

Complies with European standards

We watched the TV programme of the first Belgian Flemish channel on compostable products on Wednesday 16 December with interest.

We hoped that the title of the programme 'Factcheckers' would live up to its promise.

In the end we were disappointed that the journalists did not complete their investigation in search of the facts. For 25 years, the products we certify have been easily recognisable, so it was so easy to contact us. What we regret.

There are two main things we will retain from this show

- That the organisations in charge of waste collection and treatment are poorly informed and
- That VLACO, in charge of composting in the north of the country, recognises that the certified products comply with European standards, but that their installations do not accept them.

A study by the University of Wageningen shows that all certified products are perfectly compostable and do not lead to any compost quality problems ([study](#))

When declaring a product compostable, this involves two main aspects, involving different actors:

- The product must be technically compostable, i.e. it must meet the requirements of current European standards. This is our job.
- Then it must be collected and properly processed, and here, as the journalist clearly demonstrated, there are so many players that only a political decision can move things forward.

The means to achieve these objectives have yet to be put in place.

More details about **OK compost** and **TÜV AUSTRIA** on www.okcompost.org and on [YouTube](#)

Brussels,

17 December 2020

TÜV AUSTRIA Group is a leading independent Testing, Inspection and Certification company covering industry, energy, infrastructure, transportation, certification, training and digital services with +2.000 experts in +20 countries.

From cybersecurity, robotics and IoT to pressure equipment inspections, industrial plant safety, materials testing and hygienics (air, soil, water, surfaces, rooms), TÜV AUSTRIA Group generates an annual turnover of 220 million euros.

*On 1 December 2017, TÜV AUSTRIA Group integrated the **OK compost** & **OK biobased** conformity marks and certification activities into the newly founded subsidiary **TÜV AUSTRIA Belgium**.*