

Standard Construction Services Manual for Environmental Purposes

The City of Vienna, municipal department MA 22 – environmental protection (MA 22-Umweltschutz), ordered the Austrian Association for the Recycling of Building Materials (Baustoff-Recycling Verband BRV) to develop standardized specifications for environmental related construction works.

At the moment different municipal departments, which are dealing with construction works, are using various standard construction services manuals; many of them specify environmental related construction works with different clauses, which are often not compatible to one another and to the (rapid changing environmental) legislative.

The contractor, the Association for the Recycling of Building Materials, recommends to develop a standardized construction services manual for the scope of environment. This includes – with regard to environmental legislative and technical frameconditions – all environmental related clauses for

- demolition
- excavation
- intermediate bearing
- reinstalling and recovering
- recycling
- disposal.

Therewith it will be possible to adapt environmental related clauses homogeneous in the future.

The legislation in the field of environment is young and complicated: The construction is strongly involved in this matter. Technical standards for environment friendly demolition, re-building and recycling were and are in renewal and have to give preference.

The project shows, that 17 of about 50 standardized construction services manuals, used by the City of Vienna, are strongly involved to above named construction fields (demolition, ...). An analysis of these with the methods of searching by using typical keywords (recycling, transport, demolition waste, ...) showed 3365 places of using. After professional examination these clauses could be reduced to 509 environmental related specifications. On the one hand some specifications contain a correct relation to actual laws and technical standards, on

the other hand there is a need to act. A detailed list of them is part of the project report.

A recommendation is given for the realization of standardized specifications for environmental related construction works, divided in three phases:

Phase 1 - „Developing standardized specifications for environmental related construction works,,: This phase comprises the concrete project (describing the legislative/technical basic definitions, analysis of the standardized construction services manuals, listing of environmental related clauses). In the future there have to be worked out detailed new formulations in arrangement with ÖKOKAUF Wien (ecological working group of some municipal departments of the City of Vienna, dealing with purchasing), basing on this project bulletin.

Phase 2 – „Testing phase of the standardized specifications for environmental related construction works,,: In this phase the standardized specifications for environmental related construction works is the common basis for all specific clauses in the numerous standardized construction services manuals. This means, that identical terms, wording and texts of the homogeneous, environmental related manual should be transferred to the specific construction services manuals (e.g. for street building works).

Phase 3 – „Single use of the standardized specifications for environmental related construction works,,: After testing of the new texts (compare phase 2) the single use of the specifications could be implemented. Instead of the specifications for environmental related construction works references to the only one standardized specifications for environmental related construction works could be inserted in the invitation to tender.

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