Recycling at a Crossroads

Robin Wiener, ISRI President

SERDC Summit 2016 November 7, 2016 (Atlanta, GA)



Overview



- ISRI an Introduction
- Today's Recycling Industry a Snapshot
- Challenges, Opportunities and Outlook
 - Market
 - Non-Market
- Discussion

ISRI – An Introduction

ISRI: Voice of the Recycling Industry





1,300

Member companies

4,000

Recycling facilities worldwide

34

Countries

ISRI Members Process and Broker The Full Range of Scrap Commodities





Ferrous & non-ferrous metals



Paper



Plastics

Glass



Rubber



Textiles



Electronics



ISRI's Mission



ISRI is the Voice of the Recycling Industry, Promoting Safe, Economically Sustainable and Environmentally Responsible Recycling through Networking, Advocacy and Education.

Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries



Our Priorities



Responsible Recycling



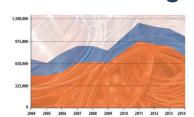
Free & Fair Trade



Scrap ≠ Waste



Market Intelligence



Education, Training & Networking



Awareness



Today's Recycling Industry – a Snapshot

Recycling in the United States



\$105 Billion Industry

130,000,000+ tons processed annually, inclusive of commercial, industrial & residential

67 million tons
47 million tons
5+ million tons
1.8 million tons
3.5 million tons
100+ million

ferrous
paper
aluminum
copper
plastics
tires



Recycling in the United States: Jobs





149,000 direct employment

plus 323,000 jobs throughout the economy indirectly supported by recycling

generating \$11.2 billion in federal, state & local tax revenues

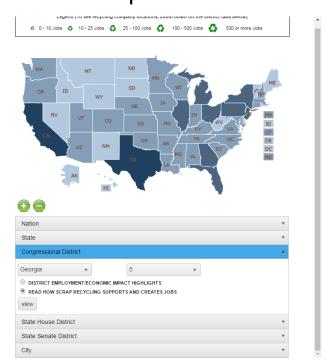
Recycling in the United States: Jobs



Good paying, green jobs \$77,153 average wages & benefits paid

Jobs
Data/Economic
Impact available
(ISRI.org/jobstudy)

by State, Congressional District, State House District, State Senate District & City



Source: John Dunham & Associates (guerillaeconomics.com)

Recycling in the United States: Jobs



The U.S. Scrap Recycling Industry Creates and Supports Jobs in Georgia

	Jobs	Wages	Economic Impact
Direct Impacts			
Recyclers	5,071	\$338,176,800	\$1,581,132,500
Brokers	83	\$7,418,400	\$18,533,100
Total Direct Impacts	5,154	\$345,595,200	\$1,599,665,600

	Federal Taxes	State and Local Taxes	Total Taxes
Business Taxes	\$216,620,800	\$121,888,800	\$338,509,600

Some details may not add due to rounding

The U.S. Scrap Recycling Industry Creates and Supports Jobs in Georgia Congressional District 5

	Jobs	Wages	Economic Impact		
Direct Impacts					
Recyclers	877	\$57,791,300	\$227,218,300		
Brokers	39	\$3,485,700	\$8,708,300		
Total Direct Impacts	916	\$61,277,000	\$235,926,600		



Recycling is the 1st Link in the Manufacturing Supply Chain



Recycled Materials Supply 40% of the Global Raw Material Needs ...

- ... US steelmakers rely on ferrous scrap to make two-thirds of the steel produced each year
- ... More than 50% of the US paper industry's needs are met each year through the use of recovered fiber produced from such items as old newspapers, office paper and used corrugated boxes.
- ... A third of US Aluminum supply comes from soda cans, aluminum siding & other forms of aluminum scrap

Both Quantity <u>and</u> Quality are key to the Strength of that Link in the Supply Chain

Recycling in the United States: Exports



Part of the Global Industry

37

\$18B

156

Total exported from U.S. (million metric tons)

Value of U.S. materials exported

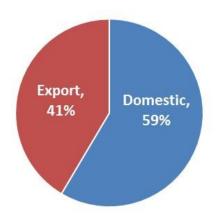
Destination countries to which recyclables were sold

- The U.S. is the largest exporter of scrap commodities in the world.
- With approximately 30% of scrap processed in US destined for export in recent years, the health of the US recycling industry is directly tied to the health of the global economy.
- Leading Export Destinations: China (\$6B), Canada (\$2B), South Korea (\$960M), Mexico (\$955M), Turkey (\$932M), and India (\$914M)

