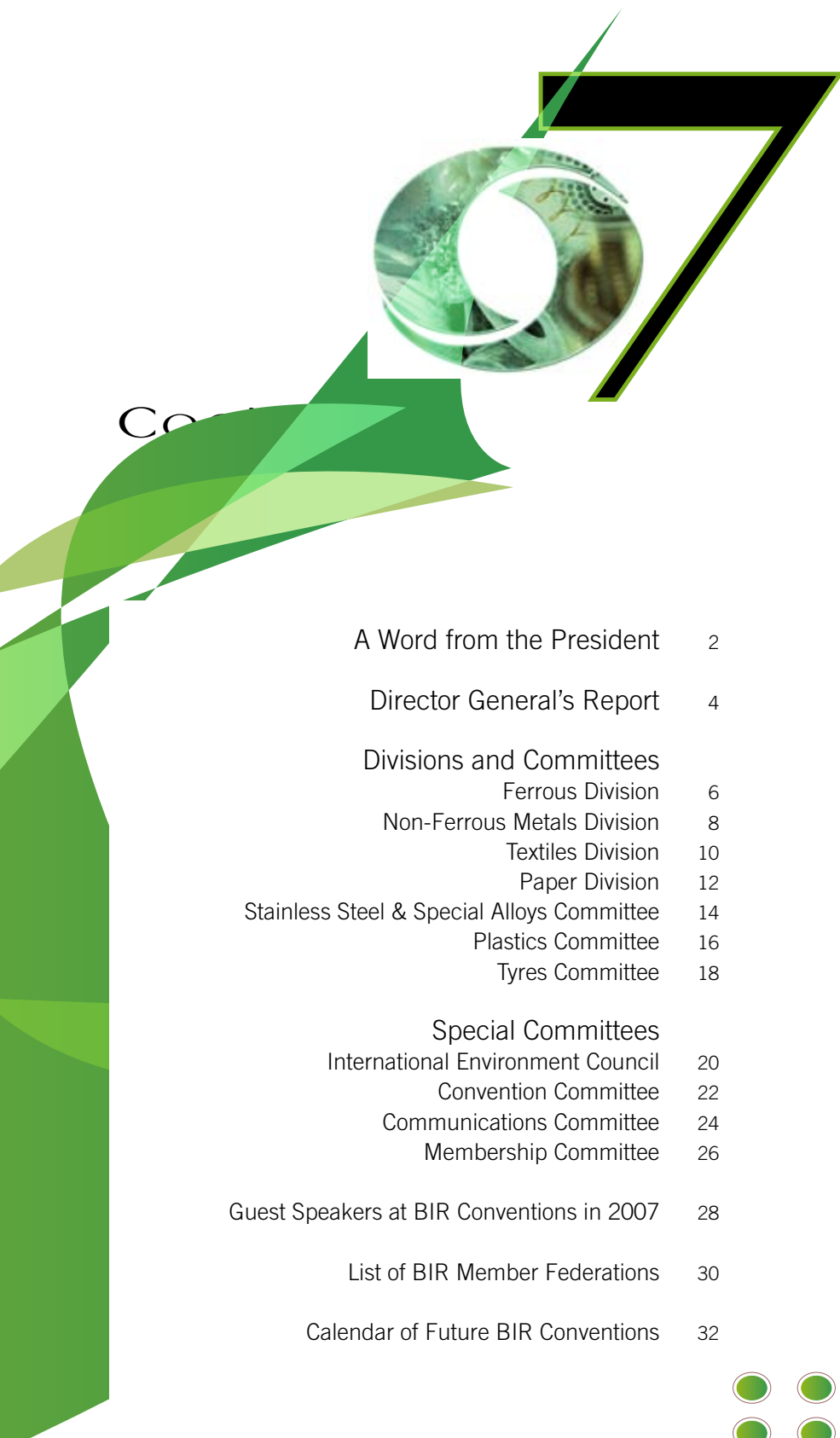


Annual report







A Word from the President	2
Director General's Report	4
Divisions and Committees	
Ferrous Division	6
Non-Ferrous Metals Division	8
Textiles Division	10
Paper Division	12
Stainless Steel & Special Alloys Committee	14
Plastics Committee	16
Tyres Committee	18
Special Committees	
International Environment Council	20
Convention Committee	22
Communications Committee	24
Membership Committee	26
Guest Speakers at BIR Conventions in 2007	28
List of BIR Member Federations	30
Calendar of Future BIR Conventions	32





A word from the President

Almost a year after my election as BIR President in Athens, I would like to take this opportunity to paint a picture of our formidable organisation and share with you my ambitions and projects for improving the organisation's visibility for the benefit of its members and for those who observe us in a world full of change.

Our activities are undergoing unprecedented growth and the attractiveness of our sector has never been so strong as it is today - not only from the perspective of the consumers of the raw materials that we produce but also among international politicians, NGOs and large waste management companies which, through a capillary reaction, are getting ever closer to our sector and are even taking over some of our companies in order to gain an indispensable professional know-how of our activities.

The consuming industries, the political world, the NGOs and traditional waste management operators - these four forces oblige us to perform even better and, in particular, push us to become ever more professional and more transparent.

If we do not tell everyone who we are and what we do, we run the risk of someone else borrowing our ideas and our achievements to make them their own while waving the virtuous banner of recycling! Given the extraordinary modernity of our sector and its perfect alignment with the needs of our planet, we must make every effort to communicate our actions and our achievements. In so saying, I have utter trust in the economic model of our companies.



Without delay, we must work on three key projects:

- First, the creation of a statistical observatory, of which we will draw up an outline but will call on an external, independent body specialised in statistical studies to turn this into a reality. We will, of course, maintain control over the publication of its data. It is our aim to measure our achievements, to show the scale of our performance, and to be able to compare these year by year. This is a huge task but indispensable to widening the economic and political world's understanding of our activities. This will also give us the opportunity to hold an annual press conference to present the results from our economic sector.
- A second, equally important challenge awaits us: measuring and providing evidence of our carbon footprint. We are all somehow aware that the origins of our work lie in providing raw materials indispensable to human activity while saving energy and reducing greenhouse gases. This is an extraordinary endeavour and justifies precise measurement. Here too, we should look to relay results on a regular basis.
- And finally, I would like to set up a committee for "International Trade and Arbitration". We all know that our industry is inextricably linked to international trade. The increasing complexity of international exchanges and the profusion of shared international regulations, as well as those regularly implemented by different countries for the purpose of environmental protection, can also put free trade in jeopardy or impose hidden/unfair taxes. For this reason, we deem it necessary to set up a body dedicated to main-

taining a watching brief so that our organisation can be proactive. This commission will necessarily take an interest in the work of the World Trade Organization and the OECD, as well as in the politics of those countries which are large consumers of our raw materials. This commission should also organise the arbitration of commercial and legal disagreements which our members, or some of our clients and industrial suppliers, would wish to submit to it.

So this is our road-map for the months to come. These three new missions seem to me fundamental for securing our future, but their realisation would not be possible without the excellent work carried out by my predecessors and without BIR's robust financial health noted in our Director General's report. This has resulted from wise choices combined with perfect management.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the whole team that surrounds our Director General Francis Veys for their talent and their commitment. I look forward to meeting many of you at BIR's 60th anniversary celebration in the Principality of Monaco and, in the meantime, extend to you all my very best wishes.



Director General's report



Francis Veys
BIR Director General

2007 was an exceptional year for our world organisation and for the recycling industry that we have been proud to represent since the creation of the federation in March 1948 in the city of Amsterdam.

All the reports of the Presidents and Chairmen of our Divisions and Committees confirm that 2007 was a vintage year for everyone in the industry, be they collectors, operators, brokers, traders or consumers of our recycled materials. Even textiles recyclers finally experienced a prolonged period of relative stability after many years of difficult conditions.

Yet again, recycling companies did their utmost to satisfy the gigantic demand for raw materials that has preoccupied the entire industrial world - particularly in emerging countries which, for more than five years, have been launching new investment and production programmes.

Following on from the nations of Eastern Europe as well as China, India and Brazil, several other countries are emerging in South East Asia, thus stimulating their citizens' appetite for consumer products.

