

# HOT ISSUES

Materials, Engineering &  
Manufacturing Policy Newsletter  
Hot Issues

Issue 13: September 2004

**Dear Reader,**

Welcome to the September edition of our Hot Issues newsletter. Issues in this edition include the announcement of the Terms of Reference for the review of Government's Climate Change Programme, EU Emissions Trading Scheme, Carbon Abatement Technology Strategy, EU Working Time Directive, Review of Special Waste Regulations, EU Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive and amendments to the Pollution Prevention and Control Regulations 2000.

We are always grateful for any suggestions for new subjects to be covered in future issues of the newsletter. Ambert Prosper at [Ambert.Prospert@dti.gov.uk](mailto:Ambert.Prospert@dti.gov.uk) will be happy to take these on board. Alternatively my team would be happy to meet you to discuss issues affecting your sector if you would find this useful. Your first port of call to arrange a meeting should be your relationship manager. Contact details are included in the newsletter should you need them.

**Terry Martin**  
**Assistant Director, Influence and Impact Section**  
**Materials, Engineering and Manufacturing Policy Unit.**

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## HOT ISSUES

### **Issue: Emissions Trading Scheme**

#### **Main points:**

On 1 January 2005 the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (EU ETS), one of the policies being introduced across Europe to tackle emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases, is due to begin. Along with a number of other sectors, steel production is captured by the scheme. Also covered are installations in any sectors that have combustion plants of a thermal input of over 20MW, including aggregated plants on a single site.

20 National Allocation Plans (NAPs) have been submitted to the European Commission to date. Along with those of seven other Member States, the UK's NAP was considered by the European Commission in July, and has subsequently been approved, subject to further information being supplied on new entry and allocations for Gibraltar. The remaining NAPs will be considered by the Commission over the next few weeks.

The DTI has commissioned consultants (ECOFYS) to undertake an evaluation of each of the NAPs produced by member states, being those which have been submitted to the Commission and those which are still in draft form. This work is a significant aid in addressing the potential for competitive distortions as a result of the scheme. The interim report from ECOFYS can be accessed via the DTI's Sustainable Energy Policy Network (SEPN) site (see link below).

Over the coming months the SEPN and Defra sites will be updated as the UK's EU ETS policy in key areas (overall cap, sectoral allocations new entrant reserve etc.) is finalised.

#### **Deadline for input: Ongoing**

#### **Hot links (to further information/consultation documents):**

<http://www.dti.gov.uk/energy/sepn/euets.shtml>

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/climatechange/trading/eu/index.htm>

Contact us: [keith.avis@dti.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:keith.avis@dti.gsi.gov.uk)

**Issue: Domestic and European Climate Change Policy**

**Main points:**

On 15 September Defra announced the terms of reference for the review of the Government's Climate Change Programme, which was undertaken in 2000.

The purpose of the review is to evaluate and measure the impacts of key elements of the programme, to update greenhouse gas emissions projections, assess how far UK has gone to reach its Kyoto target, and assess if the UK remains on course to meet its 2010 and 2050 domestic goals for reducing carbon dioxide emissions. A key element to all of these workstreams is the costs and benefits to the UK and UK business of any revised programme of action.

A consultation exercise will be launched in the autumn and an updated programme will be published in the first half of next year. We will ensure that you receive details of both of the documents, and indeed any other key announcements as soon as they are published. The Defra Press Release, announcing the review, can be accessed via the link below.

Separately, the European Commission launched a stakeholder consultation on future climate change policy on 14 September. The consultation gives an opportunity for stakeholders to contribute to the debate on the future of climate change, which will be used in the development of the EU's future climate change policy. Details of the Commission announcement can be accessed from the link below.

**Deadline for input: Ongoing**

**Hot links (to further information/consultation documents):**

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/news/2004/040915b.htm>

<http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/04/1099&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

Contact us: [keith.avis@dti.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:keith.avis@dti.gsi.gov.uk)

**Issue: Carbon Abatement Technology Strategy – Consultation document**

**Main points:**

This consultation is seeking views on the content of a Carbon Abatement Technology Strategy, which is currently being developed by the DTI's Cleaner Fossil Fuels Unit. It is planned to publish the new Strategy at the end of this year and this consultation forms an important component, among a number of other tasks, in the Strategy's development.

