

Editorial

There have been significant legislative changes since the last edition, the most far reaching being that of Battery Recycling. Under the regulations producers who place more than one tonne of portable batteries a year onto the market will be expected to join a compliance scheme to fund the collection, treatment and recycling of waste batteries from January 1 2010, for more details please see or "Legislation Update" section.

In general market conditions for recyclable materials continues to be volatile with shortage of some materials such as good quality recyclable cullet for UK glass bottle production. On the other hand plastics' recycling in the UK is still strongly dependent on exports, experts claim that the dependence on the export market for plastics has grown ninefold in the past seven years. This leaves the UK susceptible to outsider influence and potential crashes like the one seen at the end of 2008, currently the industry is being affected by a continual stop start demand for material by the Far East.



Mark Penny, Commercial Manager, mark@jbrecycling.co.uk

J&B News

Press Coverage: Both the regional television news and local press covered the story of our recent expansion project. As reported previously we have invested £5m in new offices and a recycling facility that allows for the automated and optical sorting of waste and is the first of its type in the North East. This was aided by a £120,000 investment from UK Steel Enterprise and a £20,000 grant by Hartlepool Borough Council. Having already created 20 new jobs this year we expect the current 65-strong workforce to grow further to meet current demand and support moves into new markets. It is a credit to our loyal staff that the company recovered from a major fire in 2008 which, nevertheless, set expansion plans back by about 12 months.



Simon Hamilton (photograph left) the Regional Manager for UK Steel Enterprise, the Corus-subsiidiary that supports growing businesses, said: "We helped J & B Recycling with a smaller unsecured loan back in 2007 so we know the company well. It is a solid business with a strong management team and excellent prospects for the future so we are very happy to be supporting it with this latest expansion."

J&B recycles more than 50,000 tonnes annually for public and private sector clients and processes timber, including MDF and chipboard, mixed hard plastics, garden waste, furniture, scrap metals, cardboard, plastics, glass, cans and paper.

Our aim is to divert more and more waste away from landfill and increase levels of recycling in line with the government's objectives. It helps the environment, reduces cost to businesses and helps local authorities conform to the government's green legislation. On average 60% of waste in general waste bins can be recycled if no other recycling is done by the premises, as there are very few materials that can't be reprocessed. In this country we recycle less than 25% of our waste whereas countries like Austria and Belgium recycle around 50%.

We now have new facilities and been able to increase our work with local authorities right across the UK. We now have the space, equipment and increased capacity to provide a speedy, cost effective and highly efficient service."

We plan to invest further to bring our second site in Baltic Road up to the same high standards and continue to expand the range and volumes of materials it can process which includes even more waste from construction and demolition site so that we can continue to offer the best service and stay up there with the leaders in the sector.

Waste Wood: A report commissioned by the Waste & Resources Action Programme (WRAP) into the waste wood market has warned that the UK could face a shortage of waste wood as demand grows but, as a result of the economic downturn, arisings fall. They estimate that, based on knowledge of previous economic downturns, wood waste arisings could fall by as much as 14% over the next year from their pre-recession peak, and that their levels may not recover for up to five years.

There are a growing number of operations, such as biomass power plants, which use waste wood as a feedstock; the resulting increase in demand for waste wood could lead to price rises and wood shortages.



J&B provide two sources of feedstock to the three main user industries for waste wood - wood panel manufacturing, animal bedding and power generation.

We accept or sort a variety of wood materials into high and low grade. High Grade consists of pallets, wooden crates, unpainted demolition timber such as floor boards and joists, and off cuts from white timber. Whereas Low Grade consists of wooden furniture, kitchen worktops and units, MDF Type Laminated Flooring, Chipboard, wood-based panels such as Hardboard, Plywood, OSB and MDF, and painted wood such as Window Frames or Doors with the glass removed.

http://www.letsrecycle.com/do/ecco.py/view_item?listid=37&listcatid=217&listitemid=53314§ion=wood

Staff Training: In line with our skill's pledge and commitment to training over 50 of our staff have achieved Level 2 NVQs in Recycling Operations and or Logistics with our training partners Tyne Metropolitan College and Baltic Training. New employees recently TUPEd to J&B as part of our contract for the operation of Hartlepool Borough Council's Household Waste Recycling centre have started their NVQs, see photo right of Mark Penny (J&B), Colin Ogden (HBC Waste Manager), and Kym Norman (TMC Course Leader).



All our frontline staff will shortly undertake NVQs in Waste Management Operations.

