

RECYCLE FOR WHAT ITS WORTH

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Recovery and valorization of packaging materials from solid wastes is well developed in the majority of the European countries. The percentage targets for the recovery of the packaging materials are set at European and national levels. In Greece the relevant project started in 2003 on a voluntary base by Greek industry and continued since 2003 according the law. Today the quantities of the recovered packaging materials are nearing the targets set by the European and National law.

However there are a number of questions to be answered in connection with the exact quantities of packaging materials contained in the MSW and the Commercial and Industrial Solid Wastes, the methods used for the separation at household level, the collection, the recovery of market worthy products at the MRF and the quality and therefore market prices of the recovered materials. These methods are judged with economic criteria with the understanding that best economic result, in this case, is the lowest recovery cost for marketable product of comparable quality.

In this presentation we will discuss all these issues and will present the figures which demonstrate what has been achieved and at what cost so far in Greece.