

WEEE News – February 2018.

Dear readers,

the following topics have been prepared for you this month:

Commodities:	Little movement
Producer Responsibility:	Pilot run for Stiftung Zentrale Stelle Verpackungsregister
The Recycler's View:	Where to go with problematic plastics
From the countries:	Germany, France, UK, Portugal, Norway

Commodities: Little movement

Despite reports about generally rising commodity prices, i.a. from scrap up to € 10 per tonne in January, the IKB Deutsche Industriebank AG (www.ikb.de) anticipates a sideways trend for steel prices during the first quarter of 2018 and expects a slight downward movement for scrap prices in February. As usual, the complete IKB report is at your disposal on our website.

Source: IKB-Information Commodity prices, 5th February 2018, page 1

Producer Responsibility: Pilot run for Stiftung Zentrale Stelle Verpackungsregister

On the expert panel of the Fraunhofer Institute, Global Environmental Compliances, which took place on 6th February 2018, Mr. Kardetzky, Head of Legal/Disposal, introduced the project planning of the new Stiftung Zentrale Stelle Verpackungsregister which was founded in scope of the introduction of the new VerpackG. The plan is to open the register from August 2018. The foundation is expecting registration of about 720.000 distributors, 4000 of them being large manufacturers and distributors. From 1st January 2019 it is necessary to report to dual systems as well as to the Zentrale Stelle Verpackungsregister.

Sources: Lecture Stiftung Zentrale Stelle Verpackungsregister,
<https://www.ipa.fraunhofer.de/de/Kompetenzen/nachhaltige-produktion-und-qualitaet/schadstoffmanagement/expertenforum-global-environmental-compliance.html>

The Recycler's View: Where to go with problematic plastics?

As RENE AG has reported in the WEEE news of January 2018, China has imposed an import ban on plastics containing brominated flame retardants. Since then recycling organizations are forced to search for alternatives. One of the English recycling partners of RENE AG states that at least the prices charged by plastic distributors for such materials have already increased. Nevertheless, it is unclear how the further exploitation should proceed. Obviously, British incinerators are already restrictive with the assumption of plastics

with bromine content. According to the feedback of a Swedish recycling partner these problems do not yet exist. Apparently, the plastics are (still) easily accepted by incinerators in Sweden. However, there are currently no processes for material recycling. In this context, reference should be made to the studies of the Fraunhofer Institute to the CreaSolv procedure: <https://www.ivv.fraunhofer.de/de/forschung/verfahrensentwicklung-polymer-recycling/hochwertiges-kunststoffrecycling.html>. In reality, however, this process is not integrated in recycling processes of recovery plants.

Source: Recycling Network Europe, RENE AG

From the countries: Germany, France, UK, Portugal, Norway

Germany: Changed fees according to ElektroGGebV.

We would like to draw the attention of our readers to the changed fees which have come into force. Thus the costs for registrations have been increased to €198.80. The fees for the check of credibility also have been slightly raised. Significantly raised was the cost for Position 8 of Annex 1 to Section 1 of the ElektroGGebV ("Confirmation of the appointment of an authorized representative...), which now costs €445.30 per designation. The costs for changes of registration data have been slightly reduced.

Source: <http://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/elektroggebv/ElektroGGebV.pdf>,
<https://www.stiftung-ear.de/service/rechtliche-grundlagen/>

France: How to achieve a collection rate of 65%?

In Article 7 (1) subsection 2 the WEEE Directive defines a collective aim of 65% of the average weight of electrical and electronic appliances put on the market in the last three years in the concerning member state. This target is, except for some member states mentioned in Article 7 (3), to achieve from 2019 on. The ESR Collective System therefore has divided the French mainland into nine organizational regions where the responsible staff will take care of arranging pick-ups. From the perspective of RENE AG, this aims to increase pick-ups and corresponding documents. It remains to be seen if this goal – independent from the organization – can be reached at all. Of course, this does not only apply to France.

Source: ESR – Circular letter from 2nd February 2018

UK: New structure of fees is approved

According to information from the UK Environment Agency the new structure of fees (RENE AG reported) has been approved now. Thus, among other things, manufacturers will have to pay an amount of GBP 3.50 to cover variable administrative costs.

Source: Circular letter from UK Environment Agency from 1st February 2018, RENE AG PCS
<http://www.rene-europe.com/ruecknahmesysteme/rene-ruecknahmesystem-in-uk/>

Portugal: A new register

Portugal is working on changes in the existing WEEE register structure of ANREE and will introduce a new integrated waste register. Relevant manufacturers have to make first declarations on 31st March 2018.

Source: Circular letter from the Agência Portuguesa do Ambiente – APA from 1st February 2018

Norway: Reference to weight determination

The declaration of imported electrical and electronic equipment to the Norwegian market takes place immediately in the course of the customs clearance of these devices. The collected data is therefore not entered into the respective Collective System by the manufacturer or distributor, but taken from the customs data. However, the indications of weight are at least partly not determined through actual weighing processes but estimated at the shipment of the parcel, based on the size of the packaging. This can lead to deviations of the reporting data compared to the actual weights and thus possibly to unnecessary costs of disposal.

Source: RENE AG – Survey with Norwegian customs and parcel service providers, Elretur

We wish our readers a successful month!

Your RENE team