Responses to this consultation should be sent by 29 October to [jemma.howland@aeat.co.uk](mailto:jemma.howland@aeat.co.uk). Any queries about the consultation should be addressed to Brian Morris, Head of DTI's Cleaner Fossil Fuel Unit, [brian.morris@dti.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:brian.morris@dti.gsi.gov.uk).

The consultation can be accessed via the weblink below.

**Deadline for input: 29 October 2004**

**Hot links (to further information/consultation documents):**

[www.dti.gov.uk/energy/coal/cfft/catscon.shtml](http://www.dti.gov.uk/energy/coal/cfft/catscon.shtml)

Contact us: [brian.morris@dti.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:brian.morris@dti.gsi.gov.uk)

### **Issue: Climate Change Agreements: Extension of Eligibility Criteria**

#### **Main Points:**

Budget 2004 announced the extension of the Climate Change Agreement (CCAs) scheme. Subject to European Commission state aid approval, the eligibility criteria are to be extended to cover other energy-intensive sectors of industry not included within the existing arrangements (those already eligible for CCAs under the current arrangements will continue to benefit and will be unaffected by these changes).

The additional qualifying criteria for CCAs are based on one of the definitions of energy intensity set out in the EU Energy Products Directive, which came into force on 1 January 2004. Qualifying processes must:

- Meet or exceed a 12% threshold of energy intensity, or
- Fall between a 3% and 12% threshold of energy intensity, provided they meet or exceed either:
  - An import penetration ratio of 50% or
  - An export to production ratio of 30%

In both instances, energy intensity is defined as energy costs being at least 3% of production value. These tests will be applied once only, at the beginning of negotiations, and at sector level.

As a first step, those sectors who believe they may meet the eligibility criteria should contact FES to agree a process definition. Please contact either James Craig on 0870 190 6083 or John Huddleston on 0870 190 6153. Applications should then be submitted electronically, including all supporting data, to [levy.agreements@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:levy.agreements@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

Further details are available from the Defra website below.

#### **Deadline for input: Ongoing**

#### **Hot links (to further information/consultation documents):**

[www.defra.gov.uk/environment/ccl/extension.htm](http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/ccl/extension.htm)

Contacts: [terry.martin@dti.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:terry.martin@dti.gsi.gov.uk)

**Issue: Review of the Special Waste Regulations in England: Proposals for replacement Hazardous Waste Regulations and List of Wastes Regulations**

**Main points:**

In March 2001, the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions issued a consultation paper setting out preliminary proposals on regulations to substantially amend/replace the Special Waste Regulations 1996 and implement changes to the European Commission's hazardous waste list.

Responses to that first consultation were broadly favourable and Defra have now developed the proposals further. Defra are now proposing two sets of regulations: the List of Wastes Regulations which will transpose the European Waste Catalogue and the Hazardous Waste Regulations which will replace the Special Waste Regulations. The second consultation paper sets out the detailed proposals and includes drafts of the proposed regulations. A partial Regulatory Impact Assessment is also included. You should note that this consultation covers England only. Wales and Northern Ireland will be consulting separately about the changes proposed for their own administrations and Scotland has already implemented some changes via the Special Waste Amendment (Scotland) Regulations 2004.

Responses should be sent to [waste.policy@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:waste.policy@defra.gsi.gov.uk) by **Friday 29 October 2004**. A list of consultees is shown at Annex E of the consultation paper. Please let Defra know of any other organisations that should be contacted.

Following the end of the consultation, a summary of responses will be prepared. Defra expect this to be available on their web-site early in 2005.

If you have any *queries* on this consultation, please contact:

Alison Gadsby  
Hazardous Waste Policy Adviser  
Waste Management Division  
Defra  
Zone 7/F15  
Ashdown House  
123 Victoria Street  
LONDON  
SW1E 6DE  
[alison.gadsby@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:alison.gadsby@defra.gsi.gov.uk)  
Telephone: 020 7082 8759  
Facsimile: 020 7082 8764

**Deadline for input: Friday 29 October 2004.**

**Hot links (to further information/consultation documents):**

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/wastereg-haz/index.htm>

contact: [alison.gadsby@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:alison.gadsby@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

**Issue: Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive (WEEE) and the Restriction of Hazardous Substances (ROHS) Directive**

**Main Points:**

The Government issued, on the 29<sup>th</sup> July, the third and final consultation on its proposals to implement the requirements of the WEEE and RoHS Directives. The consultation includes draft implementing regulations and non-statutory guidance.

