

Policy Direction on E-Waste Recycling in Korea

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Generation of E-Waste

The generation of E-waste in Korea has been rapidly increased, due to economic growth & shortening life span of the products



History of Recycling Policy of E-Waste

Introduction of Waste Deposit-Refund System(1992)

• A deposit is levied on products sold for their collection and recycling, and refunded based on the amount of products recycled (TV, washing machines)

Guideline for Improvement of Material/Structure of Products for Stimulating Recycling (1993)

• Guideline on restriction of use of hazardous substances and recyclability rate

Extended Producer Responsibility System (2003)

 Producers should recycle E-waste for themselves and report the results to the government.

Items under EPR system

• It began with 5 items and extend to 10 items now

Year	Items
2003	• Refrigerators, Washing Machines, TV, Air Conditioners, PC(including Monitor)
2005	• Audio, Mobile Phone
2006	• Printers, Copy Machines, Facsimile

E-Waste EPRS

Player's Role

• Respective role is assigned to each player

Player	Roles
Producers	 Produce and design of recycling-friendly products Establish and manage recycling facilities Charge expenses to recycle E-Wastes
Consumers	• Separate discharge of the recyclable goods
Sellers	 Collect wasted products at no cost (in case of purchasing new product)
Local Authorities	Collect wasted products
Recyclers	 Recycle wasted products and report the results

E-Waste EPRS

Outcome of EPR system

• Remarkably increase in collecting and recycling rate (50% increase for 3 years)



E-Waste EPRS

E-Waste Recycling Center

• 5 recycling centers are operating across the country



 Background : Supplementation & Extension of Existing Regulations



Design & Production in consideration of recycing

- Elimination of hazardous substances
- Design of product to easyto-dismantle
- Use of easy-to-recycle substance

Environmentally friendly collection, treatment & recycling

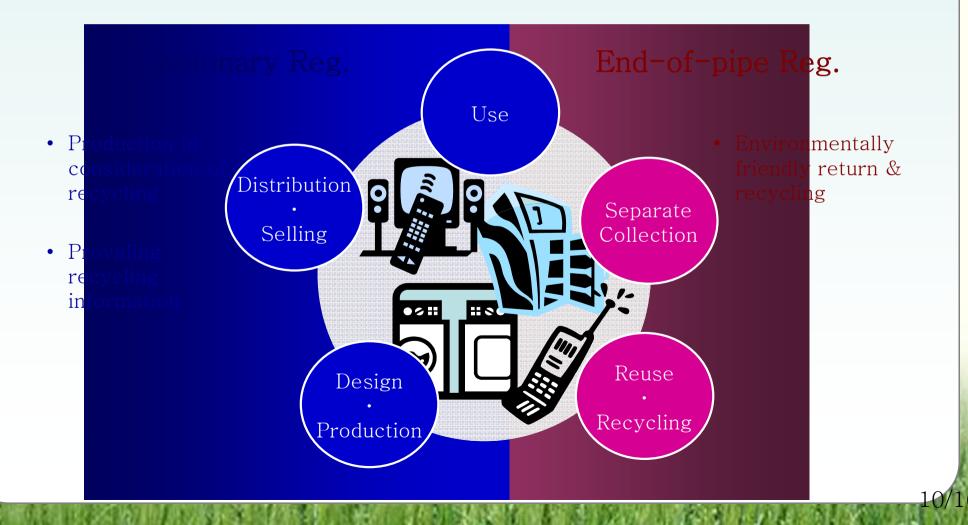


Systematic collection, sorting, transport of wasted product

- Environmentally friendly pre-treatment
- Return of environment-economic value through recycling
- Environmentally friendly treatment of waste

Structure of the proposed act

• The act consists of precautionary and end-of-pipe regulation along with life cycle of the product



Current Situation

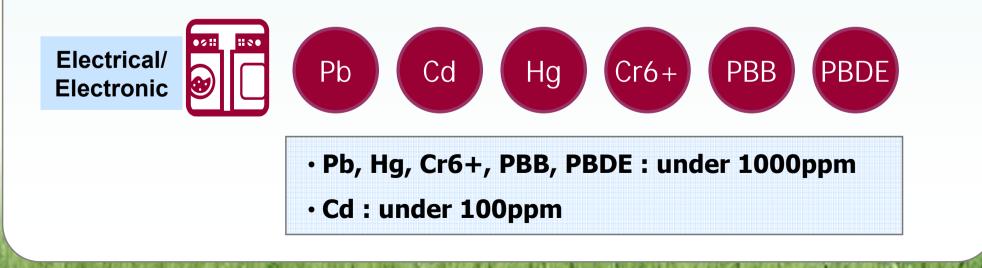
- It is in the process of legislation and will be enforced on Jan.
 2008
- Open forums and symposiums have been held for cooperation among stakeholders (producers, recyclers, NGOs)





