VKU WASTE MANAGEMENT
AND CITY CLEANING VKS
The Verband kommunaler Unternehmen e. V. (association of local public utilities – VKU) is the official lobby for municipal utilities and waste management in Germany. Of the 1,400 organisational members, the majority are responsible for energy supply, water and sewage, as well as waste and city cleaning.

The VKU combines the interests of municipal organisations and exercises influence on the formation of public policy and legislation. It is a pioneer of the municipal sector and offers its members an extensive range of services.

Since 1912, the Abfallwirtschaft und Stadtreinigung VKS (Waste Management and City Cleaning VKS) branch has represented the interests of municipal waste management and city cleaning and all related industry divisions and services. The VKU collaborates closely with the federal government, states and municipal umbrella organisations, as well as with municipal, public-sector and private waste management bodies. The branch advises and informs its 431 regular members about municipal waste management, city cleaning and winter road maintenance services. In addition to this, it supports knowledge-sharing between its members, as well as the education and training of skilled personnel.

431 members
Around 65,000 employees
EUR 9.3 billion sales revenue per year
EUR 791 billion investments per year

Source: VKU Zahlen, Daten, Fakten 2015
MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Personal expert consulting service for
- Technical queries
- Financial and economic queries
- Logistical matters
- Legal issues
- Organisational queries

Political lobby function
- Dialogue with political decision-makers at a regional, national and European level
- Publication of statements, expert reports, strategy and position papers

Information and monitoring
- Newsletters for members
- Extensive and exclusive range of online information
- Press work and public relations
- Media monitoring
- Development and maintenance of media representatives and multipliers
- Press releases and statements
- Press conferences and background discussions

Municipal waste management newsletter
- Up-to-date news about municipal waste management and city cleaning – every 14 days
  (in collaboration with the organisation’s publisher VKU Verlag)

Trade journal VKS-NEWS
- Scientific and best practice contributions released 10 times annually

Technical publications
- Practice-oriented info brochures about selected topics
- VKS internet infos: Exclusive online brochures to download

Education and training
- National conferences concerning current economic, technical, political and legal trends
- Discounted training offers at the VKU Academy and our cooperation partners
- Involvement in expert committees
- Trade fair appearances
- Private sponsorship of the world’s largest environment fair (IFAT) in Munich
- Participation in other trade fairs and congresses
- Arrangement of symposiums and seminars

Events
- Associate congress
- VKU congress for municipal waste management and city cleaning
- Parliamentary summer party in Berlin
YOUR CONTACTS

Dr Holger Thärichen
Managing director

Key responsibilities:
- Branch management
- Political and ministerial representation
- Support of central waste legislation processes

Committee management:
- Main committee for Abfallwirtschaft und Stadtreinigung VKS

Tel: +49 30 58580–160
E-mail: thaerichen@vku.de

Janett Auricht
Consultant

Key responsibilities:
- Occupational safety and health
- Human resources (especially training, personnel development, work-life balance)
- Equal opportunities
- Standort Service Plus
- Concept management for online presence

Committee management:
- Occupational safety and health expert committee
- Human resources expert committee
- Equal opportunities working group
- working group

Tel: +49 30 58580–167
E-mail: auricht@vku.de

Alexander Neubauer
Consultant

Key responsibilities:
- Waste collection
- Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment and Battery laws
- Demographic change
- Sales strategies
- Industrial waste ordinance

Committee management:
- Sales expert committee
- Logistics expert committee
- Business management/organisation expert committee

Tel: +49 30 58580–165
E-mail: neubauer@vku.de

Ilona Volk
Federation and society administration

Key responsibilities:
- Membership issues of VKU and its support association
- Regional groups and conferences of regional groups
- Sale of publications and VKS-NEWS
- Support for events, congresses and trade fairs

Tel: +49 30 58580–168
E-mail: volk@vku.de

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Key responsibilities:
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Assistant to the managing director

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Tanja Schönbeck
Team assistant

Tel: +49 30 58580–166
E-mail: schoenbeck@vku.de

Dr Martin Gehring
Department head

Key responsibilities:
- Thermal waste treatment
- Landfilling
- Biological waste treatment
- Pretreatment
- Recycling
- Electricity & heating
- Climate & environment

Committee management:
- Biological waste treatment expert committee
- VKU/DWA expert committee on landfills
- Thermal waste treatment expert committee
- VKU/ITAD working group on waste management and climate protection

Tel: +49 30 58580–162
E-mail: gehring@vku.de

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Tanja Schönbeck
Team assistant

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Dr Achim W. Schröter
Deputy managing director

Key responsibilities:
- Street cleaning, urban image, road and green area maintenance
- Winter services
- Municipal vehicle fleet, workshops, vehicle procurement, automotive technology, road maintenance
- Standardisation (technological, procedural and service standards); Chairperson of the standards committee for municipal technology

Committee management:
- Fleet expert committee
- Street cleaning expert committee
- Winter services expert committee

Tel: +49 30 58580–161
E-mail: schroeter@vku.de

Miriam Danne
Consultant

Key responsibilities:
- European waste prevention week
- Let’s clean up Europe

Tel: +49 30 58580–169
E-mail: danne@vku.de

Janett Auricht
Consultant

Key responsibilities:
- Occupational safety and health
- Human resources (especially training, personnel development, work-life balance)
- Equal opportunities
- Standort Service Plus
- Concept management for online presence

Committee management:
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Tanja Schönbeck
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For all your questions regarding...

