

Japan's Recent Policy and Implementation of the Basel Convention

November 29th , 2017

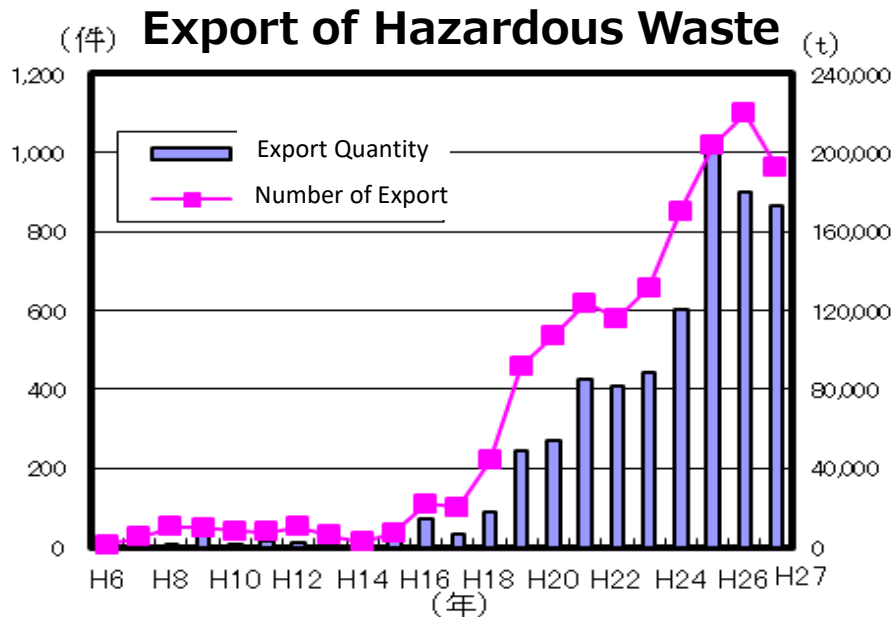
Ph.D Shunsuke Kudo

Deputy Director

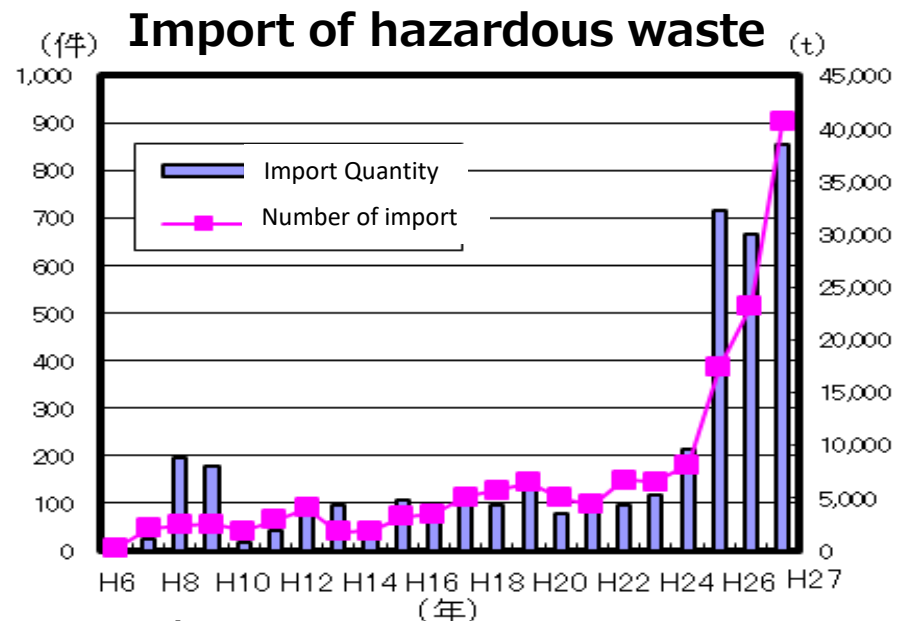
Industrial and Hazardous Waste Management Division,
Environment Regeneration and Resource Circulation Bureau,
Ministry of the Environment Japan

Background

- Domestic Basel act in Japan was established 25 years ago(1992).
- Both the quantity of import and export of hazardous waste has drastically increased during 25 years because more recyclable materials has been traded internationally than ever before.
- Many problems have come up to the surface with the increase of transboundary movement of hazardous waste in Japan as below.
 - ◆ Increase of illegal export of mix metal scrap containing E-waste
 - ◆ Increase of Take-back of illegal shipment
 - ◆ Increase of time for import procedure with increase of the number of import



(Main Items : Used Lead-acid battery, Fly Ash)



(Main Items : Electric scraps, Sludge)

Amendment of the Basel Act 2017

- Japan has amended the domestic Basel act Jun. 2017. Now we are making the details of the new Basel act. New regulation will be enforced from Oct. 1st 2018.
- The main purposes of this amendment are
 1. To prevent illegal exports especially mix metal scrap containing E-waste.
 2. To promote the imports of hazardous waste from other countries.