Restriction on use of hazardous substances

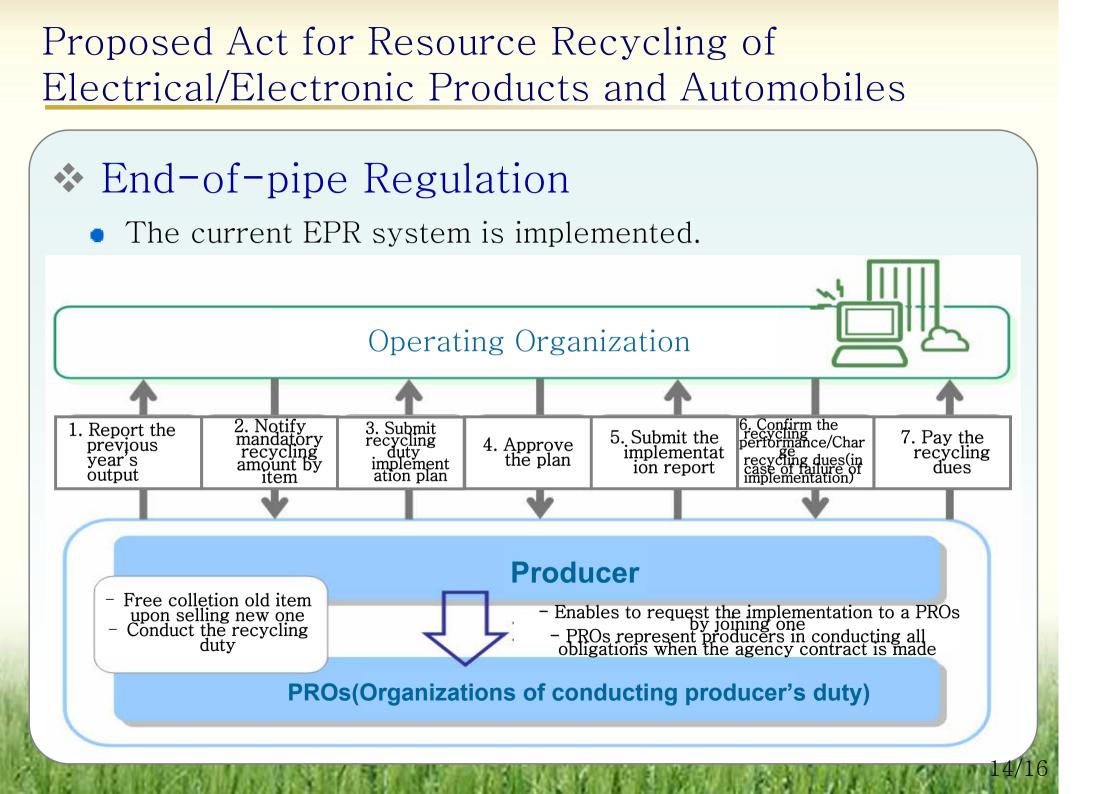
- The use of prescribed hazardous substance in electrical/electronic products is restricted
- Concentration and exemption are the same as to EU RoHS Directive



- Precautionary Regulation
 - Design of easy-to-recycle product
 - At design stage, producers self-test and improve the recyclability
 - The guideline about material/structure improvement should be obliged.
 - * plastic material labeling, structure to easy-to-separate and dismantle

Provision of recycling information

• Producers provide recycler with recycling information to enhance recycling (internet, CD-ROM etc.)



Future Agenda

Harmonization with international test/analysis methods such as EU, etc.

 Self-declaration concerning to restriction on the use of hazardous substances and standardization of test methods

Enhancement of cooperation among stakeholders

- Strengthening cooperation among government, civil society and companies for collecting E-waste
- Promoting purchase of green products

Development of recycling technology

 Technology for environmentally friendly recycling of E-Waste

Thank You

