uk)

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