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Samsung to stop making CRT TVs sooner rather than later?

Samsung, one of the few household names who still manufacture TVs containing a CRT, may be stepping out of this market much sooner than had been forecast by recycling companies operating in the “glass to glass” market place. In a Q&A session following their 2009 Q4 earnings call, James Flaw – CFO of Corning Incorporated stated the following in response to a question about the future of the CRT market.

“The CRT industry is collapsing. I think China is the first stage of that and you’re going to see it collapse elsewhere and Jim Clappin will talk a little bit about that particularly relative to the Indian market next week”.

He added

“Just as an example we talked about before through our Samsung Corning, we’re still making a small amount of CRT glass and as soon as the tanks hit the end of their life, in some cases sooner, we shut them down because it’s not economic”.

“I believe we’ve got up to 68% of all televisions sold in the current year in China were LCD so we think CRT’s gone away and it will go away in other emerging developing economies soon”

When such a major consumer of waste CRT glass starts talking about accelerating the rate that they are shutting down their CRT furnaces, companies who make their living from recycling electronic waste will need to move quickly to lock in to an alternative recycling route or risk ending up with large stocks of CRT glass that has no place to go.

Corning Incorporated Q4 2009 Earnings Call Transcript:

For the full article see: <http://seekingalpha.com/article/184502-corning-incorporated-q4-2009-earnings-call-transcript?>