The crazy growth of the world economy was not hampered in 2007 by the extreme weakness of the US dollar and, by contrast, the firmness of the Euro and the British pound, the loan crisis in the United States, the soaring price of a barrel of oil and the explosion in freight costs. Crazy? Certainly. Because today many of the sacrosanct economic parameters of the past seem to have been called into ques-



tion. For the better? Maybe. In the meantime, the world is losing its old reference points, with new beacons guiding our industries' programmes and strategies. Only true entrepreneurs that have learned to navigate on this new ocean will be able to ride the huge waves that they will encounter on their journey.

As for the financial health of our organisation, the figures speak for themselves: over 650 companies active at international level (a 10% increase in the space of a year) and over 40 national recycling associations are today members of BIR, which is officially represented in 70 countries worldwide.

New countries continue to knock at the door of the recycling world because they know that BIR can offer what they are looking for: markets for their commodities, economic information, advice on the establishment of new industrial structures, access to state-of-the-art technology, and solutions to the goal of achieving sustainable development while respecting environmental legislation.

Both our 2007 conventions, the one in Athens in May and the other in Warsaw in October, attracted record attendances - to the extent that we will have to exclude some destinations from our future schedules in order to be able to ensure the levels of service and programme quality that our business people are entitled to expect of BIR.

Next year we will meet in Dubai, with our eyes turned towards the Indian market, prior to visiting North America in 2010 or 2011.

Although our industry and our world organisation are experiencing development on an unprecedented scale, we should not lose sight of the structural changes that continue to impose themselves on our industry as a result of galloping globalisation - to which we indirectly contribute - and of environmental regulations whose noble objectives are too often jeopardised by the lack of industrial expertise among those people who conceived them.

Consolidation and the emergence of service providers who know little about our work will further transform our industrial framework, and traditional companies must adapt to this.

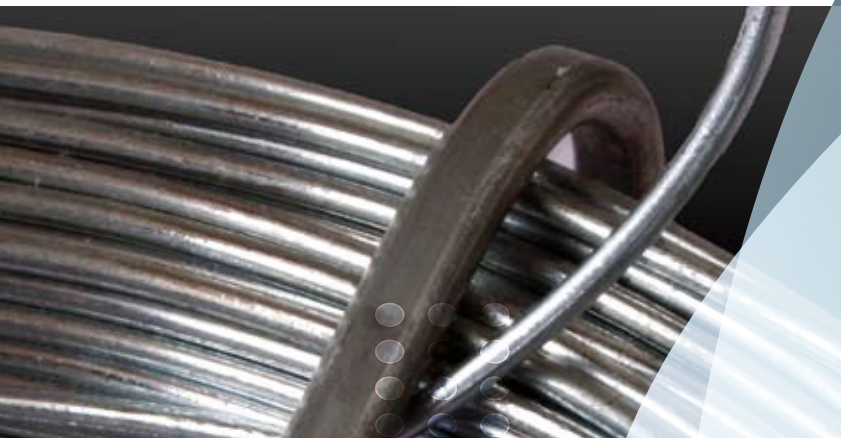
As for the international legislation aimed at reorganising our activities which have existed for many centuries but which are now conducted "without frontiers", we should turn this to our profit by using the common sense and know-how we possess. We should also identify the potential incompatibility of proposed regulations with market realities and position ourselves as "champions" of sustainable development.

We are in regular contact with major bodies such as the United Nations (UNEP) and the OECD, as well as with the European institutions in Brussels and with the Chinese and Indian authorities. Their confidence and trust in BIR have allowed us to ensure the survival and well-being of those active in the international recycling markets. We will continue to work to this same end in 2008, in particular through BIR's International Environment Council.

The recycling industry is key to the protection of our environment in that it supplies over 50% of the world's raw material needs and contributes efficiently to the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions. Considered a public service for its environmental contribution as well as a blessing for providing employment at a time when production facilities are becoming increasingly automated or are relocating for the sake of profitability, recycling is earning its place in today's world more than ever before.

Under the guidance of Dominique Maguin, who was elected President at our General Assembly in Athens, and thanks to the expertise of all those who play a part in the management of our organisation, the BIR - which celebrates its 60th anniversary in Monte-Carlo in June 2008 - will continue to make its vital contribution to the well-being of our planet.





Christian Rubach
President
of the Ferrous Division

Ferrous Division

Every year throws up an assortment of good and bad news for the world's ferrous scrap industry. Overall, 2007 can be considered a positive year dominated by continuing strong demand for our products; however, our enthusiasm was tempered by the unwarranted legislative and trade burdens imposed during the course of the year.

Let us start with the good news. Global steel production and scrap-dependent electric arc furnace (EAF) capacity have continued to grow, thereby ensuring healthy demand for our products. New EAF projects have been announced on nearly all continents but especially in Russia, the Middle East and Turkey. As noted at our meeting in Warsaw last October, world EAF production soared from 230 million tonnes in 1994 to around 400 million tonnes in 2006 to create a requirement for an additional 13 million tonnes per year of scrap and scrap substitutes.

On the downside, 2007 brought further evidence of "dumping" of Chinese steel on world markets - an issue that Eurofer has taken up with senior EU trade officials. The year also brought the revision of EU waste shipment regulations and the introduction of Annex VII. Intended to accompany transfrontier movements of material, this latter document demands details of our suppliers, thereby seriously compromising our commercial confidentiality. And throughout the year, the scrap industry has been weighed down by the combined pressure of a weak US dollar, high freight rates and steel industry demands relating to quality.

For once, however, there was also good news to report on the legislative front. Having heard strong arguments from BIR, the US Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries and their domestic steelmakers, the Indian authorities decided to abandon plans to implement a registration scheme for overseas suppliers of unshredded scrap. Ferrous Division board member Ikbali Nathani and others should be proud of their efforts in helping to secure this excellent result.

Also on a positive note, our two meetings in 2007 - the first in Athens and the second in Warsaw - were successful in attracting excellent guest speakers. In Greece, Peter Albrecht of PricewaterhouseCoopers' management board tackled the subject of continuing consolidation within the steel industry, noting the potential for significant further mergers and acquisitions given that the world's top 10 steel producers are claiming only 26% of the global market. It remains to be seen whether this trend towards consolidation will favour scrap suppliers by strengthening the consumer base, or whether the overriding impact will be negative as strong buying entities flex their muscles with regard to purchasing and quality demands.

Also in Athens, Dr Heinz Hetmeier of Germany's Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology argued that export restrictions were likely to represent a major impediment to trade over the coming years.

We held our autumn meeting in Poland at a time when the country was enjoying faster steelmaking growth than any other member of the EU. Krzysztof Krogulec of TOM, one of the country's leading steel scrap recycling companies, confirmed that domestic EAFs had been responsible for producing well over 4 million tonnes of steel in 2006 and that Poland was on course to export over 1 million tonnes of steel scrap in 2007.

Also in Warsaw, Prof. Dr Dieter Ameling, President of the German steel industry association Wirtschaftsvereinigung Stahl, painted an encouraging picture of a vibrant steel industry with ever-improving environmental credentials. His figures tended to confirm that we can look forward to even stronger demand for steel scrap in the future, with crude steel production expected to exceed 1.4 billion tonnes in 2008 after having totalled 1.24 billion tonnes in 2006 and less than 1 billion tonnes as recently as 2003. He also noted that, despite a drop in the steel scrap share of the steel production market, use of scrap had continued to rise at a bustling pace.

The BIR Shredder Committee also devised interesting programmes for its delegates: in Athens, for example, a panel comprising leading world experts suggested that gamma ray systems for detecting copper, as well as computer controls and other technological developments, had ensured ever-stronger demand for new shredder installations. Reinforcing this point, Rick Comtois of Netherlands-based Innov-X Systems BV informed delegates in Warsaw of a sensor-based sorter designed with the aim of removing 90% of free copper from shredder downstream material.

Thus, 2007 brought further progress for both the shredder and the electric arc furnace - two parallel developments that offer substantial encouragement to the world's steel scrap processing sector, both now and for the future.



2008 started with extraordinarily steep price increases, the scale of which had been seen only once before - in 2004. The scrap industry hence started the New Year in high spirits but is now caught between optimism and fears for the future. On the one hand, steel mills report high demand, large reductions in stocks and price increases which can be pushed through across the board. Iron ore prices will also rise steeply for 2008. As a result of these factors, high scrap prices can be anticipated for this year. On the other hand, concern continues to surround the state of the global economy and the impact of the US sub-prime crisis. Evidence suggests that we should expect more price volatility in 2008 than in the past year.



