

Newsletter of Aug 13th, 2008

1.



Ireland performing better than expected on three-year anniversary of WEEE Directive!

三周年之际显示爱尔兰比预计更好地履行了WEEE指令!

- Place Ireland among the 'Best in Class' of European countries!
- WEEE Ireland will soon be announcing details of its new battery recycling scheme!
- 爱尔兰在欧洲国家里属于最好一级!
- WEEE爱尔兰将宣布其新的电池回收方案的细节!

Results announced today by WEEE Ireland, the national compliance scheme for electrical recycling, place Ireland among the 'Best in Class' of European countries.

The results show that 9kg electronic waste per person was collected and recycled during 2007 in WEEE Ireland's collection area, over double the annual 4kg set for Ireland by the EU.

The equivalent of over 21 million individual old or broken electrical items have been collected and recycled by the scheme since the WEEE Directive was introduced in Ireland in August 2005.

This includes 750,000 TVs and computer monitors and 12 million small household appliances such as keyboards, radios and remote controls. Some 2.1 million large household appliances and 6.2 million lamps have also been recycled.

"Recycling levels of larger items such as fridges and cookers have been very good. However, the take-back of smaller items such as adapters, chargers, cables and headphones could be much better," said Leo Donovan, CEO of WEEE Ireland.

In terms of weight, about 100,000 tonnes of electronic waste have been diverted from landfill here in the past three years. Over 70pc of all waste electronic equipment collected has been initially processed in Ireland with the remainder going to dedicated WEEE treatment plants in the UK and Europe.

WEEE Ireland will soon be announcing details of its new battery recycling scheme. From 25 September

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2008, any retail outlet that sells batteries will be obliged to accept the same type of waste batteries back from consumers.

The scheme will involve setting up over 10,000 waste battery drop-off points in retail outlets around the country. From this date, old car batteries can also be brought back to garages, motor factories or distributors and other stockists for free.

It's estimated over 2,000 tonnes of portable batteries are sold in Ireland each year, with most being discarded in rubbish bins or hoarded instead of being recycled due to their small size.

Source: <http://www.siliconrepublic.com/news/>

2.

IPC: Electronics industry not ready for REACH!

IPC: 电子工业还没有为REACH准备好!

- more than 40 percent of manufacturing and purchasing personnel have no understanding of the REACH regulation as it affects their companies!



- 超过40%的生产商和采购商当REACH法令对他们公司产生影响的时候还没有真正理解它!

The same holds true for nearly one-third of senior management and 29 percent of engineering personnel. Even 28 percent of environment, health and safety personnel have no understanding of REACH's impact.

The new European Union (EU) legislation concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) took effect on June 1, 2007. The REACH regulation gives greater responsibility to industry to manage the risks from chemicals and to provide safety information on the substances.

In contrast to RoHS, which covers a narrow scope of substances in electronic products encompassing about 100 different chemicals, REACH covers substances in nearly all applications, totaling about 30,000 unique chemicals. While RoHS can address entire classes of substances at a time, REACH addresses them each individually. Where RoHS requires supplier-to-customer communications, the REACH regulation makes bidirectional communication throughout the supply chain imperative. "REACH will have a far-reaching effect on any company that buys sells or uses chemicals," said Tony Hilvers, vice president of industry programs for IPC. "Inevitably, all companies that use chemicals or make products that contain chemicals will be affected ...and that pretty much sums up the entire electronics supply chain. The survey clearly indicates that our industry is woefully unprepared for the hit it's about to take."

The electronic survey, sent to executives throughout the electronic interconnect supply chain in North America and Europe, reveals that even with a deadline for pre-registration of substances quickly

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approaching, only 18.3 percent of companies have identified and/or inventoried all substances in their products. In addition only 60.5 percent of chemical supplier respondents are planning to register or pre-register substances at all!

Source: <http://www.ipc.org/REACHsurveyreport/>

3.

U.S. copper and brass mills worry about REACH implications!

美国制铜业担心REACH的牵连!

- Sources have told wire service reporters that fees could add up to \$52,000 per chemical per registrant!
- but the provision of the reduction of hazardous substances for electronic equipment do allow for the addition of more chemicals!



- 通讯社消息每种化学品的注册费用可能会增长到52,000美元!
- 但电子设备中有害物质减少的趋势将一定会增加使用更多的化学物质!

U.S. copper and brass mills are worried that their ability to export products to the European Union will be hampered once new chemical-content disclosure rules under the Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) system go into full effect. Brass mill products are subject to REACH because they produce metals by blending copper with various alloys.

By the end of this year, producers and importers will have to register the chemical contents of products containing “chemical substances” with the new European Chemicals Agency in Helsinki, Finland. Online registration is free during the current phase-in period but the EU is expected to charge hefty fees when full registration requirements take effect. Sources have told wire service reporters that fees could add up to \$52,000 per chemical per registrant. Adding to the expense would be research costs associated with assessing each chemical constituent in a product.

“We are absolutely concerned that they will continue to add chemicals to their list,” according to an executive at Revere Copper Products in Rome, N.Y., quoted by the American Metal Market metals industry newspaper. “I can't really predict what they're going to do, but the provision of the reduction of hazardous substances for electronic equipment do allow for the addition of more chemicals. “It has all kinds of other ramifications.”

Source: <http://www.purchasing.com/>