For the WEEE Directive the consultation sets out the proposed obligations that will be placed on producers and retailers of electrical and electronic equipment. Producers will have a responsibility to fund the collection, treatment (including recovery and recycling) of WEEE. Retailers will also have an obligation to take-back WEEE.

The consultation includes proposals for the establishment of a National Clearing House (NCH) to assist in the registration of producers and the allocation to producers of WEEE based on market share. Producers have proposed that the NCH should co-ordinate the “physical” allocation of WEEE, i.e. allocating WEEE to producers from collection facilities around the UK. It is also envisaged that the NCH would act as a focal point for producer registration, data reporting for their market presence, for allocation purposes and compliance reporting.

It is expected that registration of producers will take place during the first half of 2005.

For RoHS, the consultation details the draft implementing regulations which will transpose the Directive’s requirements to ban the placing on the market of Electrical and Electronic Equipment (EEE) containing more than agreed levels of lead, cadmium, mercury, hexavalent chromium and the flame retardants PBBs and PBDEs. The Consultation also details the exemptions that exist for EEE under both Directives and gives guidance on how producers can set about establishing whether a product would be caught by the scope of the Directives.

The main obligations of the WEEE Directive will come into force on the 13<sup>th</sup> August 2005. The substance restrictions, under the RoHS Directive will come into force on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2006

**Deadline for input: 29 October 2004**

**Hot links (to further information/consultation documents):**

Website: <http://www.dti.gov.uk/sustainability/weee/index.htm>.

Contacts: Contact: [gordon.tarrant@dti.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:gordon.tarrant@dti.gsi.gov.uk)

**Issue: Amendments to the Pollution Prevention and Control (England and Wales) Regulations 2000**

**Main Points:**

Defra has published a consultation paper and draft Amendment Regulations setting

out how the Government proposes to amend certain provisions of the Pollution Prevention and Control (England and Wales) Regulations 2000. This consultation follows on from the one initiated in December 2003 on proposals to amend certain provisions of the PPC Regulations.

Proposed amendments include:

- In the case of ferrous metals, removing the operation of vacuum furnaces from Part A. Their retention in Part A for non-ferrous metals in certain circumstances is necessary to maintain compliance with the IPPC Directive;
- The operation of electro-slag furnaces will move from the list of exemptions in paragraph (b) of Part A(1) of Section 2.1, but will be added to the list in paragraph (b) of Part B of that section;
- Regulation 2(7)(d) amends the table in paragraph 10 of Part 2 of Schedule 3 to the PPC regulations to provide the relevant date in respect of the Ferrous Metals activities in Section 2.1, which are going to be transferred from Part A(1) to Part B to be at a date after the intended coming into force of the regulations (i.e. 1 April 2005). This will avoid operators having to make a new part B application in respect of these regulated activities.

Further details can be accessed via the weblink below. The deadline for comment is **Friday 15 October 2004** and should be sent to [control.pollution@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:control.pollution@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

**Deadline for input: 15 October 2004**

**Hot links (to further information/consultation documents):**

[www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/ppc-amendregs2/index.htm](http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/ppc-amendregs2/index.htm)

Contacts: [terry.martin@dti.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:terry.martin@dti.gsi.gov.uk)

### **Issue: The Working Time Regulations**

#### **Main Points:**

The Commission published legislative proposals to amend the Working Time Directive on 22 September. The main proposals:

- Provide a solution to the problems relating to doctors on call time
- Extend the weekly working time reference period from 4 months to 12 months
- Provide for the retention of the opt out by collective agreement. The individual opt out is available only where companies do not have collective agreements in force or the ability to negotiate them.
- Provide for an absolute maximum weekly working time limit of 65 hours for workers who can opt out.
- Require records to be kept of all hours worked

The proposals will be discussed at the Council of Ministers on 4 October 2004.