Non-Ferrous Metals Division



If 2007 taught us anything, it is that we should never underestimate the capacity of our non-ferrous markets to surprise - and, by extension, the capacity of the global non-ferrous scrap industry to adapt to those surprises.

During 2006, when copper was riding high and pulling sentiment for other metals in its wake, experts on the BIR Non-Ferrous Metals Division board were asked - perhaps unfairly given the volatile nature of our business - to predict whether markets would stabilise, strengthen or weaken in 2007. This ad hoc survey of industry leading lights produced a clear majority anticipating a significant downturn, while only one person suggested that the markets would maintain their momentum.

In the event, copper prices persistently threatened historically high levels around US\$ 8000 per tonne and lead more than doubled in value. Aluminum continued to earn a reputation for relative solidity while zinc lost significant ground over the course of the year. Given the widespread forecasts of economic softening, as well as the enduring repercussions of the housing crisis in the USA, 2008 could well prove more challenging than the years that have immediately preceded it.

However, 2007 will be remembered mainly for yet more record-high prices for our commodities. Other salient features of the year included further consolidation within the global non-ferrous industry, the continuing impact of a weak US dollar on global trading patterns, and a host of issues surrounding shipping such as mounting costs and scratchy availability.



Robert Stein

President of the
Non-Ferrous Metals
Division



High metal prices certainly bring opportunities, but they also throw up challenges and potential dangers - such as substitution of metals with plastics in certain applications, increased metal thefts, and higher insurance premiums. However, the scrap industry has resolutely gone about its business and made the best of the relatively favorable conditions of the last five years.

In 2007, we even saw proof of our industry's ability to influence government decisions relating to our operations. For example, the Indian government had proposed to introduce a registration scheme for overseas suppliers of unshredded ferrous and non-ferrous scrap but, following strong representations from BIR, the US Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries and domestic consumers, the country's Directorate General of Foreign Trade ultimately decided to abandon the measure.

For every success, however, there appears to be another piece of potential legislative devastation waiting in the wings. For our Autumn Convention in Warsaw, the Non-Ferrous Metals Division board organised a panel discussion to debate the implications of revised EU waste shipment regulations. In demanding that non-ferrous scrap shipments are accompanied by a document revealing the names of suppliers, EU legislators are effectively striking at the heart of commercial confidentiality and, therefore, at our very livelihoods. The panel discussion served to emphasise that we are prey to the butterfly effect, whereby regulations imposed in one part of the world can impact severely on global trade patterns.

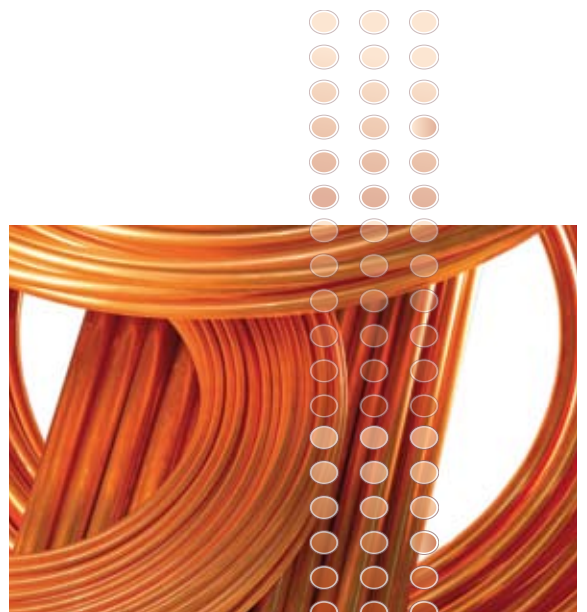
Of course, the trading complications created by these regulations serve as a reminder of the injustice of labelling our high-value products as "waste", a battle that our industry - through BIR and other representative bodies - has been fighting for many years and will continue to address in 2008.

Of course, our twice-yearly meeting also provide an opportunity to glean a valuable insight into market realities in other countries. In Athens, therefore, we learned from guest speaker Elias Sebos of Elval SA that Greece's scrap consumers are struggling to cover their needs for certain grades. At the same time, he expected implementation of stricter EU legislation to reduce the number of Greek companies engaged in scrap-related activities, with survival likely to be limited to larger enterprises.

These issues and others followed us into 2008. By the time you read this, for example, we may well be in a position to gauge the impact of the Russian government's decision to exempt all non-ferrous scrap operations from VAT with effect from January 1, 2008.

2007 was a poignant year for the BIR Non-Ferrous Metals Division board in that it saw the end of my good friend Marc Natan's six-year term as President. A most elegant speaker in both French and English, he succeeded in stamping his own personality on the role. He widened our knowledge not only of the world of non-ferrous scrap but also, notably, of the arts and of literature.

Of course, one of his legacies is the BIR Non-Ferrous World Mirror which has been providing a succinct, monthly update on our sector's affairs since 2002. As I wrote in the December 2007 edition, we have benefited from almost five years of bull markets. So what can we expect for 2008? The analysts and industry veterans will have their opinions, but one certainty is that the year will bring fresh surprises and therefore fresh challenges to our industry.





Olaf
Rintsch

President
of the Textiles
Division

Textiles Division





After the difficulties and subsequent recoveries recorded in previous years, 2007 will be remembered as a period of relative stability. We experienced healthy demand for original materials from many regions of the world such as Africa, Eastern Europe and South America - to the extent that, by the end of the year, we were encountering no difficulty in selling even lower-quality material and were in a position to hope for price increases in early 2008. However, 2007 also brought rising costs of acquiring material for sorting and a continuation of the trend towards sorting capacity being transferred from developed countries to those with lower labour costs, including India and Pakistan.

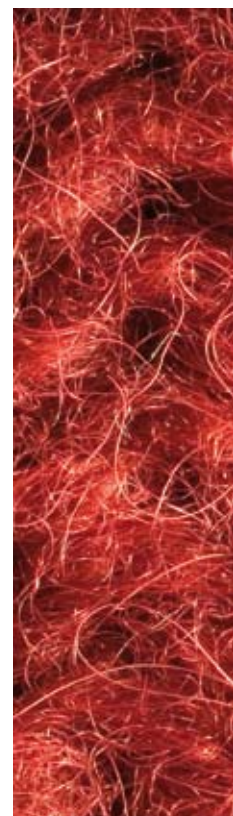
The weakness of the US dollar in relation to other major currencies - including the Euro and the Canadian dollar - also played a major role in deciding trade flows. Meanwhile, the revision of EU Waste Shipment Regulations proved to be a focus of major debate and concern: the new legislation did not create huge disruption within our marketplace during the course of 2007 although the requirement to name suppliers on an Annex VII document accompanying exports represents a major threat to our commercial confidentiality.

The revision prompted us to bemoan once again the inclusion of our products within "waste" legislation. Discussions with some key and learned experts lead us to hope that, at some point in the not-too-distant future, the EU Commission will come to acknowledge that our goods graduate from a waste into a product once minimum treatment has taken place. This would be an entirely appropriate outcome given the centuries of skill and experience that our industry has brought to the tasks of evaluating different types of material and of sorting them into different grades for which customers around the world are prepared to pay a market price.

This concept was one of the dominant topics at our two meetings in 2007; another was the proposal to introduce an eco-levy in France on sales of new clothing and shoes. Expected to be launched some time in 2008, there are concerns within some sectors of our industry that the levy may lead to market distortion and may indeed influence competition between French companies and firms in other countries. In this regard, we must resort to the old adage: Time will tell.

At the Spring Convention in Athens, guest speaker Hildegard Hülsenbeck of Lobbe-Tzilalis in Greece highlighted the growing awareness of recycling issues within her own country. And in Warsaw, Ewa Metelska-Swiat of the Polish Textiles Federation explained that her country's imports of used clothing had dropped as a result of a substantial increase in domestic collections. In common with consumers elsewhere in the newer EU member states, Poles are becoming ever-more fashion conscious and selective in their demands, with a growing proportion looking for branded and higher-quality clothing that cannot be sourced elsewhere.

