

BIR is the international trade association of the recycling industries. Around 65 countries are represented through their national trade associations and individual companies which are involved in recycling. BIR comprises four commodity divisions: iron and steel, non ferrous metals, paper and textiles, and has committees dealing with stainless steel and special alloys, plastics and rubber. BIR's primary goals are to promote recycling and recyclability, thereby conserving natural resources, protecting the environment and facilitating free trade of secondary raw materials.

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Ferrous Division & Shredder Committee: World steel analysis and brand-new highly relevant technology

Delegates attending the joint plenary session of the Ferrous Division and the Shredder Committee on Tuesday, 23rd October at 9.30 in Warsaw (Poland) will be witnessing two highly topical presentations.

The **Ferrous Division** has invited well-known steel expert **Prof. Dr. Dieter Ameling** from the German steel industry association Wirtschaftsvereinigung Stahl. In his speech with the title "Steel – the best choice for efficiency of resources" Prof. Dr. Ameling will give an overview on the current situation on the world steel markets and talk about sustainability and efficiency of resources in a global context of raw material shortage.

Prof Dr Ameling stands at the head of the German steel industry which is the biggest in the EU and the sixth largest in the world, with an output of 47,2 million tonnes in 2006. The German Steel Federation is the political representation body of virtually all steel companies with production operations in Germany as well as associate members abroad. The federation's scope is to voice the common economic interests of its member companies in matters of political debate, the business world and the general public.

Prof. Ameling has had a lengthy and varied career in the industry with Mannesmann, the Korf group, Thyssen, Saarstahl and, most recently, Krupp VDM. In parallel to his position at Wirtschaftsvereinigung Stahl, he is Executive Board Member of Verein Deutscher Eisenhüttenleute which is the federation of German ironworks representatives.

The subsequent **Shredder Committee** will hear the presentation of a representative of the Netherlands-based company **Innov-X Systems**, introducing a new revolutionary technology that aims at the mechanical extraction of up to 90% of copper from ferrous shred

Worldwide steel production continues its general upward trend, with an increased consumption of ferrous scrap. This demand places a burden on the shredders to produce more, with minor improvements being made to keep up with the quality and consistency of the scrap product. This is most noticeable, due to its significant detrimental impact on the metallurgical properties of structural steel, in the copper content typically found in ferrous shred.

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