In order to inform negotiations in Europe, the Government has undertaken a 12-week consultation, which closed on 22 September 2004. The consultation sought views and information from both employers and workers on the nature of long hours working and the operation of the individual opt out in the UK

The European Commission has commissioned research on the working time opt-out,

and are discussing issues with Member States and other stakeholders. They have issued two communications, the first one on 5 January 2004, covering the opt-out, along with doctors' on call time and the reference period over which workers' hours are averaged. The Communication asked for responses by 31 March 2004.

The UK have responded to the Communication and details of our response can be found on the following website:

[http://www.dti.gov.uk/er/work\\_time\\_regs/com\\_response.doc](http://www.dti.gov.uk/er/work_time_regs/com_response.doc)

The Commission also issued a 2nd stage consultation on 19 May 2004. The Second Stage Consultation Paper was limited to the EU Social Partners and proposed four options for amending the Directive. As the Social Partners have decided not to negotiate on the options, it falls to the Commission to produce legislative proposals. The Second Stage Consultation paper can be found

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/employment\\_social/labour\\_law/docs/wtd\\_en.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/comm/employment_social/labour_law/docs/wtd_en.pdf)

### **Previous topics**

The [Regulations](#) were amended, with effect from 1 August 2003, to extend working time measures in full to all non mobile workers in road, sea, inland waterways and lake transport, to all workers in the railway and offshore sectors, and to all workers in aviation who are not covered by the sectoral Aviation Directive.

Mobile workers in road transport have more limited protections. Those subject to European Drivers' hours rules 3820/85 are entitled to 4 weeks paid annual leave and health assessments if a night worker from 1 August 2003. Mobile workers not covered by European drivers' hours rules will be entitled to an average 48 hours per week, 4 weeks paid holiday, health assessments if a night worker and adequate rest.

### **Deadline for input: Ongoing**

#### **Hot links (to further information/consultation documents):**

[http://www.dti.gov.uk/er/work\\_time\\_regs/consultation.pdf](http://www.dti.gov.uk/er/work_time_regs/consultation.pdf)

Contacts: [Lorna.Duffy@dti.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Lorna.Duffy@dti.gsi.gov.uk)

**Issue: Consultation on Edition 2 of the Guide to Directive 2000/76/EC on the Incineration of Waste.**

**Main points:**

Defra has produced a Second Edition of the Guide to Directive 2000/76/EC on the Incineration of Waste which has been issued as a consultation paper. This guide describes the scope and regulatory and technical requirements of the Waste Incineration Directive. The guide is intended for operators of incineration and co-incineration plant, regulators, waste producers and waste managers, all of whom will be affected by the implementation of the Directive.

Although this is the second edition of the guide published for initial consultation in February 2003, we shall remain grateful for comments upon what it says and on experience of applying it, and it therefore remains a consultation document. Many comments made on the first edition have been incorporated. However, the greater part remains unchanged from the first edition. The guidance does not, of course, have any legal standing in its own right.

Copies of this guide are available from the Defra website at <http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/ppc-wid/index.htm>. Paper copies will also be available shortly through the Defra publications phone line, 08459 556 000 by quoting the product code PB10019.

Responses to this consultation should be sent **by Friday 26 November 2004** to:

David Demain  
Zone 4/H11,  
Ashdown House,  
123 Victoria Street,  
London SW1E 6DE  
Fax: 020 7082 8394  
or by e-mail to [control.pollution@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:control.pollution@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

If you would like to speak to an official about this paper, please phone Nigel Barraclough on 020 7082 8392.

**Deadline for input: Friday, 26 November 2004.**

**Hot links (to further information/consultation documents):**

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/ppc-wid/index.htm>

contact: [control.pollution@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:control.pollution@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

Contact us at: [Ambert.Prospert@dti.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Ambert.Prospert@dti.gsi.gov.uk)

**Issue: Consultation on a Code of Practice to accompany the updated Environmental Information Regulations and consultation on draft guidance on the Regulations**

### **Main Points**

Defra is consulting on a draft Code of Practice to accompany the updated Environmental Information Regulations, and on draft guidance on the Regulations.

The Code of Practice will provide public authorities with advice on those aspects of practice where the Information Commissioner has a duty to promote observance of the Code by public authorities. The Guidance notes, which set out what information is covered by the Regulations, are intended as a working tool for practitioners detailing each aspect of the Regulations.

Responses on the draft Code of Practice and the draft Guidance notes should be sent to [www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/current.htm](http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/current.htm) by 4 November.