As we head into 2008, the issues confronting our industry are broadly similar to those we faced at the start of last year. While business conditions are relatively favourable, our margins remain under pressure from high raw material purchasing costs, escalating overheads, bureaucratic pressures and legislative uncertainty. Against this backdrop, regulators should be reminded at every opportunity that small and medium-size enterprises make up the bulk of our sector and that these companies can survive only by ensuring their costs are kept to a minimum.



Not so many years ago, when the vast majority of our material was sold to a relatively local customer base, sea freight rates and bunker surcharges were of concern to only a relatively small proportion of the recovered paper industry. However, with the explosion in global trade flows over recent years, these issues now have a profound effect on day-to-day operations. Therefore, the huge freight increases implemented in October for shipments between Europe and major consuming nations in Asia proved to be a catalyst for a sudden and significant change in market conditions. The year ended on a subdued note and highlighted many challenges lying ahead for 2008.

We witnessed welcome price progression for our products throughout most of 2007 but the year ended on a somewhat weaker note. The year also brought a host of other challenges for our sector, including: the impact of an ever-weaker US dollar; and the revision of EU waste shipment regulations which introduced the Annex VII document to accompany transfrontier shipments and, with it, a serious threat to commercial confidentiality.

Nevertheless, the fundamentals underpinning our sector remain robust: global consumption of paper and board products is rising at a rapid pace, while recovered fibre is continuing to account for an ever-larger proportion of the production mix. As a result, worldwide demand for our products is still on a prodigiously steep upward path.

Figures will show that China imported well over 20 million tonnes of recovered fibre from around the world during the course of 2007 in order to feed massive new capacity developments. While perhaps not on the same scale, growth in other countries - notably elsewhere in Asia and in Latin America, as well as parts of Europe - will ensure exporters are never short of an outlet for their material.

Of course, we must strive constantly to ensure that our products match the quality demands of customers throughout the world, even though requirements can vary considerably from one consumer to another. Over the years, we have refined our production processes and invested in new technology to ensure that our products meet high quality standards. In this context, it seems woefully inappropriate that our products should still be termed "waste" in many legislative quarters.

Our meetings in Athens and Warsaw provided updates on initiatives that have a direct bearing on the relationship between this industry and its consumers. For example, further work was carried out on the revision of EN 643 - the European list of standard grades, which will include a definition of tolerance levels, more accurate and comprehensive descriptions of recovered paper grades, and identification of unacceptable materials. And late in 2007, the Confederation of European Paper Industries (CEPI) and the European Federation of Waste Management and Environmental Services (FEAD) published the draft of a unilateral identification scheme for bales delivered to mills. The BIR's daughter organisation, the European Recovered Paper Association, has expressed concern that the proposed system could prove commercially sensitive and excessively burdensome on suppliers.



Paper Division

Ranjit Baxi

President
of the Paper
Division





The two BIR Conventions in 2007 also provided us with excellent guest presentations. In Athens, Nico Schröder of Belgium-based ABX Logistics reflected the growing influence of freight issues on our sector but also the importance to shipping companies of recovered paper exports. He estimated that, taking into account all commodities, global container transport would double over the next 15 years, thanks largely to 10%-plus annual increases in trade flows from Asia to both North America and Europe.

And in Warsaw, Marek Skorwider of Mondi Packaging Paper Swiecie SA suggested that development of selective collection systems held the key to Poland reaching its recovered paper collection target of 3 million tonnes per annum by 2015. The meeting also featured an insight into the scope for using financial hedging tools within the recovered paper market: Om Bhatia of Barclays Capital suggested such devices were already relatively popular in North America and were particularly useful in volatile markets such as that for recovered paper.

The meeting in Warsaw was also highly significant for our division because it was the last to be chaired by our long-time President, Dominique Maguin. I am delighted that his dynamic leadership and his many other talents have been recognised via his election as World President of BIR.

In June 2008, we will meet for BIR's 60th birthday celebrations in Monte-Carlo, and then later in the year in Düsseldorf. Both gatherings will present us with an opportunity to review latest legislative, trading and technical developments. Hopefully, by the time of our first meeting, we will be able to discuss renewed upward progress in the prices paid for our products.

This year will see continued growth and expansion of global economies. Although at the start of the year we have all been hearing about the sub-prime crisis and recession in the USA, let's not forget that the global economy is still projected to grow between 2% to 3% this year, giving rise to increased demand for raw materials for papermaking.

2008 will also witness the Beijing Olympics, and with the economies of both China and India expected to grow at rates far exceeding those of the global economy, this year will be a challenging one for us all with regard to satisfying the growing demand from these regions.

I look forward to welcoming you all to our 60th birthday celebrations in Monte-Carlo, the first BIR Convention since I was honoured to be installed as President of the Paper Division. I hope that I am able to exceed the expectations you may have of me. And working together, I look forward to some exciting times ahead.

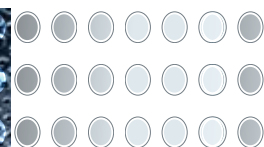
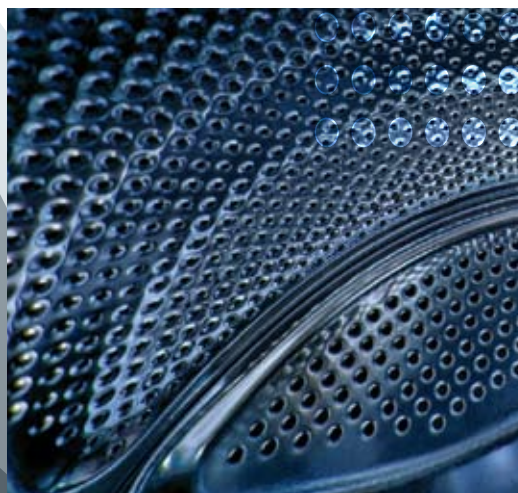


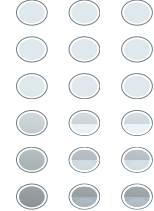
Stainless Steel & Special Alloys Committee



Michael G. Wright

Chairman
of the Stainless Steel
& Special Alloys
Committee





It seems like an eternity ago that LME nickel prices were struggling to break through the US\$ 14,000 per tonne barrier, but that's exactly where the metal began 2006. And the rest, as they say, is well-documented history: based on supply concerns and strong demand from the global stainless steel industry, the nickel price had soared beyond US\$ 50,000 per tonne in the first half of last year.

However, as if to prove that the phrase "roller-coaster ride" had been invented for this market, several events conspired to drive the price well below US\$ 30,000 per tonne only a few short months later: the stainless steel market had trended into over-supply during the early part of last year - notably in Europe and North America where some mills responded to a steep drop in demand by taking longer periods of downtime over the summer. And largely as a consequence of the nickel price spike, there was an acceleration of the trend away from chrome nickel austenitic grades of stainless steel and towards low-nickel chrome manganese and ferritic alternatives.

Indeed, global production of the former ultimately suffered a double-digit percentage decline last year while the austenitic proportion of world stainless steel production could well have dropped from 68% in 2006 to nearer 60% last year. Another factor that contributed to the sharp nickel price drop was the change in the LME's lending guidance in June 2007 that prompted many speculators to quit the market. A report prepared by top industry analyst Heinz Pariser formed one of the centrepieces of our meeting in Athens: this underlined the depth of the trend away from austenitic steels and predicted production of the low-nickel chrome manganese grades of stainless steel would leap from 3 million tonnes in 2005 to over 4.5 million tonnes in 2008.

In the latter months of 2007, it became obvious that global stainless steel production would fail to live up to expectations of exceeding 31 million tonnes for the year and that annual output would actually be far closer to the 2006 total of 28.4 million tonnes. The production decline was particularly pronounced in the second and third quarters of last year, resulting in a dearth of demand for scrap. However, with this downcycle virtually played out by the end of the year, industry experts were anticipating a sharp improvement in demand for all grades of stainless steel and alloy scrap during the first half of 2008. It should be noted that demand for molybdenum-bearing grades of stainless steel remained relatively strong last year because a greater proportion of these are used in long products, production of which did not suffer as much as that of flat products.

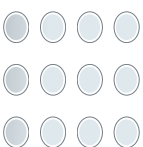
As for special alloys, we were informed at our spring meeting in Athens that demand was likely to be sustained by a major military build-up across the globe as well as by booming orders from the commercial aerospace sector.

