Have you thought of recycling your medium voltage equipment?

Schneider Electric helps you to achieve full legal and environmental compliance.

Schneider Electric

A legal requirement, an environmental duty

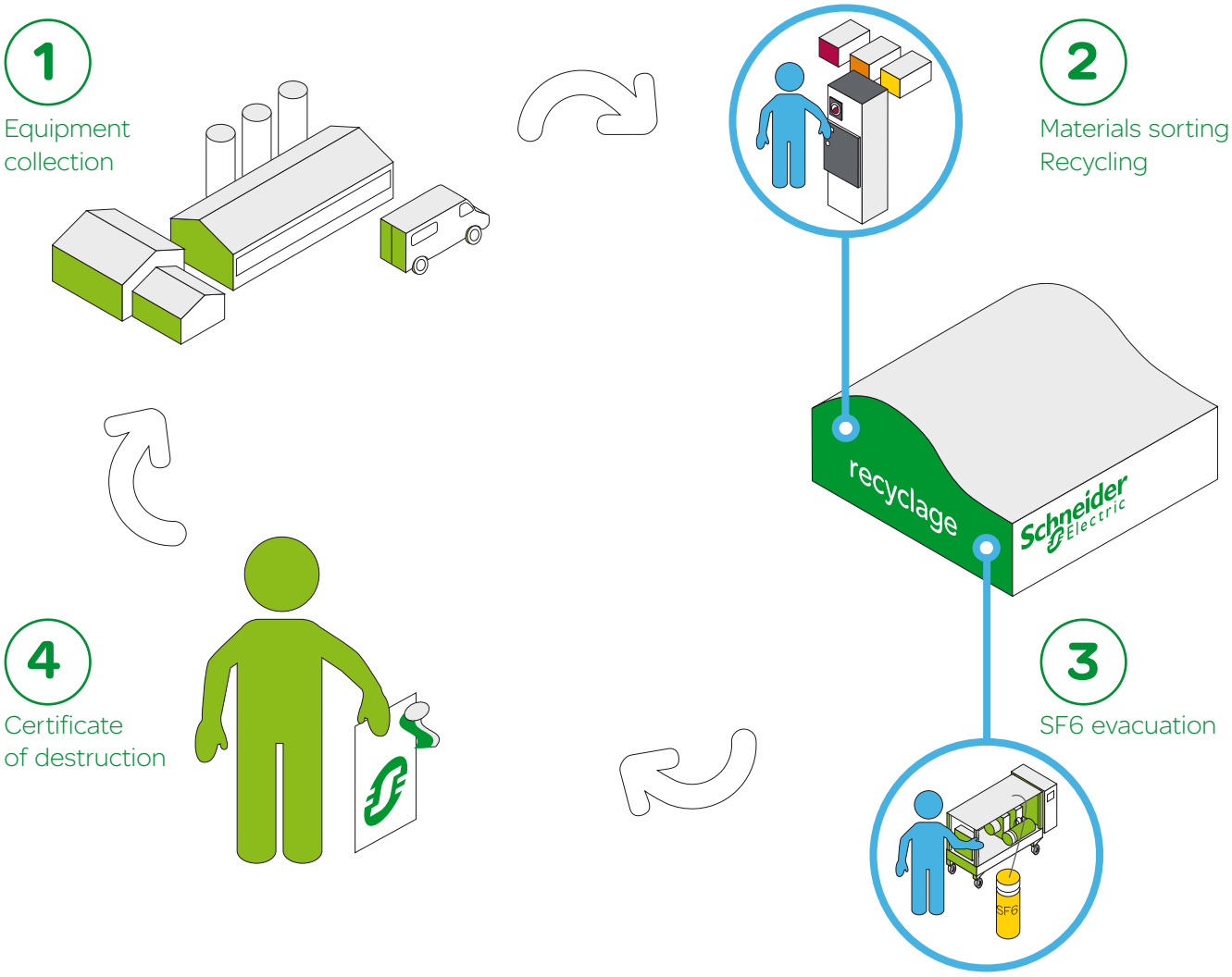
>Waste sorting and recycling has become a major environmental challenge that concerns us all. By thinking of recycling our electrical equipment today, we are working towards leaving a better environment for future generations.

> European regulation 842/2006 specifies that the fluorinated greenhouse gases present in medium-voltage devices must be recovered at all the stages of a product's life cycle to be recycled, regenerated or destroyed, to prevent any release of SF6 to the atmosphere.

98%
of a medium-voltage cubicle can be recovered.

How are medium-voltage devices recycled?

The treatment process is controlled from beginning to end by Schneider Electric, using properly trained and certified operators.



1

Recovery of medium-voltage equipment from the customer's site and transportation to a Schneider Electric site.

2

Dismantling of the equipment in a Schneider Electric factory. The different ferrous and non-ferrous materials (copper, aluminium, etc.) are separated and sent to specialised recycling centres.

What is the service life of a medium-voltage device?

The service life of a medium-voltage device greatly depends on its conditions of use and on the environment in which it has been used. Schneider Electric equipment is designed to last approximately thirty years, provided that maintenance is carried out on a regular basis.

How much SF6 is there in a medium-voltage cubicle?

The quantity of SF6, which varies according to the equipment, is on average 200 g for a switch and 400 g for a circuit breaker.

What are the risks if I do not recycle my medium-voltage electrical equipment?

If waste products are abandoned, dumped or treated in a way that does not conform to the legal requirements, the authorities can automatically dispose of such waste products at the expense of the company responsible. If the holder of electrical equipment containing SF6 gas has not had his cubicles recycled, he will also be liable to fines and legal proceedings.

Does your offer only apply to medium-voltage equipment manufactured by Schneider Electric?

This offer applies to all medium-voltage equipment, whatever its brand or country of manufacture.

How long does it take to recycle my equipment?

It takes about 3 months to recycle medium-voltage devices once they have been collected. A collection certificate is sent within a month of collection.

3

The SF6 is evacuated until the residual pressure is less than 20 mbar, in accordance with the IEC standard, using special equipment. The gas is stored in bottles before being sent to a regeneration specialist. The epoxy enclosure is crushed for recovery purposes.

4

A certificate of destruction compliant with the regulations is sent to the customer.

What is Schneider Electric doing for you?

Schneider Electric is putting a full high environmental value end-of-life treatment package at your disposal.

Giving you absolute peace of mind

Schneider Electric's concern for environmental issues allows it to offer its customers a seamless turnkey solution enabling them to conform fully to the regulations.

Helping you become fully environmentally compliant

Thanks to its perfect knowledge of the products to be recycled, SF6 recovery certification and excellent risk control, Schneider Electric is the best partner for recycling your medium-voltage equipment.

Guaranteeing you Schneider Electric quality

Schneider Electric stands out from its competitors through:
- prior identification of the substances to be treated,
- optimisation of the dismantling and treatment processes,
- excellent risk control for operators and for the environment.

23,9 tons of CO2

One kilo of SF6 has a heating potential equivalent to 23.9 tons of CO2, i.e. as much as a car travelling 160,000 km

Giving SF6 a second life

SF6 is a gas that is unparalleled in medium-voltage electrical applications. The technical and economic performance of electrical equipment using SF6 is unrivalled to this day. Due to its great stability and its capacity for immediate recomposition after electrical arcing, it contributes directly to the very long life of such equipment.

Furthermore, the characteristics of SF6 allow it to be recycled and ultimately reused. In the electrical industry and especially the medium-voltage industry, SF6 is used in a closed circuit. It is therefore not discharged to the atmosphere. SF6 only has an environmental impact if it is released to the atmosphere during a non-conform device destruction process.

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