J&B place great emphasis on training and invest time, effort and resources to ensure that our staff are well equipped to meet the demands of our business. We provide extensive internal training as part of our ISO accredited management systems and outsourcing specialist training such as IOSH for our supervisors.

Other News

New Forum for North East Construction Industry: The Construction Resource Efficiency Forum (CREF), for which J&B Recycling are a member of the steering group, has been established to address the needs of the North East construction sector and its resource efficiency issues.

The CREF aims to offer a direct link between the construction industry and the waste management and recycling sector to ensure effective dialogue leads to innovative and efficient use of resources and waste management and recycling solutions.

J&B would like to invite any interested parties to attend the launch of this exciting new network, which will offer lively and informative debate to solve any waste management or resource efficiency issues. The meeting will take place:



Wednesday 7th October 2009

Tyneside House
Skinnerburn Road
Newcastle upon Tyne
8.15am - 10.30am

Refreshments will be served during the meeting

To book a place email events@cene.org.uk with your name and organisation name and state whether you are a member of the construction or waste sector.

Full details of the Construction Resource Efficiency Forum can be found at www.cene.org.uk.

Waste Mountain Results in Towering Fine: Two directors of Hartlepool-based Easy Skips (NE) were recently ordered to pay £234,393 after admitting to having allowed waste to be illegally stored at an unlicensed site, as reported by www.letsrecycle.com on 20th August 2009

The North-East Regional Asset Recovery Team asked the court to confiscate assets equal to the value of the benefit gained from the criminal activities. The confiscation is the second highest ever achieved in a case brought by the Environment Agency. The court heard that the company knowingly permitted large amounts of controlled waste to be deposited at the site, which did not have a waste management licence and as such should not have been used to



store waste,

Environment Agency officers first visited the site in September 2006 and saw large piles of bricks, rubble and concrete, mixed with plastics and wood, as well as a large pile of wood and two skips full of waste. They warned Mr Benson and Mr Brough the operation needed a waste management licence. Despite repeated warnings by June 2007 the pile was so large it was spilling through the broken boundary fence out onto the pavement and posed a risk of harm to human health. In some places the path was completely covered by waste.

Following the sentencing, the Environment Agency's environment manager Julian Carrington stated: "We are delighted with today's result. Over many months Easy Skips and their directors undercut legitimate businesses by deliberately flouting waste management rules designed to protect the environment and the public. The waste has simply been dumped to become an unsightly mountain of waste on an illegal site that spilled out onto footpaths creating a hazard to the public"

http://www.letsrecycle.com/do/ecco.py/view_item?listid=37&listcatid=217&listitemid=53224§ion=waste_management

Legislation Update

Changes to Chemical Legislation: There have been recent changes to the Chemicals (Hazard Information for Packaging and Supply) Regulations 2002 (CHIP3) legislation and guidance. A new European Regulation (1272 / 2005) on the classification, labelling and packaging of chemicals was adopted by Europe on December 2008 (the CLP Regulation). The Globally Harmonised System for chemical will be implemented in stages between now and 2015. CHIP3 was replaced by CHIP 4 in April 2009 to adopt this into UK legislation.

The immediate changes are;

- The Approved Supply List is no longer used for chemical classification,
- The Approved Classification and Labelling Guide has been reissued,
- Test methods are now found in the Annex of European Regulation 440/2008/EC. which sets out the test methods under REACH Legislation

All waste producers must not use the Approved Supply List to classify hazardous wastes, instead they now must use table 3.2 of Annex VI of the CLP Regulation. Ex-European Chemicals Bureau : Classification & Labelling.

Contaminated land: www.netregs.gov.uk advises that under new legislation you could be responsible for cleaning up land contamination you caused in the past, even if you no longer own the land. Or if you own contaminated land, but the polluter cannot be found, you could also be responsible for the clean up. They advised that you make sure you understand the rules with their fully updated contaminated land guidance, including details of this year's new Environmental Damage Regulations.



If your activities could cause environmental damage you will be committing an offence if you do not take all possible steps to prevent damage nor report details of the risk to the enforcing body if the threat remains. For example, if you become aware of poorly maintained storage equipment that is at risk of leaking, or is already leaking, and could cause environmental damage, you must take action to stop environmental damage. It is an offence if you do not report environmental damage or the threat of environmental damage. It is also an offence if you do not take action to prevent further damage.

http://www.netregs.gov.uk/netregs/110705.aspx?dm_i=2WX,1RJY,8LHV2,5MXN,1

Batteries regulations: All this year's new regulations for battery producers, distributors, users and recyclers are explained recent netregs' guidance. Waste batteries and accumulators (rechargeable batteries) can damage the environment and cause health problems as many contain toxic chemicals such as lead, cadmium and zinc.