Last year also saw a continuation of the trend towards Asia claiming an ever-larger slice of the global stainless steel production cake. The region is now responsible for more than half of the world's output and boosted its production by a further 20% in the first half of 2007. This trend has had inevitable implications for the flow of stainless steel scrap: for example, during 2007, US exports were expected to top 700,000 tonnes for the first time ever.

As we learned at our meeting in Warsaw last October, substantial capacity growth is unlikely to be limited to the south east of Asia. Several major enterprises are considering production projects in Russia which have the potential to boost domestic production of stainless steel around seven-fold to approaching 1 million tonnes per annum.

Whenever prices gallop to unexpected peaks, irrespective of the business sector concerned, the question on experts' lips is always: "Can it last?" In the stainless steel sector, we were aware that the nickel price momentum could not be maintained and that we were therefore destined at some point to experience one of our cyclical correctional phases. With this phase now seemingly completed, perhaps we could be forgiven for envisaging a calmer 2008 - but in this business, perhaps we should just expect the unexpected.

The year has started off well, with good demand on a global basis for at least the first quarter. Increasing iron and chromium prices have helped stainless steel scrap prices but the major concern is the influence of the nickel price. With an LME inventory reaching close to 50,000 tonnes and a plentiful supply of ferro-nickel, the nickel price level of US\$ 28,000 to US\$ 30,000 per tonne is mainly supported once again by institutional investors. How long this will continue is uncertain and maybe the "roller-coaster ride" will persist throughout 2008.



Trends during 2007 ensured a widening gap between supply and demand of secondary plastics. In many of the world's developed countries, less scrap is being produced as a result of: the development of more efficient equipment and the consequent drop in scrap generation; reduction in film thicknesses without any detriment to performance; and the move towards transformers directly reintroducing scrap into their production processes. At the same time, there has been continued strong demand for scrap from developing countries, notably in Asia. These include China, Taiwan, Vietnam, India and Pakistan.

As a result of these trends, scrap consumers in already highly-industrialised countries are being forced to pay more for this valuable raw material. For most of 2007, the cost of exporting plastics scrap to Asia was competitive with trucking material to consuming works within Europe. However, in the final quarter, freight rate increases of up to 300% were introduced for shipments between Europe and Asia, thereby rendering certain business unviable.

In the year 2000, China was importing around 2 million tonnes of recovered plastics; by 2006, conservative estimates put that figure at nearer 6 million tonnes. But while this export outlet is clearly welcomed by international traders, the export link to China does not come without problems. In addition to rising freight costs, the Chinese authorities have implemented higher tax rates and tighter import controls with regard to the quality of recovered materials. Variable application of laws and standards from one region of China to another is also acting as a disincentive for exporters because rejections can prove fantastically expensive.

Legislative developments in exporting countries have also given rise to concern. For example, the revision of EU Waste Shipment Regulations has thrown up a requirement for many third-country shipments to be accompanied by an Annex VII document on which details of suppliers are to be provided - a measure that could spell disaster for small traders in particular. And as 2007 drew to a close, there were fears that these regulations would severely hamper European plastics scrap exports to India because of the Asian giant's ambiguous response to an EU questionnaire about preferred shipment controls.

In such uncertain times, the value of our twice-yearly meetings is accentuated in that these provide us with an opportunity to share our experiences and to debate the challenges that confront us. These gatherings also afford us with a fresh insight into familiar and sometimes not-so-familiar markets. In Athens, for example, we heard guest speaker Corrado Dentis of Dentis SRL in Italy declare that his country was strongly-orientated towards post-consumer plastics. He believed that modern recycling technology could overcome any problems relating to quality but that the current lack of raw material availability was a major headache.

Plastics Committee



Surendra Borad

Chairman
of the Plastics
Committee

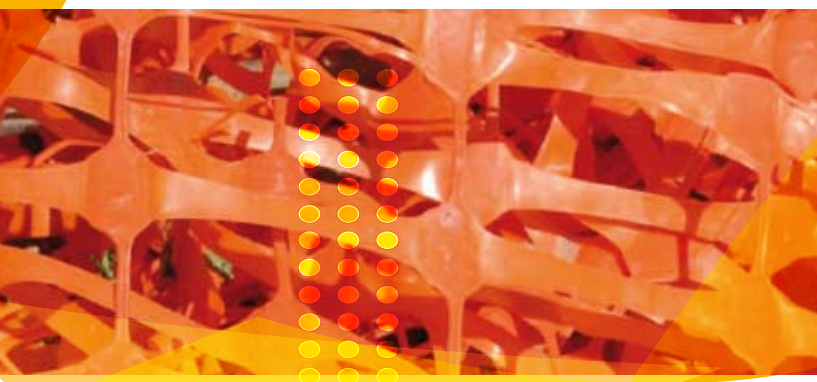
In Warsaw, Maciej Krzyczkowski of Eko Cykl Recovery Organization Inc. - a body which co-operates with more than 100 packaging waste recovery and recycling companies to satisfy the regulatory duties of over 2000 fillers in Poland - expressed confidence in his country's ability to meet EU plastics recovery and recycling targets. However, he also highlighted that the domestic plastics recycling industry was effectively a work in progress, with weaknesses including: a lack of recovery and recycling installations; low technical status of existing operations; low landfill costs; poor ecological awareness; and a low level of selective post-consumer waste collection.

Above all, our meetings in the spring and autumn of each year teach us that no country is without its problems and that no "boom" market is without its downsides. In 2007, we overcame a host of obstacles to ensure that we satisfied a healthy demand for our products; our expertise will doubtless be put to a similar test in 2008 and beyond.

With a communication dated December 21, 2007, the European Commission has launched a scheme called the Lead Markets Initiative (LMI) which calls for urgent and co-ordinated action in certain markets with the aim of rapidly bringing visible advantage to Europe's economy and consumers. The initial set of markets identified as having the potential to become lead markets includes: eHealth, protective textiles, sustainable construction, bio-based products and renewable energies. Also, recycling is clearly identified as a lead market for support.

If implemented in time with adequate political support, the LMI can provide European enterprises with fair and improved chances of entering new, fast-growing worldwide markets with a competitive advantage as lead producers, thus contributing to sustainable growth in jobs and wealth. It can provide European citizens with the opportunity to benefit more quickly from innovations in emerging market areas of particularly high economic and societal benefit.

In one of the Annexes relating to this LMI, the Commission notes that only 39% of the estimated 40 million tonnes of plastics waste arising annually is recycled or converted into energy. This proportion would increase substantially if carbon credits were awarded for the recycling of plastics. I understand that a steel scrap recycling venture in India has been able to claim carbon credits and I sincerely hope that plastics recycling also becomes eligible for them.



Tyres Committee

From the tyre recycling perspective, it was entirely appropriate that BIR staged its 2007 conventions in Greece and Poland. The two countries find themselves in the lower echelons of the EU recycling league table, such that both are now facing those challenges which many Western European countries have already confronted over the course of many years.

And herein, of course, lies an opportunity for some of the tyre recycling experience gained in the west of the continent to be passed on to fellow EU members further east. At our spring meeting in Athens, it was noted that Turkey, Bulgaria and Romania were making plans to boost tyre collection and reprocessing capacity, with assistance coming from Western Europe in some instances. At the same meeting, guest speaker Xenophon Michailides of Sternico Hellas in Greece revealed that his own country's tyre recycling activities were at a low level but that more emphasis was to be placed in this area.

Latest feedback from the European Tyre & Rubber Manufacturers' Association (ETRMA) shows how far along the recycling road we have travelled. In 1994, the EU's already-overburdened landfills were absorbing almost two-thirds of the scrap tyres arising throughout the 15 states in membership at that time. Compare this to the 2006 statistics covering a now 27-strong EU: almost 87% of used tyres arising in that year were subjected to some form of treatment. More than 34% went into material recovery, including use of granulated tyres in the creation of artificial sports pitches. A further 31.6% of used tyres was diverted into energy recovery, with the cement industry alone thought to be using more than 20% of the EU's scrap tyres as a fuel source. Meanwhile, only 13.1% had been consigned to disposal or some "unknown" fate.



We should not forget that used tyres make up a very small proportion of the waste stream - accounting, for example, for only 0.2% of Europe's waste by volume. However, as the tyre export dispute between Brazil and the EU also serves to underline, problems associated with end-of-life tyres have the ability to attract international publicity. Earlier this year, a Dutch newspaper article suggested that granulate from tyres is carcinogenic, even though separate and highly-respected pieces of research have found no evidence that any such risk exists.