... legal affairs?
Andreas Seifert
Deputy Head of the Law, Finance and Tax department

Tel: +49 30 58580–132
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Ina Abraham
Consultant

Tel: +49 30 58580–137
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... tax concerns?
Andreas Meyer
Head of the Finance and Tax division

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E-mail: meyer@vku.de

... European affairs?
Christina Overmeyer
Consultant

Tel: +32 2 740 16 56
E-mail: overmeyer@vku.de

... public relations?
Elisabeth Mader
Deputy spokesperson

Tel: +49 30 58580–227
E-mail: mader@vku.de
OUR NATIONAL COMMITTEES
The VKU Abfallwirtschaft und Stadtreinigung VKS state committees

Baden-Württemberg
Chairperson: Rolf Friedel
City of Heidelberg, Abfallwirtschaft und Stadtreinigung Heidelberg
Hardstraße 2
69124 Heidelberg, Germany
Tel: +49 6221 58-29000
E-mail: abfallwirtschaft@heidelberg.de

Bavaria
Chairperson: Helmut Schmidt
Abfallwirtschaftsbetrieb München (AWM)
Georg-Brauchle-Ring 29
80992 Munich, Germany
Tel: +49 89 2333-1000
E-mail:leitung.awm@muenchen.de

Hessen/Rhineland-Palatinate/Saarland
Chairperson: Sabine Kleindiek
Eigenbetrieb für kommunale Aufgaben und Dienstleistungen EAD
Sensfelder Weg 33
64293 Darmstadt, Germany
Tel: +49 6151 13-46010
E-mail: sabine.kleindiek@darmstadt.de

Regional group of coastal states
Chairperson: Jens Kretschmer
Wege-Zweckverband der Gemeinden des Kreises Segeberg
Am Wasserwerk 4
23795 Bad Segeberg, Germany
Tel: +49 4551 909-135
E-mail: jens.kretschmer@wzv.de

North Rhine-Westphalia
Chairperson: Thomas Patermann
Wirtschaftsbetriebe Duisburg AöR
Schifferstraße 190
47059 Duisburg, Germany
Tel: +49 203 283-2674
E-mail: t.patermann@wb-duisburg.de

Regional group East
Chairperson: Uwe Feige
KommunalService Jena
Löbstedter Straße 56
07749 Jena, Germany
Tel: +49 3641 4989-100
E-mail: jeannette.hohmann@jena.de

OUR COMMITTEES

Main committee for waste management and city cleaning
Chair: Patrick Hasenkamp, Münster
Dr Holger Thärichen, VKU headquarters

Expert committees

Occupational safety and health
Chair: Kerstin Bernholz, Essen
Headquarters supervisor: Janett Auricht

Business management and organisation
Chair: Elke Franz, Leipzig
Headquarters supervisor: Alexander Neubauer

Biological waste management
Chair: Dr Hubert Seier, Selm
Headquarters supervisor: Dr Martin Gehring

Landfills
Chair: Michael Rakete, Sierksdorf
Headquarters supervisor: Dr Martin Gehring

Europe
Chair: Günther Langer, Munich
Headquarters supervisor: Christina Overmeyer

Fleet
Chair: Thomas Maas, Hamburg
Headquarters supervisor: Dr Achim W. Schröter

Logistics
Chair: Torsten Höppner, Bad Segeberg
Headquarters supervisor: Alexander Neubauer

Human resources
Chair: Steffi Winkler, Darmstadt
Headquarters supervisor: Janett Auricht

Law
Chair: Ulrich Koch, Eschweiler
Headquarters supervisor: Andreas Seifert, Ina Abraham

Street cleaning
Chair: Günter Rademacher, Hamburg
Headquarters supervisor: Dr Achim W. Schröter

Thermal waste treatment and recycling
Chair: Conrad Tschersich, Wuppertal
Headquarters supervisor: Dr Martin Gehring

Corporate communications
Chair: Michael Uhr, Eschweiler
Headquarters supervisor: Elisabeth Mader

Sales
Chair: Ralf Biehl, Dortmund
Headquarters supervisor: Alexander Neubauer

Recycling
Chair: Walter Hartwig
Headquarters supervisor: Andreas Seifert, Ina Abraham

Winter services
Chair: Dr-Ing. Horst Hanke, Saarlouis
Headquarters supervisor: Dr Achim W. Schröter
According to the statutes, the VKU Abfallwirtschaft und Stadtreinigung VKS e.V. support club is responsible for the following:

• Supporting the VKU with technical innovations in waste management, international work and other projects and activities assigned to it by the VKU

• Holding technical talks regarding operational, technical and organisational developments in the waste management industry and the implementation thereof together with the VKU

• Providing suggestions and materials concerning waste management topics

• Contributing to the development of the association’s policy objectives

Membership of the support association is available to all national and international organisations – irrespective of their legal form – and all individuals, who work either in consulting or production in the trade fields of city cleaning and recycling and waste management.

How can you benefit from a membership in this society?

• You receive VKS NEWS and the VKU annual report, as well other information material free of charge.

• You receive all other publications from the VKU Abfallwirtschaft und Stadtreinigung VKS branch at reduced prices.

• You can participate in all events held by the VKU, VKU academy and the VKU Abfallwirtschaft und Stadtreinigung VKS branch at reduced prices.

• If necessary, you receive financial and technical suggestions and tips.

• A web-page on the support association’s homepage is at your disposal for communication, information and acquisition purposes.

• You will be invited to the annual conferences and the regional group conferences of the VKU Abfallwirtschaft und Stadtreinigung VKS branch.

• You have access to continuous dialogue with waste management and city cleaning operations.

VKU Abfallwirtschaft und Stadtreinigung VKS society

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