The batteries regulations limit the use of these chemicals by battery manufacturers and give producers the responsibility for ensuring waste batteries are collected and recycled.

There are different arrangements for collecting different types of battery. **Portable batteries** are small sealed batteries commonly found in household appliances, and include: primary (non-rechargeable), secondary (rechargeable), button cells and batteries in appliances such as hand tools. **Industrial batteries** are often used for backup and emergency supplies of electricity, or for powering machines and vehicles such as forklifts or wheelchairs. **Automotive batteries** are those used in vehicles, such as cars, vans, lorries, buses, boats etc for starters, lighting and ignition.

Members of the public should be able to return portable waste batteries to any shop that sells portable batteries, except small retailers who sell less than 32 kg of batteries per year who are not required to take back batteries. Many local councils will have collection points for waste batteries at civic amenity sites and recycling centres for members of the public to use. Those with waste automotive batteries can take them to their local council's recycling centre such as the ones operated by J&B for Hartlepool and Redcar councils.

If your business uses portable batteries your supplier will operate a take back scheme unless they sell less than 32kg of batteries per year. Waste management companies such as J&B operate battery collection schemes for both portable and automotive batteries for businesses to help take back schemes achieve their recycling targets. We can arrange collections in your area. If you buy new industrial batteries, the battery producer will take back your waste batteries. You should contact your battery producer to find out the arrangements for returning waste batteries.

You must make sure your waste batteries are stored, handled recycled or disposed of safely and legally by licensed individuals or businesses

http://www.netregs.gov.uk/netregs/109147.aspx?dm_i=2WX,1JOJ,8LHV2,4PEM,1

Exempt sites: Some waste operators will no longer be exempt from environmental permitting (waste management licence) following the Environment Agency's planned exemptions review, they could have to pay as much £2,570 to apply for a permit for their site, as unveiled by the Agency in September.

In a consultation on proposed environmental permitting charges for 2010/11, the Agency outlined just how the charges would affect the estimated 5,000 sites which are currently exempt from a permit but, under its ongoing review of the exemptions system, are expected to have to pay for a permit under new regulations which are expected to come into force in April 2010 according to a recent www.letsrecycle.com article.

Nine operations that can currently be carried without a permit under an exemption would be required to apply for an environmental permit under the proposed regulations, and these are: spreading of sewage sludge on non-agricultural land; land spreading of industrial waste; reclamation or improvement of land; compost facilities; manufacture of construction products and soil from waste; storage and use of building waste on a site where it is produced; deposit of dredgings; spreading of ash from pig and poultry incineration; and, recovery of scrap metal and the dismantling of depolluted waste motor vehicles. The proposed changes will have a major impact on the waste industry in particular for composters, scrap metal merchants, and producers recycled stone and soil. They would have to apply for a permit with the Environment Agency and be managed by a COTC holder with a WAMITAB qualification.

http://www.letsrecycle.com/do/ecco.py/view_item?listid=37&listcatid=217&listitemid=53509§ion=legislation

And Finally

Red Bull's wings clipped by Environment Agency:

The Environment Agency reported recently that Red Bull was ordered to pay a record £271,800 fine on 27 July 2009 after failing to recover and recycle packaging waste under the Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging Waste) Regulations 2007



The London based soft drinks importer pleaded guilty at Southwark Crown Court to charges of failing to register with the Environment Agency as a producer of packaging waste, and for failing to meet its requirements to recover and recycle packaging waste with respect to each of the eight years between 1999 and 2006.

Businesses that have an annual turnover in excess of a specified amount (£2 million since 2000) and handle more than 50 tonnes of packaging each year must register with the Environment Agency or a compliance scheme. Each year, obligated businesses must also provide evidence of payment for the recovery and recycling of packaging waste.

Red Bull Company Limited approached the Environment Agency on 8 July 2007 to say that it was not registered, however Environment Officer Helen Pavlou said: "The regulations are in place to encourage a reduction in the amount of packaging used by business and to decrease the amount of waste that is sent to landfill. While it is encouraging that the Red Bull Company Ltd came to us when they realised their mistake, it is disappointing that there are still companies that are not compliant with this important legislation more than a decade after it was passed. Money raised from compliance is invested in the recycling industry, so failure to comply means that there is less investment in the recycling industry than there should be."

www.environment-agency.gov.uk



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