Industrial waste in the UK

David Lee

Waste Statistics Team, Defra
• Data sources and sectors
• Data collection
• Features of the Industrial sector
• Issues
Sources and Sectors

Collector:
- Local Authority collected
- Commercially collected

Waste stream:
- Municipal
- Household
- Commercial & Industrial

Data sources
- Regular surveys
- Infrequent surveys

Excludes: Construction and Demolition, Mining waste
Headline Results

Total 48.0
- Industrial 24.2
- Commercial 23.8

Mixed Wastes 12.3
- Non Metallic Wastes 11.6
- Chemical wastes 5.4
- Animal & Vegetable Wastes 3.8
- Metallic wastes 2.6
- Healthcare Wastes 1.9
- Other wastes* 1.7

Management
- Recycled 23.6
- Landfill 11.3
- Re-use 1.3
- Other 11.8

Source: Defra, Environment Agency
*Other includes common sludges, discarded equipment and non-wastes
Survey Design and Issues

- 6000 businesses surveyed
- 12 business sectors (6 Industrial)
- Face to face, telephone and HQ information
- 10 months to complete
- Cost around £1m (€1.2m)
Industrial waste breakdown

Industrial waste 2009, England

- Food, drink & tobacco
- Textiles/wood/paper/publishing
- Power and utilities
- Chemicals/minerals manufacturing
- Metals manufacturing
- Machinery & equipment

Legend:
- Non metallic wastes
- Mixed wastes
- Mineral
- Metallic Wastes
- Healthcare Wastes
- Discarded equipment
- Common Sludges
- Chemical Wastes
- Organic Wastes
Decoupling


Business populations
Business size

[Bar chart showing sector generation total and percentage of waste generated by different business sectors.]

Commercial sectors include:
- Other services
- Transport
- Education
- Public admin
- Hotels & catering
- Retail & wholesale

Industrial sectors include:
- Machinery manufac
- Metal manufac
- Chemicals manufac
- Power & utilities
- Textiles & paper
- Food & drink

Source: Defra, EA

Number of employees:
- 0 to 9
- 10 to 19
- 20 to 49
- 50 to 99
- 100 to 249
- 250+

Total waste excluding NW = 40.5mt
Lessons/Issues

• Access to businesses
• Access to data – gaps, inconsistencies
• Validation issues
• Methodologies – measurement, estimation
Solutions?

- Collective approach (contractors, agencies, NGOs)
- Adaptability (fieldwork feedback, HQ data)
- Intensive validation
- Electronic Duty of Care?
Thank you

David Lee

david@defra.gsi.gov.uk
+44 (0) 20 7238 4852