Tin can makes a comeback: very much an offside trap for consumers

Reusables are the better option – during the World Cup, too

Just in time for the World Cup kickoff, it’s there on the supermarket shelves: the tin can. It’s a pity because ecologically speaking, the tin can continues to be a poor choice compared to reusable beverage packaging. Consumers should therefore avoid these tin cans: “Whether it’s soft drinks, cola or beer, reusable glass and PET bottles are the best choice-- all the more so if provided by a regional supplier, since delivery routes are short”, said Jochen Flasbarth, President of the Federal Environment Agency (UBA). Beverage cartons and pouches are also environmentally friendly.

UBA urges use of returnable bottles and ecologically friendly packaging for beverages. Unfortunately, consumers must have a very close look in the shops as both reusables and one-way packaging are often labeled as deposit bottles, although one-way is not refilled. UBA is calling on bottlers and merchants to provide better labeling: “For consumers to easily recognise the difference between reusables and one-way, packaging must be more clearly labeled than has been done up to now”, said Jochen Flasbarth.

Dessau-Roßlau, 11 June 2010