Mix metal scrap problems in Japan

Fire
Disaster



Ground
pollution



Illegal export



Mixed Scrap Metal Containing e-craps

- Mixed scrap metal has been exported to China for about 20 years. Recently exported to South East Asia.
- Such scrap normally contains e-scrap (parts of UEEEs), which may be subject to control under the Basel Convention.
- However, border control for such scraps has not work practically because evaluation methods for hazardousness of such mixture of scraps have not been established.



Example of Scrap metal containing waste material

Fires caused by Mixed Scraps on Ship

- Scrap metal frequently causes fires. In some cases, these fires have harmful effects on living environments, including bad odors and traffic related problems.



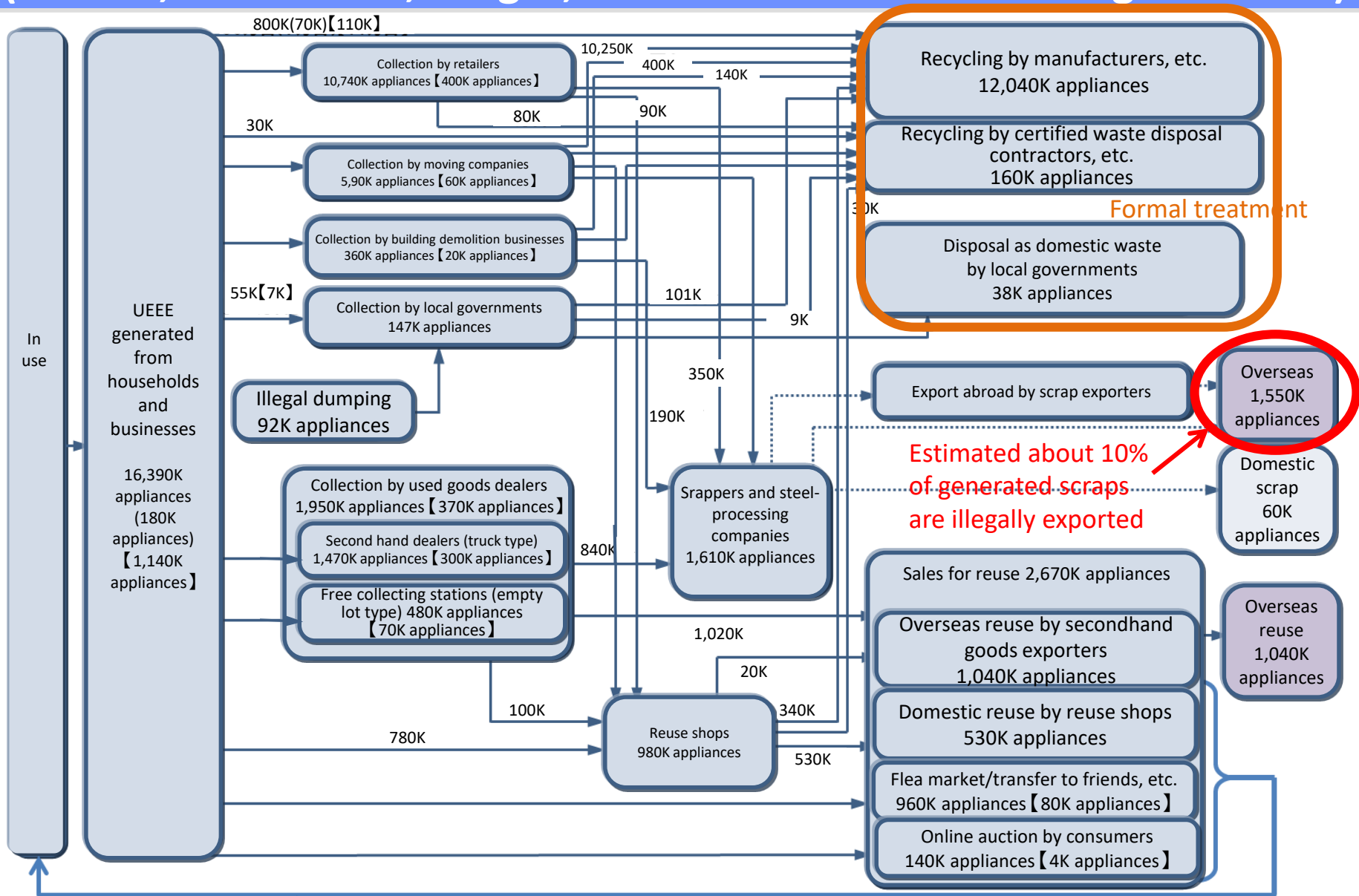
Scrap metal unloaded
after a fire



Scrap metal ship leaning due
to a fire

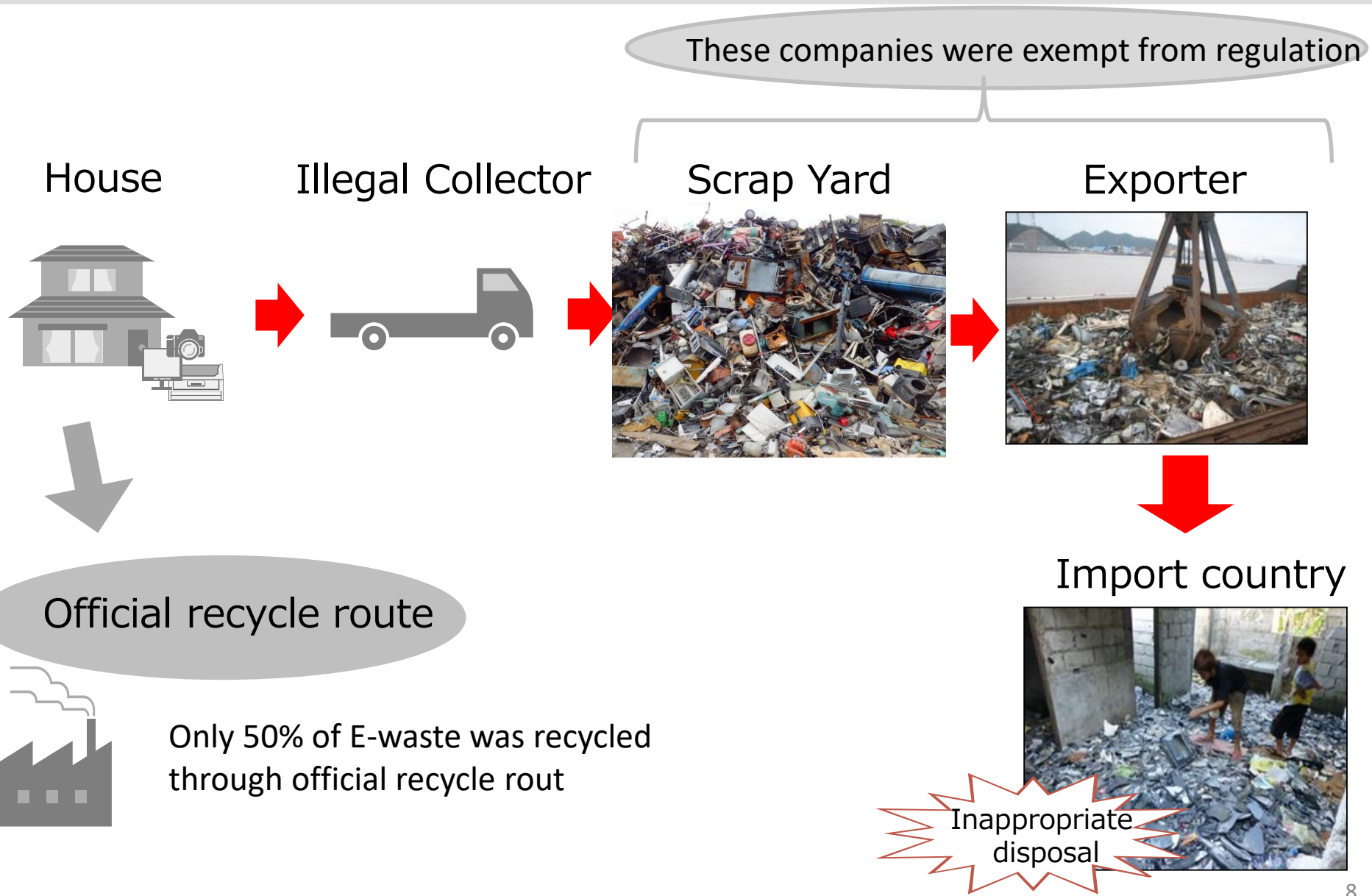
Estimated Flow of Used Home Appliances

(FY2013, total of TVs, fridges, air conditioner and washing machines)



