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BIR Autumn Round-Table Sessions Warsaw, Poland (21) 22-23 October 2007

Non Ferrous Metals Division: Focus on impact of revised EU Shipment Regulations

In response to the recent implementation of the revised **EU Regulations on Transfrontier Shipments of Waste** and their impact on the business of thousands of recycling operators throughout the world, the BIR Non Ferrous Metals Division under the presidency of Mr Bob Stein, Alter Trading (USA), has given this topic a number one priority on the agenda of their upcoming Round-Table session in Warsaw on Monday, 22nd October at 14.30h.

The revised regulation, which came into force on 12th July 2007, affects trade in recyclables within the EU, exports from the EU to countries in the rest of the world, and imports of recyclables into the EU. The first point of concern is of **supply disruption** to metal works, paper mills, and other material users around the world - disruption caused by lacking or confusing replies of certain Non-

OECD countries to the EU specifying if they will or will not allow imports of recyclables needed by their industries, and the threats by some Member States to require time-consuming and costly notifications in the absence of any new response. Another serious danger is the **loss of commercial confidentiality**. The regulation stipulates the seller must use a form - 'Annex VII' - which lists his suppliers; the same form must be signed by the customer on receipt of the goods. This forces the seller to expose his supplier to his customer.

Various experts in the field have accepted to share their views during the divisional plenary session in Warsaw, which will run under the motto: "Empowerment through knowledge: the new EU regulations and their practical implications for our industry". An introduction of the topic will be given by UK-based lawyer and consultant Hilary Stone, who is specialised in environmental law and the author of various publications on recycling and environment. The title of her presentation is "Finding a way through the TFS Regulations 2007- the problems of Annex VII".

In a subsequent panel discussion moderated by Robert Voss, Voss International (UK), Ms Stone will answer questions from the audience alongside with another high-profile expert, Dr Joachim Wuttke from the German Federal Environment Agency. Dr Wuttke is Head of Section "General Affairs of Waste Management, Focal Point Basel Convention" and also author of many publications focusing on the management and shipment of waste in Germany and Europe.

The panel will be joined by members of the divisional Board, customers of secondary metals and by a representative of customs authorities.

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