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## European WEEE news – February 2011

Dear readers,

we have prepared the following topics for you this month:

- Commodities:** World steel production on record level.
- Producer responsibility:** European Council to elaborate on EP vote.
- The Recycler's view:** European data protection day – kill HDD at the source.
- From the countries:** Germany, UK, France, Italy, Poland, Estonia, Finland, Norway.
- From the inside:** RENE now operates worldwide.

**Commodities: World steel production on record level.**

Our partner for the commodity reports, the IKB Deutsche Industriebank AG ([www.ikb.de](http://www.ikb.de)) reports that the world steel production has exceeded a volume of 1,4 billion tons for the first time. For 2011, a further increase is expected. This will drive the prices for ore at the same time. Throughout January 2011, the steel prices have increased around 6 – 7 % in the Euro zone. Scrap prices, on the contrary, are expected to level off within the current quarter.

You can find the full report in German on our homepage [www.rene-europe.com/](http://www.rene-europe.com/) WEEE News/ Commodity reports

**Producer responsibility: European Council to elaborate on EP vote.**

With regard to the lack of consensus between the actors in the area of the WEEE recast (see RENE WEEE news January 2011), the 90 % agreement of the European Parliament (EP) on the recast goals had a surprising element. The European council has now the task to elaborate on the delegates clear commitment for higher collection targets, an expanded product scope and a higher standardisation of registration and reporting tasks. A second reading of the EP is expected throughout March 2011.

Source: [www.europarl.de](http://www.europarl.de)

**The recyclers' view: European data protection day – kill HDD at the source.**

Data deletion of hard disk drives (HDD) is not a sufficient method for the protection of sensitive data. Even sophisticated wipe programs do not provide ultimate security. This goal is only achievable by mechanical whipe programs do not provide ultimate security. This goal is only achievable by mechanical destruction of the HDD in a shredder. As part of the European data security day on the 28<sup>th</sup> January 2011, citizens of the Southern German municipality of Mindelheim had the opportunity for having their individual HDD shredded individually and in their presence on the municipal collection place. The event was powered

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by the mobile data destruction service of recycle it GmbH (see [www.recycle-it.de](http://www.recycle-it.de) and [www.datenkiller.com](http://www.datenkiller.com)). The innovative service brings the shredder to the user and generates minimized fractions of only 225 mm<sup>2</sup>. Datenkiller thus provides the most advanced data security destruction service. The mobile shredder is currently covering the entire German territory and already Austria, Switzerland and Luxembourg. Further European countries are under preparation.

Source: [www.datenkiller.com](http://www.datenkiller.com)

#### **From the countries:**

##### **Germany: Adaptations in the category 1 scope.**

Since the 1st February 2011, laundry dryers that operate on the basis of oil and cooling liquids are no longer part of Germany's ordinary large household equipment. With respect to the liquids, those products now need to be categorized as cooling and climate equipment. The municipal collection places are instructed to separate those dryers from the rest of category 1. Producers have to apply for an amended registration at the central WEEE register.

Source: Stiftung elektro-altgeräte-register © [www.stiftung-ear.de](http://www.stiftung-ear.de)

##### **UK: Annual reporting in new format accomplished.**

The 2010 annual reporting towards the UK Environment Agency (EA) ([www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk)) was accomplished in the new format for the first time. RENE has appreciated the pro-active and competent support from the EA staff throughout the exercise.

Source: RENE AG UK

##### **France: Collection volume increased by 12 %.**

The French collective system Eco-Systèmes has reported a significant increase in collected WEEE for 2010 in relation to 2009. Overall, a volume of 310.000 tons were taken back. This results in a weight of 6,5 kg per inhabitant within the regional scope of the scheme.

Source: [www.eco-systemes.fr](http://www.eco-systemes.fr)

##### **Italy: A downturn after all?**

Up to November 2010, Italy has reported increasing collection volumes (see RENE WEEE news January 2011). In December the development turned upside down. The amounts of collection groups R1, R2, R4 and R5 have decreased. In parallel, the 1 for 1 take back from retail/distribution did not lead to the desired results either.

Source: ecoR'it

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**Poland: Authorities apply national producer definition.**

Throughout the registration process of a RENE client it became clear that Polish authorities perceive national entities – independent of the sales process – as the relevant producers in the terms of Poland's WEEE legislation.

Quelle: RENE AG

**Estonia: Invoicing adapted to the Euro.**

Estonia has joined the Euro-zone on the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2011. The collective systems have successfully adapted their invoicing to the new currency. Also the tax regulations according to Directive 2008/8/EC have been applied.

Source: RENE AG

**Finland: The next step of enforcement.**

Finish collective systems have announced that a non-reporting of annual data will be fined with a penalty fee of 1.500,- € per case.

Source: Elker Oy

**Norway: WEEE regulations to be re-worked.**

The Klima and Pollution Control Agency (Klif) is asked to re-work the national WEEE regulations. This request is driven by a relevant number of municipalities that no longer want to perform clearing tasks for companies.

Source: Avfallnorge

**From the inside: RENE now operates worldwide.**

The RENE AG operational take back services now go beyond the European borders. Used equipment from a multi-national client has been taken back from Bahrain, Mali, the Lebanon and Saudi-Arabia. Currently, pick-ups in Australia are on their way. All orders are handled and tracked over the RENE online portal myRENE.net.com ([www.myreneworld.com](http://www.myreneworld.com)). The client has full visibility at all times. The RENE staff ensures a seamless communication across the interfaces of all involved partners – from pick-up location over the international logistics partners into the final recovery destination. The invoicing to the clients HQ is generated from RENE AG's central invoicing system. The client has thus only one vendor for a multiple-country and multiple-partner operation.

We wish all of our readers a successful month!

Your RENE team

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