

New Chinese import licence creates confusion over mixed scrap

■ **London** Scrap merchants have reported confusion over the shipping of mixed scrap metal, such as old motor blocks, to China under the new import licence scheme.

Export companies approved for the licence by the Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection & Quarantine (AQSIQ) assumed they were covered for shipments of mixed scrap metal, which also includes coated wires and electrical items, when they applied for a licence under the non-ferrous category, according to the Bureau of International Recycling (BIR).

But AQSIQ officials have said they must apply separately to export mixed scrap metal under the licence, which came into effect on January 1.

"Under the licence, you have to register for the material that you are exporting. So companies apply to export either ferrous, non-

ferrous, or both categories of scrap," said BIR director general Francis Veys.

"But the AQSIQ has said that companies that want to export mixed scrap metal must apply

specifically for that as well."

The BIR is now in discussions with AQSIQ officials to bring mixed scrap metal under the non-ferrous category for those companies that have already been approved.