

Scrap Metal Classification and Regulation

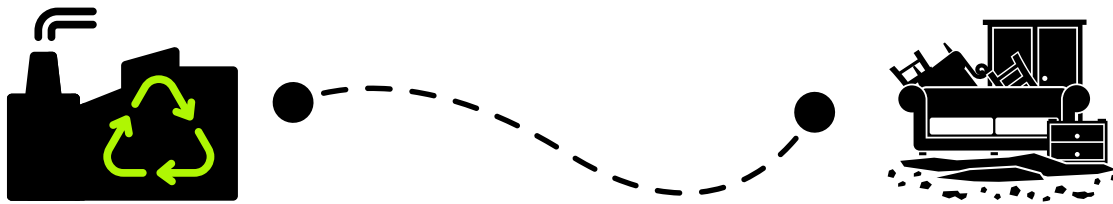
The Basel Convention seeks to reduce the transboundary movement of hazardous waste and ensure proper disposal. According to the Basel Convention, not all scrap metal is hazardous. However, scrap metal that:

- contains contaminated lead, cadmium, selenium or other substances listed in Annexes I and VIII, or
- displays explosive, flammable, poisonous or other characteristics listed in Annex III,

are considered hazardous. When these metals are being transported across geographic borders, special permissions must be received from the countries involved in the transboundary movement in accordance with the **Prior Informed Consent (PIC) Procedure under the Basel Convention**.

The PIC Procedure aims to promote the shared responsibility and open exchange of information on hazardous waste material. All parties involved in the transboundary movement and management of the waste gain vital information that would assist them in protecting human and environmental health.

For further information, contact the Competent Authority for the Basel Convention in your country and the national agency responsible for the management of scrap metals.



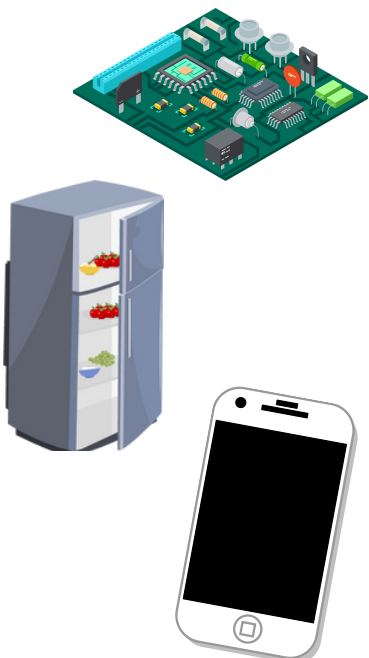
Examples of Scrap Metal that may have components subject to the PIC Procedure under the Basel Convention:

Automotive scrap e.g. lead acid batteries, obsolete radiators, transmission cases, and mercury switches are rich sources of non-ferrous metals.

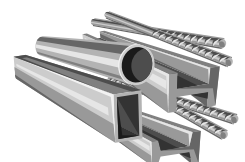


Electronic and Electrical Scrap e.g. circuit boards may contain lead, mercury, cadmium and flame retardants. Circuit boards can be found in:

- Large household appliances e.g. old refrigerators which may also have coatings, fluids and foams that contain hazardous substances.
- Small household appliances e.g. microwaves contain capacitors which may have toxic substances that can leach into soil and groundwater.
- Consumer electronics e.g. audio equipment may have flame retardants on their plastic housing.
- Steel frames of fluorescent bulbs, the aluminum in their end caps and the mercury in the bulbs themselves.



Construction/Demolition Scrap e.g. metal beams and roofing may have coatings/paints that contain hazardous components.



Scrap Metal

Scrap Collectors, Dealers and Exporters

General Considerations for Scrap Metal Collection and Recovery Facilities

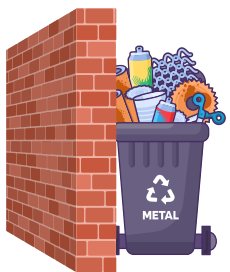
Scrap Metal Collection and Recovery Facilities should have specific qualities to ensure human and environmental safety. These include:

- A **fenced** and **secured** perimeter.
- **Designated area** for the storage of non-ferrous scrap metal.
- **Proper** drainage infrastructure with run-off being directed inward to a collection system, avoiding discharge into stormwater or other site areas.
- Sorting and storage areas on **impervious, covered** surfaces to protect the inventory from the elements.
- **Adequate wind protection** to prevent the fine metallic powders generated via preparation and processing activities (shearing, torch cutting, baling) from travelling off site.



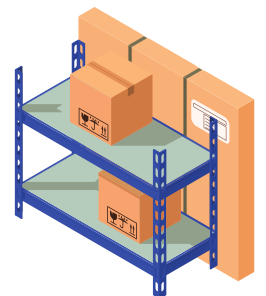
Large, **properly labelled** bins or containers should be utilised for organization.

Sweepings from scrap yards are deemed **hazardous** and therefore should **not** be disposed with general waste but rather, collected by a **licensed** hazardous waste disposal facility.



Storing scrap metal near drains should be **avoided** to prevent soil and groundwater contamination which will affect human health and the environment.

Manageable stockpiles with **sufficient spacing** for accessibility should be created and maintained.



Collection methods should be **safe** and must **not** result in contamination when in transit.

Proper PPE and **sanitation methods** should be practiced when working with scrap metal waste to avoid contamination.

