
European WEEE news – March 2011

Dear readers,

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

- Commodities:** Scrap prices drive steel prices.
- Producer responsibility:** European Council determines position on first reading.
- The Recycler's view:** Downstream goes upstream.
- From the countries:** Germany, UK, France, Belgium, Sweden, Italy, Spain.

Commodities: Scrap prices drive steel prices.

Our partner for the commodity reports, the IKB Deutsche Industriebank AG (www.ikb.de) reports that the scrap prices increased heavily in January, but levelled off in February. Despite this development, the overall 14 % price increase of selected steel products is based also on the scrap price development. For 2011, the IKB expects a general increase of steel prices to a level of 15 %.

You can find the full report in German on our homepage www.rene-europe.com/ WEEE News/ Commodity reports

Producer responsibility: European Council determines position on first reading.

On the 14th March 2011, the European Council has published its position on the EU Parliament vote from the 3rd February 2011. According to this statement, collection targets of 45 %, respectively 65 % shall be achieved within four, respectively eight years after the agreement on the recast. For some member states, such as the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland or Romania, exemptions are suggested. The Council suggests widen the WEEE scope to all electric and electronic equipment, including photovoltaic panels. Further negotiations with the EU-Parliament are expected for the 2nd half of 2011.

Quelle: <http://www.consilium.europa.eu>

The recyclers' view: Downstream goes upstream.

Downstream treatment companies are currently purchasing first level treatment recycling plants and IT remarketing companies in order to gain more access to (sorted) input material streams. Recycling firms that are interested in investors, may contact RENE AG for further information.

Source: www.ikb.de, www.euwid.de, www.ergotrade.info

From the countries:

Germany: Further adaptations in category 5.

Since the 1st March 2011, the definitions in Germany's collection group 4 are updated. The new rule 03-005 now contains updated definitions upon products and sub-categories. For producers of LED lamps this update shall lead to more clarity.

Source: Stiftung elektro-altgeräte-register © www.stiftung-ear.de

UK: Slight increase in collection volume.

The collected quantity in the UK increased throughout 2010 to a level of 38,4 %. In order to further increase this result, the collective systems now focus on small household equipment and CE. Those products are still disposed of in the domestic waste stream. As a matter of fact, these quantities are neither treated correctly nor are they part of any reporting statistics.

Source: mrw UK online

France: DEEE-Day on the Cote d'Azur and WEEE across the country

50 % of all companies in the high tech science park Sophia-Antipolis on the French Riviera are engaged in IT technology. On the 17th March, the WEEE topic was presented to the local public by a range of events as part of a so-called "DEEE-day".

The French collective system Eco-Systèmes will enforce the nationwide take back structure for small household equipment in 2011. Throughout 3.500 collection points, the private end user can return WEEE and other used products.

Source: www.investincotedazur.com, www.eco-systemes.fr

Belgium: New setup in WEEE Category 6

The Belgium collective system Recupel has re-arranged the setup in WEEE category 6. According to recent information, only the product weight remains the classifying criteria. B2C products thus have a maximum weight of 30 kg. Above a level of 200 kg, an electronic tool is perceived as a fixed installation and thus out of scope.

Quelle: Recupel.

Sweden: Price adaptations.

The Swedish compliance system EI-Kretsen is decreasing its prices for categories 1, 3 and 4 with effect to the 1st April 2011.

Source: EI-Kretsen

Italy: Annual reports with barriers.

The central register for WEEE and batteries is open since the 1st March 2011. Up to the 30th April, the sales volumes for 2010 have to be entered. Not reporting is fined with amounts between 2.000,- and 20.000 Euro. The online availability of the registers' sub-pages, however, blocks the termination of the reporting tasks frequently. Patience is required.

Source: RENE Italy

Spain: New prices for category 4

The Spanish collective system Ecotic has communicated a price of 0,22 Euro per kg for TV sets with effect from the 1st April 2011 onwards.

Source: Ecotic

We wish all of our readers a successful month!

Your RENE team