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## European WEEE news – July 2011.

Dear readers,

the following European WEEE topics have been prepared for you this month:

- Commodities:** Price decrease in global steel.
- Producer responsibility:** Puma puts solar mobile phone on the market.
- The Recycler's view:** UNTHA offers a table for dismantling flat screens.
- From the countries:** Germany, UK, France, Denmark, Netherlands, Spain.

### **Commodities: Price decrease in global steel.**

Our partner for the reports of raw materials, the IKB Deutsche Industriebank AG ( German Industrial Bank), ([www.ikb.de](http://www.ikb.de)) registers declining global steel prices for the month of June. So the development of the steel prices reflects a global trend in the sector of raw materials. From September on the level is expected to rise.

You can find the complete IKB-Report on our homepage [www.rene-europe.com](http://www.rene-europe.com) in the category WEEE News/ Monthly report of raw materials.

Regardless of short term price developments, rare earths are still trendy and subject so speculation. Mayberry Resources suggests profits of 800% to 100% for interested investors. The basis of such statements are claims in regions where rare earths are suspected.

Source: Mayberry Resources PLC.

### **Producer responsibility: Puma puts solar mobile phone on the market.**

Still under the WEEE- and Battery Directive, but energy-saving is the first mobile phone of sports article producer Puma. It is a touch screen model with integrated solar cells on the backside. The producer is Sagem. For a 15-minute conversation 10 minutes of direct sunlight is supposed to be enough. Without solar energy the accumulator works for 5 hours call time and up to 350 hours in standby mode.

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

### **The Recycler's View: UNTHA offers a table for dismantling flat screens.**

At the specialist convention "Entsorgung von Elektro- und Elektronik-Altgeräten" ( „disposal of waste electrical- and electronic equipment) at the Bavarian State Office for Environment on 5. July 2011, the company UNTHA presented a special designed table for the dismantling of flat screens. This table protects the dismantler of the quicksilver vapour, which could be produced by breaking the screen backlights.

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

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**From the countries:**            **Germany, UK, France, Denmark, Netherlands, Spain.**

**Germany:**                            **Stiftung elektro-altgeräte-register © (the German WEEE register) stays on service course**

The foundation ear is holding consequently its course to a service provider. On 4<sup>th</sup> July 2011 a new user-friendly web site has been activated. Further changes in the communication are planned. In Q3 a WEEE classification grid on the web side is going to be published for “special” equipment. According to chairman of the board Alexander Goldberg the complaints against ear have decreased in the meantime from 500 to 5.

Source: ear

**UK:**                                    **Fine for wrong reporting**

Wrong reports resulted in a 2000 GBP fine for the British DNA Recycling.com Ltd. Despite of numerous warnings the enterprise did not regard LCD- and tube-monitors as “hazardous waste”, collected them from not authorised collection points and reported with wrong EWC-Codes.

In spite of the in comparison low fine, this case shows the growing attention of the British EPA on the contents of reports.

Source: <http://www.360environmental.co.uk/news/379/>

**France:**                                **ADEME locally – Further information campaign**

Under the heading “ Prévention et gestion des déchets” the central register ADEME carried out a colloquium from 21. to 23. June 2011 in Nantes. This event aimed at business and private participants. The topic “WEEE” was explained to the visitors in Angers.

Source:  
[www.ademe.fr/paysdelaloire/downloads/accueil/ColloquePreventionDechetsTerritoires21-23juin2011.pdf](http://www.ademe.fr/paysdelaloire/downloads/accueil/ColloquePreventionDechetsTerritoires21-23juin2011.pdf)

**Denmark:**                              **Manufacturers responsibility is more then cost-cutting.**

At the DAKOFA-conference on 20. June 2011 in Copenhagen various players of the waste management exchanged views with representatives of the Danish legislator. Beside explanations to the topic “Urban Mining”, with the in the meantime always present rare earth materials, the environmental sustainability was also a discussion point. The producer IKEA proved his point that environmental protection has to be of considerable importance for the product design. Economic circulation with material and financial return from the disposer to the manufacturer is also a part. The RENE AG as an exclusive take-back system for IKEA will install and carry out this circulation for IKEA Denmark from September 2011 on.

Source:  
[http://www.dakofa.dk/Aktiviteter/konferencer\\_seminarer/110509/Materiale/20.06.2011%20rev.pdf](http://www.dakofa.dk/Aktiviteter/konferencer_seminarer/110509/Materiale/20.06.2011%20rev.pdf)

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**Netherlands: Collection amounts are rising**

In accordance with information of the collective system Wecycle, the collection amounts in the first quarter of 2011 increased by 12 % in comparison with the period of the year before. The reason for this are changed agreements with retail.

Source: Wecycle Newsletter 2011-07-14

According to a publication of the take-back system ICT Milieu every third mobile phone in the Netherlands is disposed of into the regular domestic waste stream. Even computer-equipment such as screens, printers, all-in-ones often end as regular household waste.

Source: ICT Milieumonitor2011-07-14

**Austria: Changes within the LED definition.**

Since the 25<sup>th</sup> May 2011, a revised EAG-VO has been put into force. LED with standardised sockets belong to „gas discharge lamps“. LED that cannot be replaced without tools are exempted.

Source: <http://recht.lebensministerium.at/article/articleview/36662/1/6969/>

**Spain: New tariffs at ecopilas**

The Spanish battery take-back system ecopilas has negotiated new contracts with its service providers and will reduce tariffs from the forth quarter of 2011 onwards. The consequences will be noticeable only after the report in January 2012.

Source: ecopilas

We wish all of our readers nice summer vacations!  
Your RENE Team