

European Federation For Bottled Water (EFBW)

(FROM P11)

Achievements

The EFBW has been recognised by relevant European institutions as the most appropriate stakeholder representing the bottled water industry. Accordingly, the high level of collaboration between EU authorities and the industry enables EFBW members to be consulted ahead of any new legal initiative – giving them the opportunity to be heard before it is too late and to help define the content of future pieces of legislation.

The EFBW has also successfully challenged before the EU institutions some recent national initiatives which would have affected free circulation of goods between member states (in the environmental field, for instance).

The EFBW is currently developing a Good Practices Guide to take into account the latest developments in hygiene and food safety regulations.

Next challenge

The EFBW is looking for ways to maintain the specificities of NMW (natural mineral water) as currently recognised by the Natural Mineral Water Codex Standard following the reactivation of the NMW Codex Committee at the Codex Commission meeting of 2-7th of July.

Comments

Most issues faced by the bottled water sector, whether they are environmental or regulatory, are global. On the green front, scares often come from the UK and USA before spreading to other countries. On the regulatory front, the European Union tends to lead the way, especially in relation to natural mineral water. SANBWA takes the view that it is vital for any industry to be aware of what is happening globally.

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