



CRADLE TO CRADLE: GIVING AIRLINE TROLLEYS A RESPONSIBLE EXIT



Airlines are under growing pressure to reduce emissions, strengthen ESG reporting, and embrace circular design.

Yet one crucial question often gets overlooked: What happens to old galley equipment (trolleys and containers) at the end of their lifecycle?

At **Driessen Catering Equipment**, we're tackling that head-on through a new partnership with **Riwald Recycling**, a leading European recycler and part of ArcelorMittal. Together, we've created a fully circular, traceable, and high-quality end-of-life solution for catering trolleys – backed by measurable environmental benefits and compliant with EU and ICAO standards.

A CIRCULAR SOLUTION AIRLINES CAN COUNT ON

Too often, old galley equipment is scrapped with little visibility into where materials end up. This is no longer acceptable in a world moving toward net-zero targets and mandatory ESG disclosures. That's why Riwald developed a **turnkey process** that ensures:

- ✓ High-value material recovery (aluminum, copper, plastics)
- ✓ Avoidance of landfill or incineration
- ✓ Full traceability and documentation

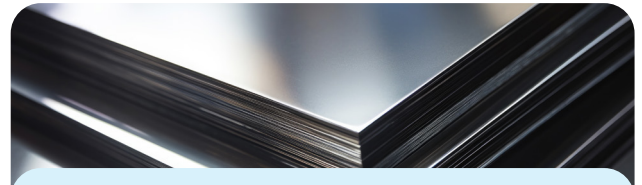
- ✓ Reduced CO₂ emissions through smarter logistics
- ✓ Alignment with CSRD, ICAO CORSIA, and other circularity frameworks



HOW IT WORKS

Our process is designed to be simple and effective:

- 1. Collection** – Trolleys are picked up at the airport or airline facility.
- 2. Transport** – All shipments are made using HVO100 “blue diesel” trucks (89% fewer CO₂ emissions).
- 3. Processing** – Units are dismantled at Riwald’s 70,000m² facility in Almelo, NL, using:
 - Granulators and electric cranes.
 - Eddy current separators and sieves for aluminum and copper.
 - Colour, X-RAY, NIR and robotic technologies for non-ferrous sorting.
- 4. Traceability** – You receive a downstream report, certificate of destruction, and CO₂ savings breakdown.



On average, up to **96% of each trolley** is recovered—with a focus on **6000-series aluminum**, which retains its structural value and can be reintroduced into high-end EU manufacturing.

End-of-life journey



The closed-loop system keeps high-quality material in Europe, and in the premium value chain.

SMART LOGISTICS, REAL CO₂ SAVINGS

To further reduce emissions, we’re piloting on-site pressing of trolleys directly after arrival. This increases container density and reduces unnecessary transport movements. Looking ahead, we’re developing lightweight container options and exploring permanent mobile press stations to support high-volume routes.



One container can hold up to **379 compressed trolleys**, delivering measurable CO₂ savings per shipment.



Compliance Airlines Can Report On

We don't just recycle – we document.

Each batch receives:



A
**Raw
Material Passport**



A
**Certificate of
Destruction**



A
**CO₂ Savings
Report**

This supports:



**Sustainable
procurement
(Scope 3)**



**Lifecycle reporting
(EU Taxonomy, CSRD)**



**ICAO CORSIA
documentation**



Internal ESG KPIs

Full documentation ensures compliance with today's most stringent reporting standards.

SETTING A NEW STANDARD FOR END-OF-LIFE EQUIPMENT

This project isn't just about disposal. It's about redefining what responsible decommissioning looks like in aviation.

At **Driessen Catering Equipment**, we've designed our trolleys for durability – and now, through our partnership with **Riwald Recycling**, we're ensuring that every trolley has a second life.

From smart logistics and premium reuse to complete traceability and compliance, we're turning end-of-life into a new beginning.

NEED A TAILORED END-OF-LIFE PLAN FOR YOUR FLEET?

Contact us at sales.emea@driessen-catering.com or visit www.driessen-catering.com

Let's raise the bar for circularity in aviation – trolley by trolley.