

Waste Generated

Waste from Offices

Waste Paper

Waste paper is one of our major items for recycling. Paper is used everyday in our offices, and therefore an effective and efficient channel for collecting and handling waste paper is needed for proper waste management. Waste paper is collected through various collection points and picked up by paper recyclers. In 2007/08, we collected some 17,000 kg of waste paper for recycling.

Toner Cartridges

Used toner cartridges are collected by recycling collectors, refilled and reused. We collected about 3,000 toner cartridges for recycling in 2007/08.

Waste from Workshops

Waste Oil

Waste oil is generated from our workshops while rendering service to our customers, in particular our vehicle maintenance services. Waste oil is collected regularly by registered chemical waste collectors and treated in registered chemical waste treatment facilities. In 2007/08, about 129,000 litres of waste oil were collected for recycling or disposal in accordance with the relevant ordinance.

Spent Mercury Lamps

Spent mercury lamps are collected from offices and workshops by registered chemical waste collectors and

delivered to the Chemical Waste Treatment Centre in Tsing Yi for recycling. In 2007/08, over 107,000 spent mercury lamps were collected and recycled.

Used Rechargeable Batteries

Used rechargeable batteries contain rare metals that can be recovered and reused. We have adopted and implemented a programme launched by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) to recycle domestic type rechargeable batteries, and, in addition, collect industrial type batteries generated from our operations for recycling. More information can be found in the Summary of Statistics.

Metal Scraps

Metal scraps are valuable natural resources which can be completely recycled and reused without deterioration in their composition during the recycling processes. Most metal scraps generated from our operations such as vehicle maintenance have been collected and recycled. In 2007/08, about 48,000 kg of metal scraps were collected.

Used Vehicle Tyres

Used vehicle tyres arise from our vehicle maintenance services for government vehicles. They are collected and recycled by local waste tyre collectors listed on the EPD's directory. More than 12,000 tyres were collected and another 541 tyres were retreaded for further use on vehicles in 2007/08.

Emissions

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are widely acknowledged as a cause of global warming and climate change, and reducing emissions such as CO₂ is one of our biggest challenges. EMSD's greenhouse gas emissions are mainly attributed to the consumption of electricity in our offices and workshops, and transport. In 2007/08, direct emissions from our transport activities amounted to some 1,300 tonnes of CO₂ whereas our electricity consumption gave rise to about 9,000 tonnes of CO₂.

Transport

The use of transport in EMSD operations consumes non-renewable fossil fuels and generates GHG emissions. We have a fleet of around 250 vehicles including lorries, vans, saloon cars and motorcycles to carry out our services, and at the same time maintain over 5,800 government vehicles for our client departments. We have to ensure that the emissions from such activities are reduced to a minimum by good housekeeping, proper vehicle maintenance, reduced use of transport or switching to hybrid vehicles. We now have two hybrid vehicles, which consume 40% less fuel than conventional cars of similar size.