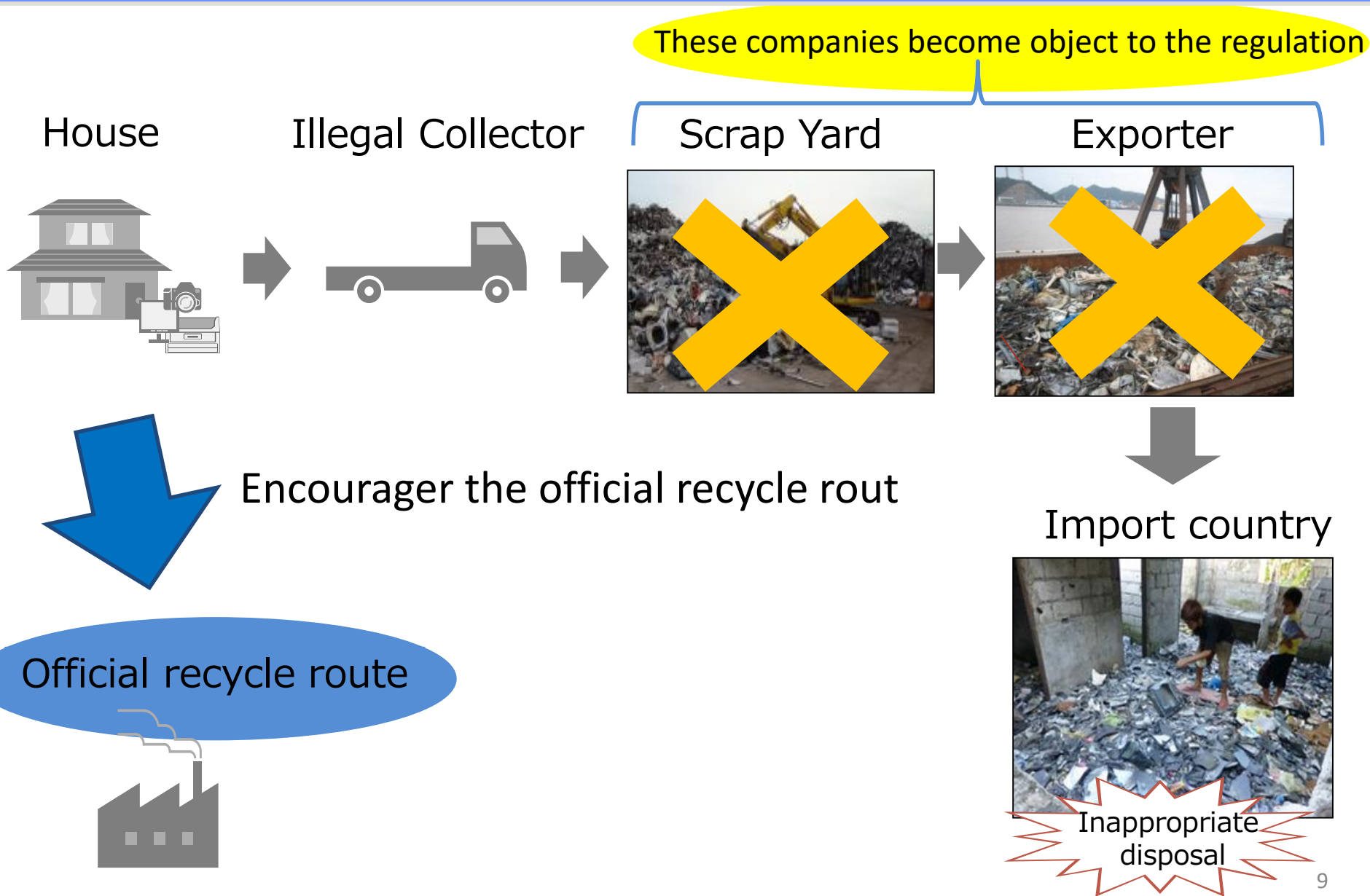
* Figures in () are provided by leasing/rental companies and included in the figures with no parentheses preceding them. Figures in [] refer to hoarded goods and are included in the figures with no parentheses preceding them. There are some discrepancies in the total numbers due to round-off.