As we head into 2008, the impact of legislation - prospective or otherwise - continues to be a major concern for the sector. For example, will the EU's thematic strategy on the prevention and recycling of waste lead to a more enlightened view of recycling activities? Will any progress be made in the long-running debate about "waste/non-waste" definitions? How will legislators' desire to reduce traffic noise impact on the sector? And will tyre recycling manage to remain outside the grip of the EU's REACH chemicals policy?

We are facing a very interesting spring in 2008 owing to the publication of a report on granulate composition. Our attention will also be drawn to European environmental legislation receiving its second reading in the EU Parliament and to Basel Convention discussions on used tyres.

I look forward to providing an update on these and other key questions surrounding the tyre recycling sector at our meetings this year in Monte-Carlo and Düsseldorf.



Barend
Ten Bruggencate
Chairman
of the Tyres
Committee



From the legislative perspective, each year seemingly produces a different focal point of concern for the recycling industry. In recent years, for example, we have seen: the advent of the AQSIQ registration scheme in China for overseas suppliers of recyclables; and proposals by India to ban all imports of unshredded scrap and, subsequently, to introduce a registration system similar to that in China. And then in 2007, the revision of EU Waste Shipment Regulations was so dominant that the implementation date of July 12 will be forever etched into our collective memory.

In the event, Commission Regulation 801/2007 - which was intended to control the export of non-hazardous recyclable and recoverable wastes from the EU-27 to countries that do not apply the OECD Decision - proved extremely short-lived. Even before the end of the year, a new regulation - (EC) N° 1418/2007 - was introduced to cover EU exports to mostly non-OECD countries of steel scrap, non-ferrous scrap, recovered paper, plastics and textiles for recycling.

This change of regulation is welcome but, as is often the case, does not signal an end to the matter or to the concerns of the recycling industry. The controls imposed on these shipments depend on national government replies to an EU Commission questionnaire and, clearly, some of the responses have failed to reflect the raw material needs of their domestic industries. For example, India has long argued the case for the unrestricted import of certain forms of cable scrap containing metals such as copper and aluminium coated with non-hazardous plastic insulation. And yet, in its response to the questionnaire, India demands that some of those same materials are subjected to a regime of prior written notification and consent - in other words, the same controls as apply to hazardous waste.

Other respondents provided similarly baffling answers to the questionnaire while some 120 countries did not reply at all. EU exports to those nations falling into the latter category will therefore, by default, be controlled under prior written notification and consent - a fact which is of deep concern to us all.

The new EU waste shipment regulations have also burned Annex VII into our collective consciousness. Devised to accompany all transfrontier shipments of non-hazardous materials designated as "waste", this document demands a plethora of information which, in many instances, is not only irrelevant to ensuring legal compliance but also injurious to the commercial confidentiality of the recycling businesses involved. We have undoubtedly not heard the last of Annex VII.

International



Alvaro
Rodriguez Martinez

Chairman
of the International
Environment
Council



Of course, while issues such as the AQSIQ scheme and Annex VII can devour huge amounts of our time, none of these issues stand alone: there is an unrelenting flow of legislative developments that demand the attention of the International Environment Council (IEC). With its network of highly-respected industry contacts spread throughout the world, the IEC is constantly monitoring everything from draft legislation to trading controls that may have an impact on the recycling industry. To the same end, we liaise with legislators at United Nations, OECD, EU and national level with the aim of ensuring that new laws designed to protect the environment do not, in practice, hamper or destroy established, non-hazardous recycling activities.

And having outlined key issues of concern confronting the IEC, it would be wrong not to mention some of the successes of 2007 - namely, the decision by India's Directorate General of Foreign Trade to drop its plans to introduce an AQSIQ-style registration scheme for overseas scrap suppliers. The decision, taken after discussions with BIR and other leading industry bodies, reflects the importance of maintaining strong lines of communication with decision-makers and policy-formers so as to ensure that new regulations do not impose excessive or unnecessary burdens on international trade in recyclables.

The IEC's two meetings in 2007 were also successful in building these lines of communication. In Athens in the spring, we were fortunate to secure Evangelos Baltas, the Secretary General of the Hellenic Ministry of the Environment, as our guest speaker. He acknowledged the importance of recycling as a means of preventing pollution and loss of resources. And in Warsaw, Magda Gosk of Poland's Environment Protection Inspectorate commented on a range of issues, including EU transition arrangements and the IMPEL initiative to improve enforcement of EU shipment regulations. She also signalled her willingness to consider ways of reducing the recycling industry's problems relating to the implementation of Annex VII. At the same meeting, valuable input on these issues was also provided by IMPEL expert Kees Wielenga of Belgium-based Ffact Management Consultants and Kinga Zgierska from the scrap chamber of commerce in Warsaw

By inviting people of influence to our meetings, we build a far deeper understanding of the recycling industry, its aims and its concerns. In 2008, the IEC will continue to play its pivotal role in ensuring that decision-makers take account of the views of the recycling industry when framing new laws and devising new initiatives that impact on our established, pro-environment activities.



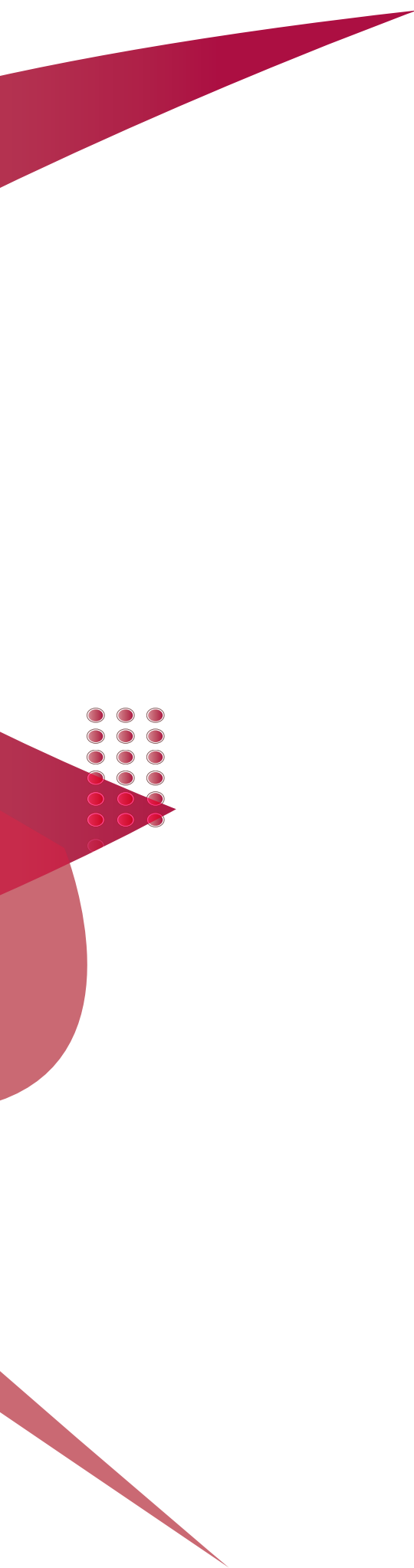
Robert Voss

Chairman
of the Convention
Committee

Convention Committee

My last year's report started: "Wow! What a great year 2006 turned out to be for BIR Conventions." This year's report opens as follows: "Wow! What an even greater year 2007 turned out to be for BIR Conventions."

Having been welcomed by the Mayor of the great, historic city of Athens, our Spring Convention in the Greek capital was an outstanding success despite the unusually wet weather we experienced. Over 1200 delegates met at the Hilton Hotel once again during boom times for our industry.



The hotel was extremely efficient, and the divisional and general meetings were well attended. Happily, the weather broke for a wonderful evening at the stunning Zappeion, where we were entertained in the classical Greek manner.

For the first time, a questionnaire was given to all attendees and the survey results were most encouraging and interesting. These have led to continued amendments and improvement to our convention programmes.

Our Autumn Convention found us in Warsaw, again at a very efficient hotel and again with a record number of attendees enjoying Polish hospitality as well as a good number of interesting divisional meetings and workshops, including a very well attended one on the implementation of Annex VII documentation. This showed the interest from our members in cross-divisional topics and will form part of our planning for future convention programmes.

