

# Stein issues 'hands-off'

## Non-Ferrous



### Big business targeting India's e-scrap

Large businesses in India were now prepared to consider major investments in the country's electronic waste/scrap sector, it was suggested at the latest meeting of the BIR E-Scrap Committee. Guest speaker Surendra Borad of Belgium-based Gemini Corporation NV began by confirming that only around 5% of the e-waste generated in India was being recycled within the formal sector or by institutional processing. A further 5-8% was destined for landfill whereas approaching 90% was

being handled by the country's informal sector. Those seeking to change these percentages point to phenomenal growth projections for the Indian consumer electronics and durables sector. Valued at US\$ 5.6 billion in 2012, the Associated Chambers

of Commerce and Industry calculate that this figure will reach US\$ 8.6 billion as early as next year. The Indian government has already taken the significant step of introducing the Electronic Waste (Management and Handling) Rules in 2011. These apply to all producers, dealers, e-waste collection centres and manufacturers, and call for all e-waste generated during the manufacturing process to be sent to appropriate formal recyclers or disposal facilities. Furthermore, all stakeholders must: register with their respective State Pollution Control Board or Pollution Control Committee; and maintain records of the e-waste collected. Also at the E-Scrap Committee meeting chaired by Thomas Papageorgiou of Anamet in Greece, the US Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries' president Robin Wiener highlighted substantial progress in e-scrap handling standards and technology over the last decade - not only in OECD countries but also among some non-OECD nations.



Surendra Borad

**D**espite the global infrastructural importance of non-ferrous scrap, 'our industry is not well understood' and legislation 'is often biased against it'. That was the Miami lament of BIR Non-Ferrous Metals Division president Robert Stein of US-based Alter Trading.

He noted by way of example that more than 40 nations had created 'false internal markets' by reducing their consumer fabricators' prices of feedstock through the banning or impeding of scrap exports. 'In many ways,' he said, 'this amounts to nothing less than subsidising prices of finished goods because of fictitious domestic scrap markets.' Governments should 'keep their hands off our business and allow markets to determine how and where scrap is utilised,' he insisted.

Stein also acknowledged the 'major task' faced by the recycling industry in presenting its case to governments when unable to match the lobbying resources of mining companies and major consumers.

Meanwhile, 'margins for the scrap that merchants are handling through their processing yards continue to be compressed,' he told delegates. 'Prices being paid don't allow the merchants to replace what they sell at acceptable margins.' The 'incredible' business years earlier in the new millennium were becoming 'too much of a distant memory' and many experts now contended that 'scrap arisings may never reach those levels again, regardless of where prices may trend'.

advertisement



## Expressing Performance

# idromec

good **Machines** | good **Prices** | good **People**

[www.idromecspa.com](http://www.idromecspa.com)



Photo: Idromec - © merfin - Fotolia

# plea to governments

## Attractive alternative

During the whistle-stop review tour of world markets conducted by Ibrahim Aboura of Aboura Metals in the United Arab Emirates, he noted that fiscal reforms in Mexico had been causing 'distress' and 'scaled-down operations' within the recycling industry. But guest speaker Alejandro Jaramillo of Glorem SC, a Mexico-based service provider for the international recycling industry, accentuated the positive prospects for his domestic market. Owing to Mexico's labour efficiency and its commitment to free trade agreements, it was one of a number of Latin American countries offering an attractive alternative to China for scrap processing, he said. Also, companies in several industries were choosing to relocate to Latin America and these would need recycling services. The speaker did not attempt to hide the challenges in Latin America. For example, an oli-

gopolistic market meant 'unbalanced leverage between supply and demand' while consumers' lobbying power provided 'fertile ground' for export ban initiatives. However, Jaramillo insisted corruption was 'prevalent, but not unavoidable'.

Fellow guest speaker Luis Fernando de Souza, raw materials corporate manager for Brazil's biggest copper recycler Paranapanema SA, was also upbeat in stating that his country's copper consumption was less than a sixth of that in Europe and therefore had 'huge space to grow'.



Robert Stein: margin for scrap 'continue to be compressed'.



Alejandro Jaramillo: corruption 'prevalent, but not unavoidable'.

## Remembering Larry Sax

Larry Sax, president of the BIR Non-Ferrous Metals Division for six years from 1992, passed away late last year. In Miami, his contribution to the world recycling organisation was recognised through the presentation of a commemorative plaque to his widow Marita. She said her late husband had been a 'very enthusiastic' member of BIR for more than three decades and would have been 'very, very honoured' by the award.

advertisement




**OUSEI KANKYOSHOKI Co.,LTD**  
**Address : #502 YOTSUBASHI Bld, 1-5-7, SHINMACHI, NISHI-KU, OSAKA, JAPAN 550-0013**  
**Office : +81-6-4391-1667 Cellphone : +1-718-395-3290**  
**Fax : +81-6-4391-1668**  
**www.ousei.jp**  
**info@ousei.co.jp**

**TOP PAID !!!**

**We buy any precious metal bearing material**  
**We are your most trustworthy refinery business partner**






