
European WEEE news – March 2012.

Dear readers,

the following topics have been prepared for you this month:

Commodities:	Forecasts are forecasts.
Producer responsibility:	„Closing the loop“ at IKEA.
The Recycler’s View:	Collection targets achieved – how sure can you be?
From the countries:	Germany, UK, France, Italy, Sweden, Austria.

Commodities: Forecasts are forecasts.

Our partner for raw material reports, the IKB Deutsche Industriebank AG, (www.ikb.de) had forecasted an increase in scrap prices for February, although the prices decreased markedly – despite good order situation for foundries and steel producer. However they keep themselves from stocking-up. In contrast to this the prices for steel rose in February as expected. For scrap a sideways movement is anticipated, and for steel the IKB sees a slight rise potential.

The entire IKB-Report can be found on our homepage www.rene-europe.com under the column WEEE News / Commodity reports.

Producer responsibility: „Closing the loop“ at IKEA

IKEA actively signs up for a strategy, which helps to produce more products out of recycled material. This strategy was explained by Ms. Schefte under the title “Closing the Loop” at a waste conference in Stavanger, Norway.

Source: www.avfallskonferansen.no

The Recycler’s View: Collection targets achieved – how sure can you be?

Higher collection rates are an essential element of the WEEE-Recast. To aim this, it is not enough to collect just more material, the data has to be correct as well! It is noticed very often in the European order management, that statements on weighing notes and declarations not match together. Also on weighing notes there are discrepancies between the total net weight and the single net weight. Without systematic verification of the data on order level, there is no correct recycling declaration. However, how many declarations are checked in Europe in this way?

Source: RENE AG

From the countries: Germany, UK, France, Italy, Sweden, Austria.

Germany: And always calls the mobile phone.

The interest in old mobile phones is not sagging. If this is attributable to the big volumes which are still stored in private households or to resale-actions in Africa remains an open question. Nevertheless visitors of the IFAT Entsorga (7.5. – 11.5.) can hand over their old mobile phones and win on this even a new iPhone. However there only will be ten winners. The IFAT Entsorga will donate the proceeds of the secondary raw materials to a social project.

Source: IFAT Entsorga invitation brochure, <http://www.ifat.de/>

The eco political speaker of the Green Party in the Bundestag (Lower House of Parliament), Dorothea Steiner, has suggested a deposit of 10,- € for each mobile phone that has been handed over. This has the aim to reach the “nearly 100 million” old mobile phones in German drawers.

Source: <http://www.welt.de/politik/deutschland/article13909790/Gruene-fordern-zehn-Euro-Handypfand-pro-Neugeraet.html>

In this way the collection rate is to be lifted up even over the level demanded by the EU.

Source: <http://www.n-tv.de/politik/Gruene-fordern-Handy-Pfand-article5701866.html>

The producer themselves do not see much sense in this system. Bernhard Rohleder, managing director of the sector association Bitkom, fears too high administrative efforts. Especially similar initiatives in the past have shown that their effects do not come up to the expectations.

Source: <http://web.de/magazine/digitale-welt/mobile/14920896-gruene-fordern-handy-und-smartphone-pfand.html>

UK: Municipalities warned for breach of WEEE Code of Practice.

Several municipalities have been warned in writing by the British Department for Business (BIS) as they levied additional costs to the take-back systems (PCS) for themselves on awarding disposal agreements. Also volumes, which contain especially valuable materials, were recycled without informing the PCS.

Source: <http://www.letsrecycle.com/news/latest-news/weee/councils-warned-not-to-break-weee-code-of-conduct>

France: Critics on evidences for individual take-back systems.

Producer of B2B-devices had to give evidence to ADEME, how the take back of their devices is arranged. (RENE reported in the Newsletter of February 2011). These forms have been criticized by producers, as there is no space for additional statements. This may lead to not-answered questions; what is unsatisfying for both sides. In addition this critic may allow the interpretation that the expectations of ADEME on the characteristics of B2B compliance schemes and the actual situation are not entirely consistent. As well for this reason RENE will put in an application during the year for issuing permission as an additional B2B compliance scheme. We have been explicitly asked by our clients to do this.

Source: RENE AG and www.ademe.fr

Italy: SISTRI from June 2012 on.

Medium-sized and large companies for management of refuse disposal definitely are to use the SISTRI-System from 30th June 2012. For small producer an appointment will follow in a separate decree.

Source: Industrie – und Handelskammer Bozen (Chamber of Industry and Commerce).

Sweden: EU-collection target well exceeded again in 2011.

The system EI-Kretsen announces a collection of 154.185 tons of waste electronic and electrical equipment in the year of 2011. This corresponds to an increase of 2.5% in comparison with previous year. With 16,27 kg the result per-capita is well over the EU-target of 4kg.

Source: www.elkretsen.se

Austria: New device list on the Austrian authority's homepage.

The Austrian authority "Lebensministerium" has provided a new device list of 1/2012 on its homepage. In this context, RENE would like to point out to the explanatory leaflet „Zubehör/Geltungsbereich“. On this leaflet it is explicitly defined that built-in batteries are to be included into the total device weight on the new product sales declaration. Austria interprets the definition different than for example Great Britain, France, Germany, Spain or Italy. This is to be bared in mind on compiling the raw data or latest when the data is transmitted.

Source: www.lebensministerium.at

We wish all our readers a successful month!.

Your RENE team