
WEEE News – December 2013.

Dear readers,

the following topics have been prepared for you this month:

Commodities:	Record in 2013 – next record in 2014.
Producer responsibility:	G2- conference in Berlin.
The Recycler's View:	Adaption of the battery directive until 31.12.2016.
From the countries:	Germany, UK, The Netherlands, Portugal, Sweden, Finland, Switzerland.

Commodities: Record in 2013 – next record in 2014.

Our partner IKB Deutsche Industriebank AG, (www.ikb.de) confirms the forecast of a new annual record in the world steel production, which may be at 1.6 billion tons at the end of the year. For the year 2014 1.7 billion tons will even be expected. The main increase occurs as usual in Asia. China alone will reach a production volume of 780 millions of crude steel in 2013.

In November, the scrap prices rose again, mainly due to orders of Turkish but also of Italian steel works. The IKB forecasts an increase in prices by 4 % in 2014.

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

Producer responsibility: G2- info-forum in Berlin

On 28th November 2013 a conference regarding the transposition of the WEEE and battery Directives took place in Berlin. The event, which has been organized by Stiftung elektroaltgeräte-register ® (EAR) and Stiftung GRS Batterien was highly frequented. There still have been no real news in regard to realization of the WEEE2. It was interesting that in the branch of the existing ElektroG, opting by municipalities considerably increases. The EAR expects only 52000 official take-back allocations - once remarkable more than 90000 allocations were placed in the past. The municipalities take the view, that the internalisation obligation of costs through the producers is widely outdated as the collected amounts consist of income fractions at the moment. It seems to be that the organization of B2C WEEE in Germany is now nearly as before the introduction of ElektroG.

Source: <http://www.g2-infoforum.de/>, RENE AG

The Recycler's View: Adaption of the battery directive until 31.12.2016.

Already in November, the adapted version of the Directive 2006/66/EG has been passed. Thus the parts of cadmium will be continuously reduced. To adjust to substitute materials, the legislator grants the actors in the industry a deadline until 31st December 2016.

Source: Publication of the European Council, 15th November 2013

From the countries: Germany, UK, The Netherlands, Portugal, Sweden, Finland, Switzerland.

Germany: ElektroG2 schedule is still vague.

In the context of G2 conference in Berlin, Mr. MinDirig, Dr. Thomas Rummler from Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz und Reaktorsicherheit pointed out the different difficulties in the legislation process regarding the renewal of ElektroG. The coalition contract of the new government suggest a transposition in due course at least.

Source: G2-Infoforum, RENE AG

<https://www.cdu.de/sites/default/files/media/dokumente/koalitionsvertrag.pdf>, S. 119

UK: Registration obligation for small producers.

The UK Environment Agency (EPA) has informed that producers which put less than 5 tons electronic and electrical devices on the market per year in Great-Britain have to be reported by the authority starting 2014. These declarations and sales volume declarations can be delegated to the existing take-back system by the producers. With that, the EPA follows the Waste Batteries and Accumulators Regulations 2009. The new WEEE Regulations 2013 will come into force on the 1st January 2014.

Source: UK Environment Agency

The Netherlands: Transposition of WEEE2.

The Dutch transposition of Directive 2012/19/EU appears to suggest a new register for producers – and treatment companies. Recyclers are requested to pass a CENELEC certification by mid of 2015.

Source: Reint Sekhuis, Recydur

Portugal: Higher Penalties.

ANREEE has increased the penalty for not-registered companies to € 2.5 millions. In this context it has to be pointed out that the application processes of scheme memberships in the view of RENE AG belong to one of the most time-consuming and most “complex” ones in Europe.

Source: Newsletter ANREEE, dunning letter ANREEE, RENE AG

Sweden: Pre-information about refunds.

The Swedish take-back system EI-Kretsen has pronounced that they will distribute refunds as usual in the period March/April 2014. A provisional estimation of the fees can be ordered from EI-Kretsen starting January.

Source: EI-Kretsen Informerar

Finland: Hearing to changes in Waste Law.

In frame of a public hearing, involved persons can make proposals to the change of the Waste Law 646/2011 and the existing WEEE-legislation until 10th January 2014. In this regard, the revision of the producer definition is planned. Moreover, at least 500 permanently available collection points for WEEE from private households are ought to be installed nationwide.

Source: Newsletter Elker Oy.

Switzerland: New VRG decision criterion for portable computers.

The Swiss SWICO has distinct their VRG for portable computer on the basis of CD/DVD-drives, yet. As more and more laptops, however, are only delivered with SSD-drives, this criterion is outdated. Recently, the devices are distinct on the basis of the screen diagonal and allocated to the corresponding VRG.

Source: SWICO

We wish all of our readers a great pre-Christmas season, merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!

Your RENE team