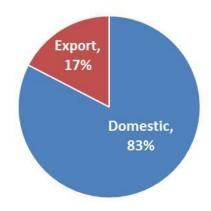
Most of the Scrap Processed in the U.S. is Consumed Domestically



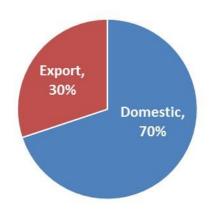
U.S. Recovered Paper and Fiber



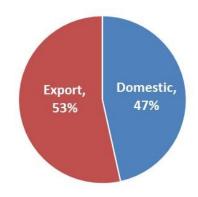
U.S. Iron and Steel Scrap



U.S. Aluminum Scrap Recovery



U.S. Copper & Copper Alloy Scrap



Challenges, Opportunities and Outlook



The health of the recycling industry is closely related to the health of the global economy, and thus sensitive to ...

- Domestic & overseas manufacturing,
- Fluctuations in currency markets,
- Transportation disruptions (e.g., West Coast port strike, Hanjin bankruptcy)
- Energy Prices,
- Flow of imports, and
- Volatility in commodity prices

Manufacturing in the US: Uneven Performance



U.S. Total and Manufacturing Capacity Utilization



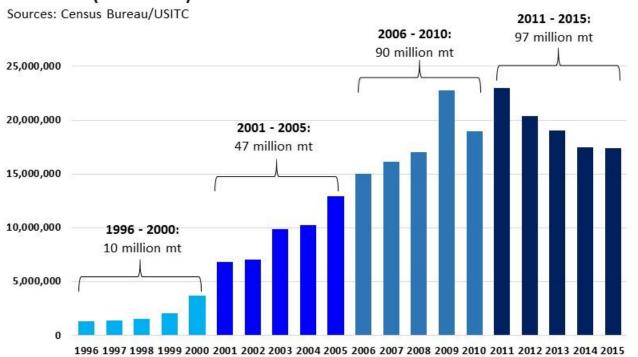
Source: Federal Reserve

Global Manufacturing



EU Market Remains Very Weak Growth in the Middle East has slowed China Still Driving Global Commodity Markets

U.S. Exports of All Scrap Commodities To China (incl. Hong Kong) 1996-2015 (metric tons)



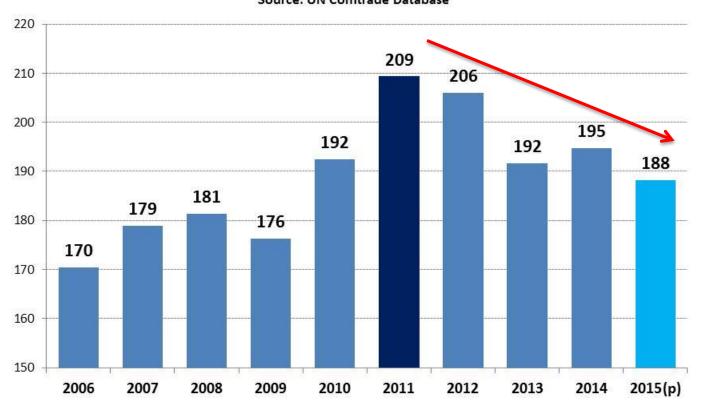
Excess commodity production in China, falling Chinese industrial prices, decelerating Chinese growth and slowing Chinese scrap import demand in recent years contributing to global deflationary pressure and weaker global scrap market conditions.

Effect on Global Scrap Trade



Reported World Scrap* Exports, 2006 - 2015(p) million metric tons

Source: UN Comtrade Database



*Exports from all UN reporting countries of scrap plastic, rubber, paper & fiber, glass, textiles, precious metals, base metals and ferrous metals.

2006-2015 volume:

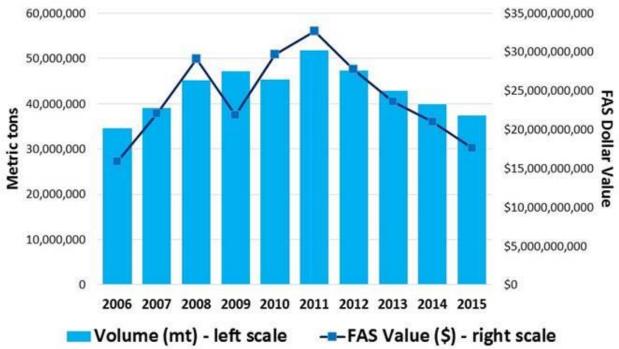
1.9 billion metric tons

US Scrap Exports Follow Same Curve



Annual U.S. Scrap Exports by Volume (metric tons) and FAS Value (\$), 2006 - 2015

