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**WEEE News – September 2013.**

Dear readers,

the following topics have been prepared for you this month:

<b>Commodities:</b>	Continuous upwards tendency.
<b>Producer responsibility:</b>	EWRN- policy paper to authorized representative.
<b>The Recycler's View:</b>	Planned obsolescence?
<b>From the countries:</b>	Germany, UK, Italy, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland.

**Commodities:                      Continuous upwards tendency.**

Although the raw material report of our partner, the IKB Deutsche Industriebank AG ([www.ikb.de](http://www.ikb.de)), of September starts with the headline “General tendencies: In the suction of the Syria-crisis”, the news, however, are positive: the world steel production will probably reach a new record level from 1.6 billion tons at the end of the year. The growth occurs primarily in Asia, whereas the USA and Europe are expected to be below the previous year level. In August, the scrap prices increased unexpectedly early. Orders came from Turkey and the Italian steel producers accept additional charges. For September, a scrap price increase of 2 % is expected.

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

**Producer responsibility:    EWRN-policy paper for authorized representative.**

The EWRN (European WEEE Registers Network) has published a policy paper to specify the authorized representative according to article 17 of the WEEE Recast 2012/19/EU. A central demand concerns harmonized requests on the authorized representative of the single member states to exclude interpretation leeways.

Source: [https://www.ewrn.org/fileadmin/ewrn/content/documents/130705\\_EWRN\\_proposal\\_I\\_mplementation\\_AR\\_WEEE2\\_final.pdf](https://www.ewrn.org/fileadmin/ewrn/content/documents/130705_EWRN_proposal_I_mplementation_AR_WEEE2_final.pdf)

**The Recycler's View:            Planned obsolescence?**

The early, not repairable, loss of products before the end of their usual working life is particularly noticeable for electrical and electronic devices. How far intentional mechanisms play a role is also content of a study, which has been ordered by the German Umweltbundesamt (UBA). The study will be finished in spring 2015.

Source: [http://www.umweltbundesamt.de/uba-info-presse/2013/pd13-033\\_defekte\\_elektrogeraete\\_zufaellig\\_oder\\_geplant.htm](http://www.umweltbundesamt.de/uba-info-presse/2013/pd13-033_defekte_elektrogeraete_zufaellig_oder_geplant.htm)

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**From the countries:** Germany, UK, Italy, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland.

**Germany: Preparations for the financial guarantee 2014 has been started.**

Producer of electrical and electronic devices, which have to provide a financial guarantee according to § 6 ElektroG, are requested to submit their sales forecast for 2014.

Source: RENE AG

**UK: Threshold for WEEE producers starting from 2014?**

In agreement with the Department of Business Innovation & Skills (BIS), the UK Environment Agency informed producers of electrical and electronic devices that a regulation of a threshold volume in Great Britain may come into force in 2014. Hence the consultation of the draft regarding the realization of the WEEE recast has revealed that the majority of actors agreed with the introduction of the thresholds in height of 5 tons per year. Producer, which put less volume into the market should therefore be relieved of a take-back system and be able to register directly at the authority as so-called "small producers". A decision can be expected by 15th November 2013.

Source: UK Environment Agency

**Italy: Centro di Coordinamento controls collection sites.**

The Italian Centro di Coordinamento has explained as reaction on both articles in the last newsletters that addresses of collection sites are definitely controlled systematically and the systems could rely on their results. RENE AG now received help with a not existing address. RENE AG takes the position that only with pick-ups done by qualified collection sites the collection systems can expect that WEEE devices – and not any other waste – will be picked up. This indicator is important, because the systems only get to see the material flows in exceptional cases physically.

Source: RENE AG Italia

**The Netherlands: Direct sellers do not need to disclose their clients.**

On demand, the Dutch take-back system STIBAT confirmed that direct sellers to the end-user do not need to disclose the names of their clients as these users are not in responsibility of the Dutch battery law.

Source: [www.stibat.nl](http://www.stibat.nl)

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**Sweden: Additional sales volume reporting in October.**

The Swedish take-back system El-Kretsen shows a too large range of the average weights in four categories. Therefore, producers in these categories are requested proactively to enter an additional report for the period between 1<sup>st</sup> January 2013 and 30<sup>th</sup> September 2013.

Source: [www.elkretsen.se](http://www.elkretsen.se)

**Switzerland: VREG's revision is massively criticized.**

The Swiss Bundesamt für Umwelt (BAFU) has published a draft of a reversed regulation about the return and recycling of electric and electronic devices (VREG), whose consultation ran until 6th September 2013. The leading opposition against the draft – obviously on the take-back system's behalf - is the organization SWICO. The introduction of the central register, the financing way as well as the different treatment of B2B and B2C products are criticized. The achievements of the subsidiarity principle and the achievements of the existing decentred systems are pointed out openly. Besides, fears regarding additional administrative effort are made known, in connection with doubts on the advantage of the central organization and new regulations.

Source: BAFO Switzerland: VREG consultation draft, SWICO- communication to the joined companies

We wish all our readers a good start into autumn!

Your RENE Team