2008 sees us celebrating our 60th anniversary in style in Monte-Carlo. At the time of writing, the application forms have just been sent out and we are again expecting record numbers to attend. The meetings will be a mix of demonstrating our commitment to recycling and to the environment, as well as a celebration of 60 wonderful years. We are honoured that His Serene Highness Prince Albert has agreed to officially open the convention. We have lined up a major international keynote speaker to address us, in addition to the numerous divisional meetings and other workshops.

Our 60th anniversary party will be something very special and not to be missed.

In Autumn 2008, it will be business as usual when we meet once again in Düsseldorf, and plans are well under way for our exciting convention in Dubai during Spring 2009. This will be the first time we have met in the Middle East, and Dubai is surely becoming one of the key commercial and holiday destinations of the world. Its location between Europe and the Far East should be ideally suited to our members, and I can promise you a few days of great excitement and interest in this new and stunning venue.

Autumn 2009 will almost certainly see us at the completely refurbished Okura Hotel in Amsterdam, and plans are already well under way to “hop across the pond” to meet once again in Canada or the USA; two specific cities are currently being considered by the Convention Committee.

Again, enormous praise must go to the entire BIR Secretariat for the incredible amount of hard work which goes into the planning, execution and follow-up of these conventions. With the numbers attending our conventions growing each year, the task is becoming more and more complex and stressful, but our charming Brussels staff always seems to handle the ever-increasing workload with great cheer and a smile.

Once again, I can assure you that the Convention Committee is here not only to find interesting locations for future conventions and to establish suitable programmes, but also to listen and to implement the members' wishes and desires, and to ensure that our conventions continue to prove such a great success and such an important part of our members' annual calendar.



Communications Committee



In today's world, expectations grow quickly. What was achieved yesterday has become routine today. Yesterday's inventions are obsolete tomorrow. Challenge after challenge, but ... is more always better?

In communications, it is crucial always to assess this question very critically, particularly when it comes to providing a service to a group of people that is constantly exposed to market data, facts, figures and trends. Will our members read all the e-mails we send out, will the market reports not end up in the bin, will the annual report be considered a true and interesting reflection of the work done on the members' behalf?

In 2007, much was achieved in terms of internal and external communication, with the aim of maintaining a high-quality service for members, of strengthening BIR's relations with the media and of informing the public of the importance of recycling.

The first challenge at the beginning of the year was - as it always is - to finalise the programme for our next Spring Convention that in 2007 was to be held in Athens. We tried to illustrate the brochure in such a way that people would be attracted to this destination. At the same time, we put together a special mini-website with all the provisional programme information. As time went by, the website grew, of course, with all sorts of additional information and updates on events and speakers.

In February/March, we concentrated on preparing the 2006 Annual Report. In addition to the activity reports of the different commodity divisions and committees, we decided to incorporate a DVD with the promotional video that was initially designed to promote the 2006 Beijing Convention and then adapted as a general presentation of BIR and its work. This video has been used extensively to showcase our international organisation, and the feedback on its artistic dimension has always been very positive.

Another matter that held our attention in March was the preparation for BIR's participation in the international steel fair 'Made in Steel' in Brescia, Italy, where we were offered a stand by the organisers to promote BIR's activities. We prepared posters and sent a substantial amount of documentation which was handed out by a hostess to passers-by.

In April, a BIR delegation participated in the ISRI Convention in New Orleans. For the ISRI leadership, the trade press as well as attending BIR members and their guests, we organised a lunchtime river cruise on the Mississippi in order to honour our excellent relationship with our biggest member federation. The event was a complete success because it allowed all guests to pursue their business dealings while having fun.

Immediately after coming back from ISRI, I gave a presentation to the first International Day on the Recycling of Construction Materials. Held against the backdrop of the world's biggest construction exhibition BAUMA (with 500,000 visitors and 190 countries represented) in Munich, the German BIR member federation Bundesgütegemeinschaft Baustoffe-Recycling was co-organiser of this event. Other panellists were: Prof. Dr. Klaus Töpfer, former German Minister of the Environment and former Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme; and Ms Andrée Buchmann, Member of the Alsace Government (Green Party). The purpose of this first international gathering on the recycling of construction materials was to draw attention to the vast quantities of construction waste and the willingness of the sector to join in with the recycling initiatives at European and international level.

In May, everything revolved around Athens. Twelve guest speakers had confirmed their participation, the Mayor of Athens had accepted an invitation to speak at the General Assembly, and 10 sponsors had given their financial support to BIR. This, together with a record attendance of over 1000 delegates from over 58 countries, made this event a big success and confirmed BIR as the organiser of the most international recycling events.

Post-convention work involved the publication of press releases on all plenary sessions, putting all convention presentations at the disposal of our members via the Members Only pages of our website, and the drafting and dissemination of the convention proceedings.

The second half of the year was obviously dominated by preparations for our Autumn Convention in Warsaw, which reached yet another benchmark with the biggest attendance for an autumn event in the history of BIR. The capital of Poland surprised most of our delegates with its cosmopolitan touch, and the convention hotel proved to be of an extremely high standard with impeccable service.

BIR also participated in Pollutec - the biggest European trade show covering recycling and waste management - at the invitation of our French member federation FED-EREC, giving us some exhibition space on its stand which was centrally located in the main hall.

Let me also highlight some aspects of communication activity that cannot be attributed to a specific moment in time but that were pursued throughout the year. A steady flow of World Mirrors was produced for non-ferrous metals, stainless steel & special alloys, paper and textiles. At this point, I would like to thank, on behalf of the BIR secretariat and all our members, all those who dedicate their time to drafting these reports that allow us to produce on time a service that is very highly valued. Regular updates on legislation, events, conventions, market trends, etc. were given via our main communication tool, the website. In particular, the Members Only pages contain an increasing wealth of information on international legislation that the BIR staff and leadership collect for the benefit of our members.

All in all, it was a busy year and we hope that we met - or even exceeded - our members' expectations. 2008 promises to be even more challenging with BIR's 60th anniversary being celebrated in Monte-Carlo on the wonderful French Riviera. We look forward to organising a most outstanding event that will be remembered forever.



Elisabeth Christ
BIR Communications
Director on behalf of
Andy Wahl, Chairman
of the Communications
Committee

Membership Committee

In 2007, the BIR yet again exceeded its own expectations by further consolidating its recognized role as the global voice of international recycling in adding a further 108 new members to our ranks to a total of 700, and drawing its membership from 70 countries around the globe (an expansion from an already remarkable 65 countries in the previous year).

Membership of BIR enables access to many opportunities, including the pre-eminent potential for networking with leading global players in the international recycling industries at our bi-annual conventions, the provision of an invaluable platform and imprimatur for our members to pursue their international activities and connections, technical research and industry data, and the consistent support and esteem of our organization, which is dedicated to defining, informing, upholding, and protecting the aspirations and needs of our recycling membership worldwide, through its dialogue and interaction with government, supra governmental bodies and NGO's.

Our members appreciate that along with such benefits and privileges come responsibilities, including the maintaining of the highest ethical standards both commercially and environmentally; and while the BIR can never act as a specific and unqualified guarantor of its members' performance or activities, the Membership Committee and Brussels secretariat exercises both prudence and diligence in reviewing new membership applications to support on-going universal membership compliance and adherence to those essential values - these shared high standards are the essence and raison d'être of BIR membership.



Michael Lion

Chairman of the
Membership
Committee



In addition to new membership recruitment, the Membership Committee is constantly engaged in the development of both new, and the enhancement of existing programmes, providing combined elements of leadership and responsiveness to the evolving needs and requirements of our membership. A number also interact with other leading BIR subcommittees, including respectively our electronic services and resources guide: the Membership Toolkit, and the choices of convention venues to both reflect our global and increasingly multi-continental constituents, recruitment potential and contemporary trade flows.

A significant current focus of the Membership Committee's programmes is the development of a multinational membership tier to enable more convenient and accessible services access that has become increasingly relevant with the numerous cross border mergers in our industry to ensure their on-going engagement in the organization as well as an expanded partnership membership tier to encourage interactive contact and communication with those providing ancillary activities and services to our members, who themselves may particularly benefit from profile raising BIR sponsorship programmes, while enhancing the organization's revenue streams in the mutually beneficial process.

