



New Zealand – e-waste

The Joint Aus/NZ Standard for
E-waste Recycling

Helen Bolton



Ministry for the
Environment
Manatū Mō Te Taiao

Environmental stewardship
for a prosperous New Zealand
Tiakina te taiao kia tōnui a Aotearoa

Outline of Presentation

- New Zealand and e-waste
- Australia Product Stewardship
- Standards
 - The process
 - Scope and content
 - Benefits
 - Progress & next steps



New Zealand

- Population - 4.4 million
- 31 million sheep, 6 million dairy cows
- Size - 270,500 km²
- 99% of households own a TV
- 77% of households own a computer
- 10 million computers and TVs in New Zealand homes and businesses



New Zealand's e-waste

- Estimated WEEE disposed to landfill = 70,800–84,000 tonnes per year
- TVs and computers = 26,000 tonnes per year



E-waste Processing: New Zealand

- Collection
- Sorting
- Refurbishment/Reuse
- Some metal recovery & recycling (ferrous, non-ferrous)
- Disassembly
- Consolidation



E-waste Processing: Overseas

What?	Where?
Plastics	China
Printed circuit boards	Japan, Singapore, Belgium
Whole units	Singapore
CRTs	Australia, Netherlands
E-waste (all types)	Korea, Singapore
Batteries	Korea



Waste Minimisation Framework

- New Zealand Waste Strategy
- Waste Minimisation Act 2008
- Accreditation of voluntary product stewardship
- Ability to regulate – various tools
- Waste levy and Waste Minimisation Fund
- www.mfe.govt.nz

Australia Product Stewardship

- National co-regulatory product stewardship scheme
- National Television and Computer Recycling Scheme
- Product Stewardship Act 2011
- www.environment.gov.au/ewaste

Australian Scheme Highlights

- All types of televisions, computers & computer products
- Any brand, any age
- Scheme phased in from late 2011
- Roll out across Australia by end of 2013





Collection, storage, transport and treatment of used electrical and electronic equipment (AS/NZS 5377)

DRAFT STANDARD AS/NZS 5377

How did it start?

- Australian Government led
- Support the new Australian product stewardship scheme
- Opportunity for NZ to work with Australia
- Shared markets



Who is involved?

New Zealand – 5 representatives	Australia – 19 representatives
Central Government	Industry associations
Community Recyclers Network (NGO)	Commonwealth, state and local government
Scrap Metal Association	Manufacturers
Local Government	Accreditation body
eDay Trust (Academia)	Workplace health & safety
	NGOs
	Recyclers/waste industry

What does it include?

- Scope: all end-of-life electrical and electronic equipment
- All parts of the system: collection, storage, transport, reuse, recycling, processing, treatment and final disposal

Contents

1. Definitions
2. General requirements
3. Organisational requirements
4. Collection/Storage
5. Reuse of assemblies, components and parts
6. Material recovery – treatment requirements



Contents continued.....

Appendix	Content
Appendix A	list of items covered by Standard
Appendix B	minimum acceptable processing of hazardous components
Appendix C	electrical safety information
Appendix D	methodology for determining recycling/recovery rates

What are the Benefits?

Benefits

Managed by independent company

Open process, consensus

All interested parties, collaborative

Complementary to legislation

Developed by experts

Support policy development and Implementation

Supports product stewardship

Continuous review

What Progress Has Been Made?

- Began early 2011
- The draft Standard was released for public comment 13 March 2012
- Currently reviewing amended version
- 2 years in total



What next?

- Ballot. Final approval from the committee
- Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand approval
- Publish
- Mandatory? Voluntary?



Voluntary or Mandatory?

Voluntary	Mandatory
+ Adoption is a business decision	- Users must pay to access, therefore harder for Govt to support compliance
+ Industry ownership	+/- Onus for monitoring and compliance sits with Govt
+/- Onus for monitoring and compliance sits with industry	+ All sectors have to follow the same requirements
- Ad-hoc adoption could exacerbate unlevel playing field	+ Increased supplier assurance
+ More flexible	- Minimum requirement only



Televisions being dismantled

At an onshore e-waste recycler (part of the retailer TV Takeback pilot)



Further information

Contact: helen.bolton@mfe.govt.nz

www.mfe.govt.nz

Standards: www.standards.org.au





Ministry for the

Environment

Manatū Mō Te Taiao

Environmental stewardship
for a prosperous **New Zealand**
Tiakina te taiao kia tōnui a Aotearoa