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau/U.S. International Trade Commission

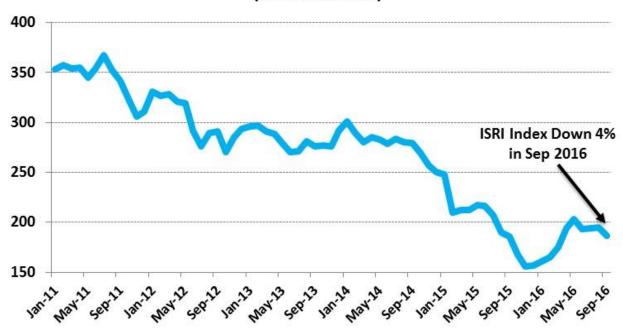


Prices Hard Hit Across All Commodities



ISRI Index: Jan 2011 - Sep 2016

(Jan 1998 = 100)



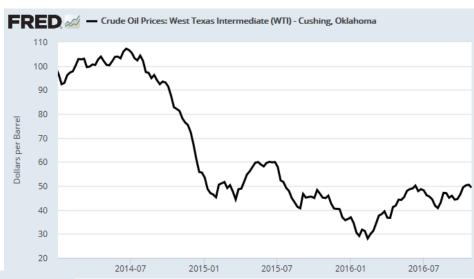
Scrap recycling is a commodities-based business. The ISRI Index fell to the lowest level since the Great Recession in November 2015. The index has again come under pressure, falling 4% in September 2016.

ISRI index: weighted index of recovered paper and fibre, ferrous, copper, and aluminum scrap prices

Energy Prices as the Driver for Plastics



As energy prices have fallen, so has the price of plastics ...





Impacts of Market Challenges on Recycling Industry



Impacts ...

- Recyclers squeezed due to price & volume declines, contamination
- Import competition
- Excess/idled capacity in automobile shredding
- Margin compression
- Closures across recycling industry
 - multi-generational metals recycling businesses
 - Single stream MRFs due to unsustainable business model

Industry Managing By ...

- Increased investments in technologies to increase yields (except residential)
- Increased focus on "other" commodities; greater integration across commodity sectors
- Industry consolidation
- Cutting costs

Long Term - positive, but immediate short term challenging



Increased Challenges Surrounding Quality of Recyclables Entering the Recycling Stream from Residential Sources...

- Move to one-bin collection systems raising significant concern over potential effects on ability to recover specification-grade material
- Recyclers of paper & plastics seeing a general decrease in quality of recyclables coming out of municipal stream
 - ISRI's MRF Council: development of "Inbound Residential Curbside Specifications"; glass specifications also in development
- In contrast, commercial and industrial sources of recovered fiber continue to be a good source of quality fiber at healthy volumes.
 - Lesson (?): need to focus on economically viable materials



Pressure also on the Quantity of Recyclables Entering the Stream ...

- Collection system price sensitive: As commodity prices fall, the incentive on the part of peddlers to bring recyclables to the market declines
- Decline of newspaper circulation, and all graphic paper grades
- Light-weighting across commodity spectrum: Newspapers, PET, aluminum cans



Constantly Changing Design of Consumer Products and durable goods

- More complex
- Emergence of new materials & sometimes difficult to recycle materials
 - Degradable Additives

- Boron

Clad materials

- Carbon fiber reinforced plastics

ISRI's DFR program: working with manufacturers to raise awareness and identify issues before becomes an end-of-life issue



Non-uniformity in definitions and terms

- What is waste and what is a recyclable?
- What is recycling versus disposal?
- How can we compare recycling rates if we do not establish common definitions and formulas?

What is collected in the blue bin at the end of the driveway is only a small part of the entire picture of recycling here in the U.S.

Opportunities Ahead/Outlook



- Recyclers increasingly focused on safety, operational efficiency, quality and product diversification
- Shift in thinking to sustainable materials management
- Targeted investment in technology (& acquisitions)
- Opportunities for ISRI and other industry groups to educate:
 - policymakers & the public about the economic and environmental benefits of recycling
 - the next generation



Bottom Line



Recycling is a cyclical, evolving industry with long-term positive trends.

Please join us for the **2017 ISRI Convention & Expo** to be held
April 22-27, 2017 in New Orleans!

www.isriconvention.org







Thank You!

robinwiener@isri.org; (202) 662-8512 www.isri.org