**Deadline for input: 4 November 2004.**

**Hot links (to further information/consultation documents):**

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/envinfo/index.htm>

Contact us at: [Terry.Martin@dti.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Terry.Martin@dti.gsi.gov.uk)

### **Issue: Consultation on the Partial Regulatory Impact Assessment – EC Proposals relating to the Aarhus Convention**

#### **Main Points**

Defra is seeking views on the partial Regulatory Impact Assessment of three European Community proposals. The proposals relate to the Aarhus convention on access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice in environmental matters.

The main purpose of the consultation is to inform the Government negotiating position on the EC proposals. This applies particularly to the proposed Directive on access to justice in environmental matters, which could impact directly on the UK. Detailed negotiations on the Directive are expected to begin by the end of 2004.

The consultation papers can be accessed via the weblink below. Responses should be sent to Defra at [aarhus.consultation@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:aarhus.consultation@defra.gsi.gov.uk) by **3 December 2004**.

**Deadline for input: 3 December 2004.**

**Hot links (to further information/consultation documents):**

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/aarhus/index.htm>

Contact us at: [Terry.Martin@dti.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Terry.Martin@dti.gsi.gov.uk)

## **OTHER ISSUES**

**The following are some of the other ongoing issues.**

**Physical Agents (Noise) Directive**

The Noise Directive came into force on 15 February 2003 upon publication of the text in the Official Journal of the European Communities. We now have until 15 February 2006 to transpose the Directive into UK Regulations, which will replace the Noise at Work Regulations 1989. Essentially the Directive reduces the noise exposure levels at which employers must take action, and introduces a limit value above which employees must not be exposed.

The Health and Safety Commission (HSC) published the formal Consultation Document on the Proposals for new Control of Noise at Work Regulations implementing the Physical Agents (Noise) Directive (2003/10/EC)(C196) on 5 April 2004 covering both draft Regulations and Guidance. The consultation period ended on 25 June 2004, and HSE is now considering the comments received.

Contacts: [tarla.patel@hse.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:tarla.patel@hse.gsi.gov.uk) <mailto:tarla.patel@hse.gsi.gov.uk>  
Consultation Document: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/consult/condocs/cd196.htm>  
Further information about the Directive can be found on the HSE website at <http://www.hse.gov.uk/noise>

### **Information and Consultation Guide**

Draft guidance to help firms implement a new employment law to encourage better workplace communication was published on 7 July. The guidance relates to the Information and Consultation regulations, which come into effect in the spring. They give all employees the right to be consulted and informed about key decisions that affect their employment. The closing date for responses is **22 October**.

Further details can be found on the DTI website at [www.dti.gov.uk/er/consultation/draftguidance.doc](http://www.dti.gov.uk/er/consultation/draftguidance.doc)

### **Employment Relations Bill Receives Royal Assent**

The Government's Employment Relations Bill, which paves the way for implementation of the CBI/TUC agreement on information and consultation, received Royal Assent on 16 September.

Copies of the Employment Relations Act 2000 will be available from [www.legislation.hmso.gov.uk/acts/acts2004.htm](http://www.legislation.hmso.gov.uk/acts/acts2004.htm).

Information on the Employment Relations Act 2004 can be obtained from the [www.dti.gov.uk/er](http://www.dti.gov.uk/er)

### **EU Chemicals Legislation – REACH**

REACH ( Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals ) is a new proposal for regulation of substances, adopted by the European Commission in October 2003 and now the subject of negotiations expected to last into 2006. It has the same scope as existing regulations and will therefore apply to certain minerals and ores, eg, metals, cement. The aims of the regulation are to improve the protection of human health and the environment while maintaining the

competitiveness of the EU chemicals industry. One of the features of REACH is that it aims to shift responsibility from public authorities to industry for carrying out risk assessment and the management of risks from substances and to provide safety information on substances and their uses.

The Government carried out a consultation on REACH during March-June this year and the responses are currently being considered. A copy of the consultation is available on Defra's website at

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/reach/index.htm>

Defra will be publishing an executive summary of all the responses on its website in early October 2004.

In the meantime, detailed scrutiny of the REACH Regulation is continuing under the Dutch Presidency. This scrutiny is currently focusing on the registration provisions of the Regulation.

