

European WEEE-Updates – May 2010.

Dear readers,

we have prepared the following topics for you this month:

- Commodities:** Upwards pressure in the pipeline.
- Business Initiatives:** Liquid crystal displays without permanent energy supply.
- The Recycler's View:** Improved separation of plastics from WEEE.
- From the countries:** Germany, France, UK, Denmark, Belgium, Italy.

Commodities: Pressure in the pipeline.

Our partner for the commodity reports, the IKB Deutsche Industriebank AG, states that world commodity prices have increased significantly throughout April 2010. Particularly the primary material prices for steel (e.g. ore and scrap) have gone up dramatically in comparison to the previous year's period. Price negotiations for ore ended at levels that are up to 100 % higher than before. During the quarter, a further increase of steel prices is expected.

Business Initiatives: Liquid crystal displays without permanent energy supply.

Seiko Instruments Inc. (SII) currently develops a liquid crystal display which is based on a technical principle that allows to keep data and images on flat screens without a permanent provision of energy. Only when the content is changed, energy supply is required.

Source: www.presseecho.de

The recyclers' view: Improved separation of plastics from WEEE.

A recycling company from Southern Germany claims to have developed a new process for the separation of mixed plastics from WEEE (and other appliances). A combination of electro-static and mechanical processes aims at better results in different plastic fractions.

www: www.plasticker.de

From the countries:

Germany: Separation of tube glass through laser cutting.

The Laser Centre Hannover has started a research project for a laser-based cutting technology for tube glass separation. The goal of the project is a setup that increases both efficiency and environmental effectiveness. The procedure itself can be highly automated and is supposed to be five times faster than conventional methods. The project is co-financed by the German Ministry for Economy and Technology (BMWi).

Source: www.display-magazin.net

France: Push instead of pull?

A research of RENE AG reflects that France is a good ground for so-called recycling events. Throughout a project in Montpellier a volume of 150 tons of WEEE has been collected. Apparently, the offer for individual returns is an effective supplement to the municipal collection infrastructure.

Source: RENE market research

United Kingdom: Households continue to store WEEE.

According to a release of rapid online, the value of WEEE that is still with households in the UK (and not already in the recovery chain) sums up to 28 billion GBP.

Leaving aside, if the figure is precise or not, the dimension shows that a significant portion of WEEE is still within British homes. This goes especially for mobile phones and notebooks.

www.rapidonline

Belgium: Collections get near 100.000 tons level

2009 marked the first time for Belgium when an amount of 98.737 tons of WEEE has been collected. This is an increase of 14 % in comparison to 2008. Per capita Belgium now reaches 9,26 kg and thus over exceeds the original target from article 5.5 of the WEEE Directive more than once.

Source: Newsletter from Recupel April 2010.

Denmark: Compliance period start deferred!

The compliance period 2010/11 now starts on the 1st September and no longer on the 1st June. Currently the Danish dpa-System works out the new regional scheme allocation in the light of customer membership changes and provisions of financial guarantees up to autumn.

Source: RENE Denmark

Italy: Technical requirements for MUD declaration still missing

Even though a decree upon the report of WEEE and emissions has been published back on the 28th April 2010, not all form sheets for the declaration are available online yet. Also the necessary software was not accessible when this newsletter was finalized. However, the declaration can only be transferred online and also the deadline of the 30th June still stands.

Source: Chamber of Commerce Bressanone, Italy.

We wish all of our readers a successful month!

Your RENE team