In conclusion, it is paramount to give recognition, acknowledgement and appreciation for the work and achievements of the full Membership Committee during the last year, both in noting our indebtedness to the voluntary time and devotion of its officers, but primarily and overwhelmingly to underscore that these are chiefly the result of the enormous and enduring contribution of BIR's Brussels secretariat.

Raïssa Wolteche, our Membership Administrator continues to provide us with enormously diligent, competent and professional support and deserves both vast credit and thanks for spearheading the membership service's daily activities. By the same token, we would also note our great appreciation for the dedication and persistent devotion of the entire secretariat team, and especially our Director General, as well as the contribution of Elisabeth Christ, our Communications Director, who have enabled the work and progress of our Membership programmes to continue its commitment and mission of on-going service and benefits enhancing initiatives.



Guest speakers at BIR Events

in 2007

Athens, 21-23 May 2007

FERROUS DIVISION

- **Peter Albrecht**
German & Eurofirms Industry Leader
for Industrial Products, PricewaterhouseCoopers (Germany)
- **Heinz Hetmeier**
Director Trade Policy Division,
Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology of Germany

MEDIA & METAL SEPARATION COMMITTEE

- **Jacob Rognhaug**
TiTech (Germany)

WORKSHOP 'SOFTWARE FOR THE COMMODITIES INDUSTRIES'

- **Hans Ansems**
Chief Executive Officer,
SOCO Software Solutions Ltd (Switzerland)

PLASTICS COMMITTEE

- **Corrado Dentis**
Dentis SRL (Italy)

NON-FERROUS METALS DIVISION

- **Elias Sebos**
Metal Purchasing Manager, ELVAL S.A. (Greece)

WORKSHOP 'PORTS AND HARBOURS: IMPORTANCE FOR THE RECYCLING INDUSTRY'

- **Victor Schoenmakers**
Port of Rotterdam (The Netherlands)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- **Nikitas Kaklamanis**
Mayor of Athens

INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL

- **Evangelos Baltas**
Secretary General for the Environment,
Hellenic Ministry of the Environment,
Physical Planning and Public Works (Greece)

TEXTILES DIVISION

- **Hildegard Hülsenbeck**
Company Lobbe Tzilalis (Greece)

PAPER DIVISION

- **Nico Schröder**
ABX Logistics Air & Sea Worldwide (Belgium)

Warsaw, 22-23 October 2007

PAPER DIVISION

- **Marek Skorwider**
Raw Materials Purchasing Director,
Mondi Packaging Paper Swiecie S.A. (Poland)
- **Om Bhatia**
Global Head
Forest Products, Barclays Capital Inc. (USA)

PLASTICS COMMITTEE

- **Maciej Krzyczkowski**
Manager of Recycling Department,
Eko Cykl Recovery Organization Inc. (Poland)

NON FERROUS METALS DIVISION

Panel discussion with guest participation of:

- **Hilary Stone**
legal consultant (United Kingdom)
- **Joachim Wuttke**
Head of Section, Federal Environment Agency
(Umweltbundesamt) (Germany)

FERROUS DIVISION

- **Prof. Dr Dieter Ameling**
President, Wirtschaftsvereinigung Stahl (Germany)
- **Krzysztof Krogulec**
TOM Sp.z o.o. (Poland)

SHREDDER COMMITTEE

- **Rick Comtois**
Innov-X Systems B.V. (The Netherlands)

INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL

- **Kees Wielenga**
Consultant, Ffact (Belgium)

TYRES COMMITTEE

- **Wanda Parasiewicz**
Director, Ekoguma (Poland)

TEXTILES DIVISION

- **Ewa Metelska-Swiat**
KRAJOWA IZBA GOSPODARCZA (Poland)

An abstract graphic composed of several overlapping, curved, organic shapes in various shades of orange and yellow. The shapes are layered, creating a sense of depth and movement. One large, dark orange shape is in the foreground, while others in lighter shades of orange and yellow are behind it, some extending towards the top right corner of the page.

List of BIR Member Federations

AUSTRIA

- Austria Recycling

BELGIUM

- COBEREC

BULGARIA

- Bulgarian Association of Recycling (BAR)

CANADA

- Canadian Association of Recycling Industries (CARI)

CHINA

- China Nonferrous Metals Industry Association – Recycling Metal Branch (CMRA)
- The China National Resources Recycling Association (CRRA)

CUBA

- Union de Empresas de Recuperación de Materias Primas (UERMP)

CZECH REPUBLIC

- Svaz Průmyslu Druhotných Surovin (SPDS-APOREKO)

FRANCE

- FEDEREC

FYRO MACEDONIA

- Zaednica Makedonska Sekundarna Surovina (ZMSS)

GERMANY

- BDSV - Bundesvereinigung deutscher Stahlrecycling - und Entsorgungsunternehmen e.V.
- Bundesgütegemeinschaft Recycling-Baustoffe e.V.
- BVSE - Bundesverband Sekundärrohstoffe und Entsorgung e.V.
- Deutscher Abbruchverband e.V.
- Fachverband Textil-Recycling e.V.
- VDM - Verband Deutscher Metallhändler e.V.

HUNGARY

- National Association of Recyclers (HOE)

IRELAND

- Metal Recycling Association of Ireland

ITALY

- A.I.R.A. Associazione Industriale Riciclatori Auto
- ASSOFERMET
- FISE-UNIRE (Associazione Nazionale Imprese Recupero)

JAPAN

- Paper Recycling Promotion Centre

THE NETHERLANDS

- Dutch Waste Management Association
- Federatie Nederlandse Oudpapier Industrie (FNOI)
- Metaal Recycling Federatie (MRF)
- VACO
- Vereniging Herwinning Textiel (VHT)

POLAND

- Scrap Economy Chamber of Industry and Commerce
- Polskie Stowarzyszenie Recyklingu Metali

PORTUGAL

- ANAREPRE - Associacao nacional dos recuperadores de produtos reciclaveis

ROMANIA

- Organizatia Patronale Si Profesionala (REMAT)

SOUTH AFRICA

- Recycling Association of South Africa (RSA)

SPAIN

- Federación Española de la Recuperación
- Gremi de Recuperacio de Catalunya
- REPACAR

SWEDEN

- Nordic Recycling Federation (NRF) c/o M.V. Metallvärden AB

UNITED KINGDOM

- British Metals Recycling Association (BMRA)
- Confederation of Paper Industries – Recovered Paper Sector (CPI)
- Independent Waste Paper Processors Association (IWPPA)
- Textile Recycling Association & Recyclatex (TRA)

UNITED STATES

- Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc. (ISRI)



Calendar of Future BIR Conventions

2008

(1) 2-4 JUNE

Monte Carlo, Monaco
Fairmont Monte Carlo Hotel

(29) 30-31 OCTOBER

Düsseldorf, Germany
Hilton Hotel

2009

(24) 25-27 MAY

Dubai, United Arab Emirates
Grand Hyatt Hotel

(25) 26-27 OCTOBER

Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Okura Hotel

Countries, in which BIR is represented

Associations and/or individual member firms:

Algeria
– Argentina –
Australia –
Austria – Bahrain –
Belgium – Brazil –
Bulgaria – Canada –
China – Cuba – Cyprus –
Czech Republic –
Denmark – Egypt – Estonia
– Finland – France – French
Reunion Island – FYRO
Macedonia – Germany –
Greece – Haiti – Honduras –
Hungary – Iceland – India –
Iran – Ireland – Israel –
Italy – Japan – Jordan –
Kazakhstan – Kuwait – Latvia –
Lebanon – Luxembourg –
Malaysia – Mexico – Monaco –
Morocco – Netherlands –
New Zealand – Norway –
Pakistan – Poland – Portugal –
Romania – Russia – Saudi Arabia
– Serbia – Singapore – Slovenia –
South Africa – South Korea –
Spain – Sweden – Switzerland –
Taiwan – Thailand –
Tunisia – Turkey –
United Arab Emirates –
United Kingdom –
Uruguay – USA –
Venezuela –
Vietnam
– Yemen



Bureau of International Recycling (aisbl)
Avenue Franklin Roosevelt 24, 1050 Brussels, Belgium

Tel. +32 2 627 57 70 - Fax +32 2 627 57 73
e-mail: bir@bir.org - <http://www.bir.org>