Contact us at: [Keith.avis@dti.gov.uk](mailto:Keith.avis@dti.gov.uk)  
[Robin.Ashman@dti.gov.uk](mailto:Robin.Ashman@dti.gov.uk)

### **EU Batteries Directive**

A Government consultation seeking stakeholder views on the proposal by the European Commission for a new Directive on batteries and accumulators closed on 5 August 2004. Some 50 responses were received from a range of stakeholders including, local authorities, battery manufacturers and retailers. A summary of the responses has now been published on the DTI's batteries webpage at:

[www.dti.gov.uk/sustainability/ep/batteries.htm](http://www.dti.gov.uk/sustainability/ep/batteries.htm)

Contact: [paul.creary@dti.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:paul.creary@dti.gsi.gov.uk)

Website: [www.dti.gov.uk/sustainability/ep/batteries.htm](http://www.dti.gov.uk/sustainability/ep/batteries.htm)

### **EU Environmental Liability Directive**

The Directive was published in the Official Journal of the European Union on 30 April 2004 and has now come into force. Member States have until 30 April 2007 to transpose the Directive into national law. Transposition in the UK will involve two or three formal public consultations, the first of which is likely to begin around November 2004.

Websites: Environmental Council minutes:

<http://ue.eu.int/newsroom/loadbook.asp?BID=89&LANG=1>

DG Environment site: <http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/liability/>

### **European Commission proposals for an eco-design for Energy-using Products (EuP) framework Directive**

The European Commission adopted a proposal for a framework Directive on the eco-design of energy-using products, such as electrical and electronic devices or heating equipment, on 1 August 2003. The proposal does not introduce directly binding requirements for specific products, but does define conditions and criteria for setting requirements regarding environmentally relevant product characteristics (such as energy consumption).

The EuP proposals were presented to a meeting of the EC Energy Council Working Group in September 2003 and were discussed by Ministers at the full meeting of the Energy Council on 15 December 2003. Political agreement on a text was agreed at a meeting of the Energy Council at the end of June.

At the same time however, MEPs in the Environment Committee of the European Parliament had been considering their Report on the Commission's text and came up with just under 350 amendments to the original text. A plenary discussion of the Directive took place in May, where the list of amendments was reduced but it was too late for a final text to be agreed with the Energy Council and adopted before the then-current European Parliament was dissolved. The new Parliament will return to consider its next move in the Autumn, which means that final agreement on these proposals is now unlikely before early 2005 at the earliest.

Contact: [Steven.Andrews@dti.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Steven.Andrews@dti.gsi.gov.uk)

Website: [http://europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/eco\\_design/index.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/eco_design/index.htm)

### **EU Integrated Product Policy**

As reported in previous issues, the European Commission adopted a Communication on Integrated Product Policy (IPP) on 18 June 2003 that outlined its strategy for reducing the environmental impact caused by products. IPP represents a new approach and puts emphasis on three dimensions:

- Life-cycle thinking - when pollution reduction measures are identified, consideration is given to the whole of a product's life-cycle from cradle to grave;
- Flexible - as to the type of policy measure to be used, working with the market where possible;
- Full stakeholder involvement

The Environment Council reached its formal conclusions on the Commission Communication in October 2003 and the European Parliament produced a Draft Report on 1 March 2004, which is now under consideration.

Contact: [Steven.Andrews@dti.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Steven.Andrews@dti.gsi.gov.uk)

Website: <http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/ipp/ippcommunication.htm>

<http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/ipp/qa.pdf>

## **INDUSTRY SUPPORT**

### **National Metals Technology Centre (NAMTEC)**

The National Metals Technology Centre (NAMTEC) was launched in October 2002 following DTI sponsored research, which found overwhelming support for a metals centre of excellence. Funded by the DTI, Yorkshire Forward and Objective 1,

NAMTEC aims to increase the global competitiveness of the UK's metals sector by stimulating high technology innovation and research and development.

For further information contact:

NAMTEC  
Q Block, Swinden Technology Centre  
Moorgate Road  
Rotherham, S60 3AR  
Telephone: (01709) 724990  
Email: [info@namtec.co.uk](mailto:info@namtec.co.uk)  
[www.namtec.co.uk](http://www.namtec.co.uk)

## MATERIALS, ENGINEERING AND MANUFACTURING POLICY UNIT CONTACT LIST

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