



# Update

## September 2007

Welcome to the fourth newsletter from the **Centre for Remanufacturing & Reuse**, established with Defra support by Oakdene Hollins Ltd to promote remanufacturing and other reuse options. For those who have only recently registered to join our mailing list, the previous newsletters from the **Centre for Remanufacturing & Reuse** are still available to read on our website.

Through this newsletter we hope to reach all those who are interested in keeping abreast of current developments in remanufacturing by providing them with up-to-the-minute news and information on remanufacturing worldwide.

Read our **CENTRE NEWS** for the latest progress in the promotion of remanufacturing and other reuse options. Keep up to date by reading our **INDUSTRY NEWS**.

**GET INVOLVED** with remanufacturing by reading about the opportunities to participate in projects currently being carried out at the Centre.

Further information on the items below and many other current reports and news items can also be found on our [website](#).

### **New Website**

Our new [website](#) is now up and running, same url, of course.

At first sight, you won't think it's changed, because the look is the same. However, it's now organised around Resources, under which you can go in with a particular viewpoint depending on whether you're a remanufacturer, purchaser, OEM or researcher. We've tried to anticipate the major interests of each and a lot of them do overlap, but if you can't find what you're looking for, try going in under one of the other user categories.

Please let us know what you think.

### **Feasibility Studies**

You will remember that we have been holding a competition for funding Feasibility Studies in Remanufacturing and Reuse. It was much more strongly subscribed than we expected and consequently we decided to support five projects rather the proposed three. Contracts haven't been finalised so we can't disclose names yet, but, briefly, the topics are:

- Business Plan development for a construction reuse resale centre
- Repurposing EoL high-end electronics into new applications
- Redesign of a PDA for take-back/upgrade and 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> use cycles
- Design of removable clothing motifs to enable secure garment reuse
- Development of a remanufacturing design tool for heavy industry.

These projects encompass a variety of materials, approaches and organisations: charity, academic and commercial. We will put more detail on the web when contracts are sorted.

### **Great response to our "Remediation for Remanufacturing" event in October**

Thanks to all of you who have applied to attend this exciting event on 10th October. We've had a good response, with a mix of applicants from industrial, academic and public sector organisations. There are still places left on the event, to be hosted at Leeds University. For more information on this FREE seminar, and for a copy of the booking form, please follow [this link](#)... (please note, you must log into the remanufacturing website to see the flyer and application form).

For those of you who would like to attend but are unable to be there in person, the event will also be broadcast live, with the help of our partners at the Resource Efficiency KTN via Interwise. Interwise is a piece of software available free for members of the RE-KTN. Online delegates will be able to view and hear presentations, and also ask questions. For more information, please see the RE-KTN website or [contact us](#) with your query.

### **Publication of case studies**

An '**Introduction to Remanufacturing**' will be available to download from the beginning of October from the remanufacturing website. This document, sponsored by Envirowise, includes case studies illustrating remanufacturing from two different perspectives; the manufacturer (Caterpillar) and the purchaser of remanufactured parts (Sony Corporate Entertainment Europe).

### **Metrics**

Establishing relevant and reliable measures of performance and benefit of remanufacture must be done before discussions of future interventions can take place. Our work on establishing these metrics is well underway, with both macro (sector level) and micro (product/company level) targets identified.

### Life Cycle Analyses

Our work requires a sound foundation of understanding of the resource impacts of reuse. We have sanctioned two carbon impact projects so far: tyres and toner cartridges, using real world data from industry sources. We are on the lookout for other products that could usefully be examined so [contact us](#) if you would like to be involved and could contribute data.

### Stakeholders Unite!

Before we launch into detailed activities we need to be sure of both our understanding of the issues relevant to a product or sector and that there is commitment from the sector to taking action. Our practice is to convene stakeholder interest groups to air the issues. Work in refrigeration is already in progress, and two more events are planned:

- An automotive aftermarket remanufacturing event will take place on 13<sup>th</sup> November at SMMT in London. Please contact Russ Murty at [rmurty@smt.co.uk](mailto:rmurty@smt.co.uk) if interested.
- Following very profitable discussions with Lexmark, a printer/photocopier OEM event will take place in November or December. Please [contact us](#) for details.

### Remanufacturer/OEM snapshots

Thanks to everyone who has registered on the website as a remanufacturer. Our new registration procedure asks for details of your sector and interests, but we don't have as much data about older registrants. To rectify this and expand the information, we invite remanufacturers and reuse agents to [send us](#) a 100 word description of their operation that we can attach to your profile on the interactive map.

### Brochures & Publicity

Want to be included in a promotional remanufacturing brochure for purchasers in the retail sector? We are producing a brochure detailing activities, locations and contact details of top quality remanufacturers working in sectors relevant to the retail industry. Product areas could include vending machines, office furniture, carpet tiles, automotive, tyres, printer cartridges, air conditioning, refrigerated display cabinets (RDCs), photocopiers, compressors, ATMs and pumps & fans. The brochure will present a complete package for purchasers and stimulate demand for remanufactured products in the retail industry. The benefits of being included in the brochure include free publicity for your company and a potential increase in sales - we produced a similar brochure for the automotive sector last year and one company benefited through acquiring £1 million of new business. This could be you! If you would like to register your interest or recommend a company to be included please [contact us](#).

### Promotion of battery reuse

Work is now underway on the promotion of battery reuse project in which we are working alongside key industry stakeholders. This will comprise two stages; we will firstly build the case for promoting rechargeable batteries, including the environmental and business benefits, and then use this information to develop and implement a promotional consumer-facing campaign which will run in conjunction with battery collection and recycling activities. For more information please [contact us](#).

### **Tax hard-to-recycle products says think tank**

The excesses of our throw-away consumer society should be addressed by a tax on disposable, one-use goods and products which are difficult to recycle, according to a report published recently by the Institute for Public Policy Research.

The IPPR waded into the waste debate earlier in the year with their call for pay-as-you-throw charges which would see wasteful households pick up the tab for the collection of their extra rubbish, while those who put out less to the bin men would benefit financially.

Now the Institute has teamed up with Green Alliance to produce a report examining financial incentives which it hopes could help the public get the picture that throw away cameras are not environmentally acceptable and persuade them to cut back on disposable razors. [Read more:](#)

### **UK and France push for VAT cut on green goods**

British Prime Minister Gordon Brown and French President Nicolas Sarkozy have made a joint call for reduced value-added tax rates for products which are less environmentally damaging than their alternatives.

Under the bilateral proposals, this would mean incentives on a whole range of goods, from energy efficient light bulbs and fridges to fuel efficient cars and insulation material.

The two premiers outlined an EU-wide VAT rate of 5% on products which met certain environmental criteria, well below the UK rate of 17.5% and the French rate of 19.6%. [Read more:](#)

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