

Unlock Country x: An Analysis of Existing End-of-Life Pathways for Trucks

Current Situation

The commercial vehicle industry is currently undergoing a profound transformation toward a circular economy. Key drivers of this development include increasing resource scarcity, growing environmental awareness, and stricter regulatory requirements. These framework conditions are forcing manufacturers to critically reevaluate existing linear business models and gradually evolve them toward circular value creation structures.

A thorough understanding of the current market for end-of-life vehicles and existing end-of-life (EoL) processes is essential for a targeted transformation toward circularity. However, there is currently a lack of transparency regarding decision-making processes on the user side as well as the actual recycling and reuse pathways that are being implemented.

Approach and Objectives

The objective of this study is to illustrate, using a specific country as an example (preferably in Southeast Europe or a market with an older vehicle fleet), what existing end-of-life (EoL) pathways look like. The following approach is proposed:

- Literature review on country/market characteristics
- Development of an interview guide
- Identifying and contacting potential interview partners (freight forwarders, etc.)
- Conducting and evaluating the interviews
- Deriving recommendations for action

Requirements

- Enrollment in a TUM bachelor's or master's program (Engineering, Management & Technology, etc.)
- Good command of German or English, as well as advanced language skills in the country under study
- A structured, independent, and conscientious approach to work
- A pragmatic mindset and the initiative to contact freight forwarders
- Interest in the circular economy and commercial vehicles

Supervision

The project will be supervised by the Chair of Materials Handling, Material Flow, Logistics (fml) at the Technical University of Munich. If you are interested or have any questions, I look forward to receiving your application. Please send it, including your CV, academic transcript, and a **proposal for a country to be studied** to leo.wimmer@tum.de.

Contact

Leo Wimmer, M. Sc.
TUM School of Engineering and Design
Chair of Materials Handling, Material Flow, Logistics
Boltzmannstraße 15
85748 Garching, Germany
Tel. + 49 89 289 15933
leo.wimmer@tum.de
www.mec.ed.tum.de/fml

Member of TUM Mission
Network Circular Economy
CirculaTUM

<https://www.mission-networks.tum.de/circular-economy/startseite/>

