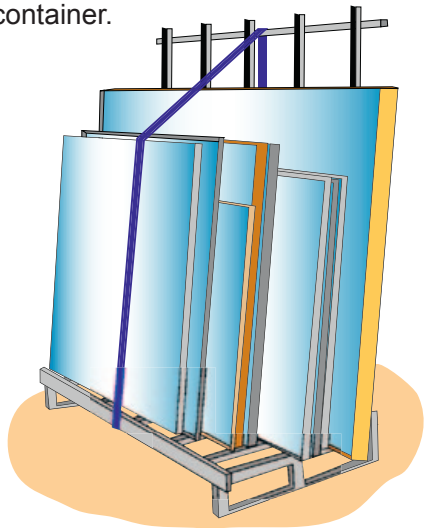


Transportation

Windows should be transported in an upright position to avoid being broken or cracked. Make sure that they are thoroughly supported. Broken windows should be transported in a closed container.



Delivery

The window panes must not be broken, mixed with other waste or dumped into the containers. They must be delivered complete in their frames to an approved collection point for hazardous waste. Remember to notify the collection point that the windows may contain PCB. Households deliver to municipal collection points while larger quantities from the industry are delivered to regional collection points.

Ruteretur has signed agreements with companies all over Norway to ensure a countrywide network of collection points for windows containing PCB. For more information about collection points refer to Ruteretur's homepage, www.ruteretur.no

The treatment of PCB-containing sealed glazing units are subsidised. The price for delivery is about the same as for non-hazardous waste.

More information

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REPLACING OLD WINDOWS?



Sealed double glazing units from the period of 1965 - 1975 may contain PCB and must be handled as hazardous waste.

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A dangerous and well hidden contaminant

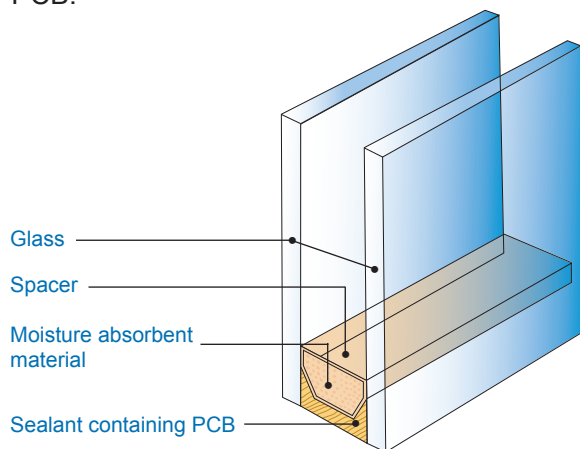
PCB is a pollutant that is not naturally biodegradable, but is stored in the fatty tissue of living organisms. PCB is carcinogenic and can harm the skin, liver, and nervous system, and harm reproduction.

Older sealed double glazing windows - a source for PCB

In Norwegian buildings more than 2 million sealed double glazing windows have been used containing PCB. The sealing adhesive contains around 70 grams of PCB per window. As long as the glazing panes are in place within the window frame they cause no health or environmental risk. It is only when they are removed that PCB can be released to the environment.

Does your window contain PCB?

Normally, the production year that is stamped in the spacer between the window panes, is a good indicator whether the window contains PCB or not. For example if the stamp shows "11-67", then the window was manufactured during November 1967 and is likely to contain PCB.



Section of sealed double glazing window

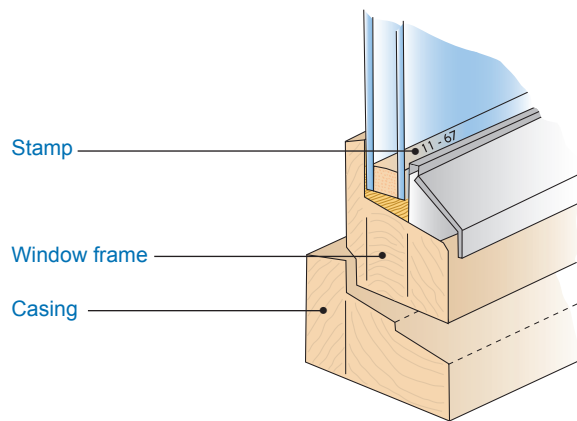
Sealed double glazing windows with PCB

- Windows produced in Norway between 1965 - 1975 that are not labelled "Thermopane"
- Windows imported before 1980 that are not labelled "Thermopane"
- Windows with missing or illegible stamp from the relevant time periods

Sealed double glazing windows without PCB

- Windows produced in Norway after 1975
- Windows imported after 1979
- Windows labelled "Thermopane"
- Single or coupled window panes

In 1980 it became prohibited to use PCBs, but double glazing windows produced after this date often contain other pollutants. These windows may also be hazardous waste, but should not be part of Ruteretur's collection system.



Section of sealed double glazing window with stamp, window frame and casing

How to replace windows with PCB

Are you going to replace windows and suspect they contain PCB? Then you should take the following precautions:

- Avoid skin contact with PCB - protect yourself with gloves
- Avoid breaking the windows - leave the pane in the frame to avoid contact with the sealant. This also reduces the risk of dispersing the PCB
- Note that there may have been used PCB-containing sealing compound when the windows were mounted in the building

Do you need help installing your new windows? You can always leave it to the experts to remove the old ones.

Broken and cracked glazing

If the glass is broken, you should transport the window panes in as big pieces as possible to an approved collection point. Do not try to remove the glass from the frame. Cover all cracks with tape.

