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Toxic Waste Televisions: Problem Solved

UK recycling and research company Nulife Glass has resolved the toxic problem of poisonous lead in the glass from waste televisions.

The UK, Europe and USA are set to be awash with discarded TV screens during the coming years because new EU legislation means we must recycle and not landfill. Until now there has been no long term solution to recycling TVs as there was no way to safely recover the lead content in the glass that makes the Cathode Ray Tube (CRT) through which the picture is created in the older style units.

Nulife Glass can successfully recover the toxic lead, approximately 1Kg per screen, from within the glass molecular structure and produce a usable glass feedstock making the recycling process 100% efficient. Until now the only option for the toxic waste glass has been to landfill it in the UK or ship small quantities overseas to be made into new CRT televisions. CRT televisions and computer screens will cease to be made as manufacturing plants around the world shut down in favour of the flat plasma and TFT screens and so this solution arrives just in time.

To add to the waste arising due to breakdown and fashion trends, more TVs are going to become obsolete once the analogue signal switches off and only digital TVs will work. In the USA the date to switch to digital has been set for 17 Feb 2009, where it is estimated as many as 68 million TV sets could become waste overnight.

The equipment being made available to waste processors now from Nulife Glass consists of a unique furnace technology, which is described as “glass making in reverse” by the inventor of the technology, Simon Greer. The discovery to how the lead could be extracted from the glass on an industrial scale came after years of trials, stubbornness and a constant belief by the people involved that the goal could be achieved. Now the company is ready to show the equipment in full flow with both molten lead and glass pouring from the furnace’s separate discharge points. They will also be taking orders from companies that have booked early appointments, many of which are keen to take advantage of being first to market with this innovative technology in their own countries.

The new EU legislation, The WEEE (Waste Electronic and Electrical Equipment) Regulations means that across Europe the manufacturers have to pay for the recycling of old domestic electronics, which removes any financial barrier to consumers being environmentally friendly for the end user.

Notes:

Further details of the product, company and process can be accessed at www.nulifeglass.com

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