The route of Mix metal scrap in Japan Before amendment of the Domestic Basel Act 2017



The route of Mix metal scrap in Japan

After amendment of the Domestic Basel Act 2017



The List of regulated E-waste

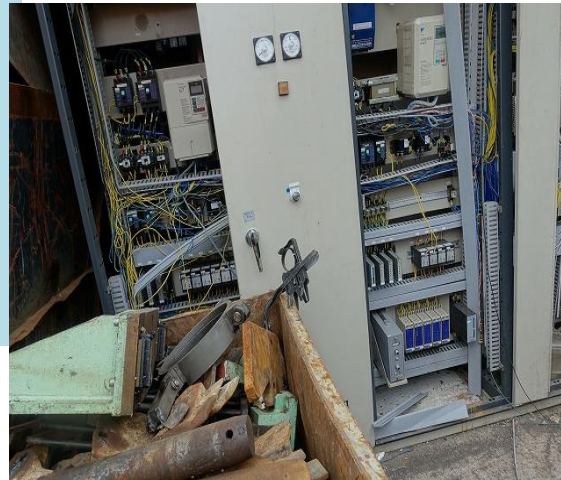
1. Air conditioners
 2. Television sets
 3. Refrigerators
 4. Washing machines
 5. Hot water dispenser
 6. Distribution board
 7. Uninterruptible Power system
 8. Cleaner
 9. Dryer
 10. Microphone
 11. Personal computer
- And others (total 35 items)



Hot water dispenser



Air Conditioner



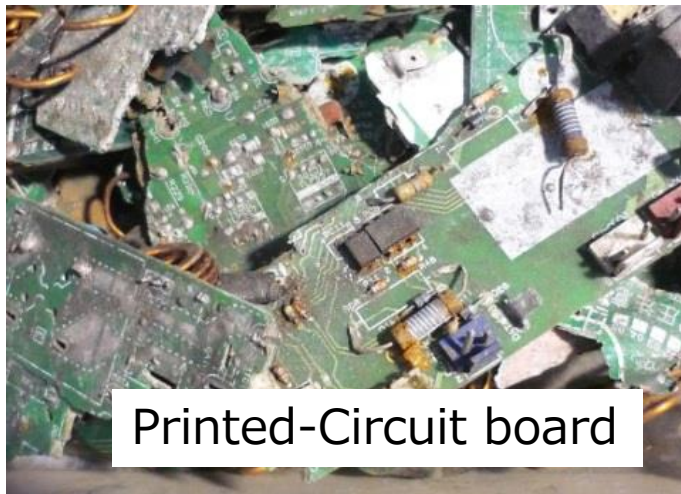
Distribution board



Cleaner

Encouragement of import of hazardous waste to Japanese smelters

- Japan struggled against environment pollution problems, including Minamata disease, for many years. There are many good recycling facilities which can dispose of hazardous waste under environmentally sound manner.
- Especially, smelters who can dispose of E-waste and other waste containing mercury, lead arsenic import hazardous waste from developing counties under Basel convention.
- Japanese government will simplify the import procedure under Basel law as below. After amendment, Japanese smelters can import hazardous waste easily and speedy.
 - ◆ Exemption Printed-Circuit board from the import procedure.
 - ◆ Introduction of Pre-consented mechanism



Printed-Circuit board

Japanese smelters

- Japan will contribute to solve the global environment problem through the disposal of hazardous waste which are generated from other countries.

E-waste recycler



Naoshima Copper Smelter
Mitsubishi Materials Corporation



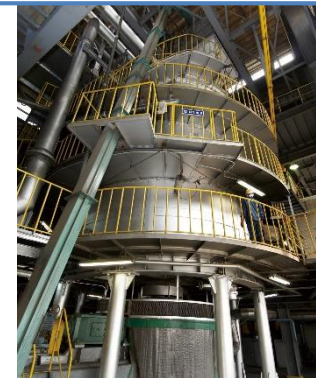
Kosaka Copper Smelter
Dowa group.

Used Lead acid-batteries recycler



Hosokura metal mining company

Mercury recycler



Itomuka Mercury plant
Nomura Kosan Corp.