Basel Convention Waste Identification Tool

(Last update in March 2022)

Introduction

The Basel Convention Waste Identification Tool has been developed to enhance the ability of national authorities to check and enforce regulations related to transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and other wastes.

This tool is preliminary guidance and requires further work to complete the relevant information and include all wastes. The wastes feature in this version are the ones most treated and are classified by alphabetic order. Besides the appearance of the wastes, the tool also includes information about the classification and waste codes that apply. In some cases examples from mis-declarations (either done intentionally or unintentionally) are included.

The aim of these documents is to give a first indication about the most traded waste streams to officers responsible for monitoring and enforcement waste shipment registration.

The content of this guidance is based on the Waste(s) Watch developed by the European Network for the Implementation and Enforcing of Environmental Law (IMPEL). The content does not necessarily represent the view of the national administrations involved in IMPEL.

No rights can be derived from this Waste Identification Tool.

Asbestos Waste

Description	Asbestos (dusts and fibres).
Colour	Fibres are white, brown or blue.
Physical chemical properties	Solid plates, tubes, etc. or fragments, (mineral) wool or dusty material; naturally occurring fibrous mineral. Material is heat and chemical resistant.
Basel Convention entry	A2050
HS Code	Ex 2524

Remarks

Major uses: The fibres are applied in fabrics used for fireproof garments and curtains, in construction fabrics roofing, paper, insulation and moulded products. Re-use of asbestos

(construction) material is prohibited; therefore all removed asbestos has to be considered as waste.

Examples of mis-declarations

– Demolition waste

Batteries (non-hazardous/hazardous)

Description	Used batteries or accumulators.
Colour	Various
Physical chemical properties	Solid or crushed batteries or accumulators. Also waste materials of manufacturing processes of batteries or accumulators.
Basel Convention entry	Non-hazardous: B1090, B4030 (Single use cameras containing batteries not included on list A) Hazardous: A1170, A1180 (Single use cameras containing batteries included on list A)
HS code Hazardous: 8549.11, 8549.12 Non-hazardous 8549.13, 8549.14	

Remarks
Distinction between hazardous and non-hazardous: lead, Ni-Cd and mercury-containing batteries are considered hazardous. Waste batteries conforming to a specification, excluding those made with lead, cadmium or mercury, whereas the others are considered non-hazardous. Some countries consider all batteries as hazardous wastes, because of electrolytes.

Examples of mis-declarations

Bituminous materials (non-hazardous/hazardous)

Description	Bituminous materials (asphalt waste) from road construction and maintenance
Colour	Black
Physical chemical properties	Solid; greasy, oily, or sticky; possibly containing pieces of asphalt.
Basel Convention entry	Non-hazardous (not containing tar): B2130 Hazardous: A3200

Hs Code	Customs Harmonised Code: Ex 3825

Remarks
Distinction between hazardous and non-hazardous: Bituminous materials (asphalt waste) with a concentration level of Benzol (a) pyrene >50 mg/kg (ppm) is considered hazardous waste.
Points of attention:
• Age and origin
• Composition: chemical analysis needed to make distinction

Examples of mis-declarations

Coal-fired power plants fly ash (non-hazardous/hazardous)

Description	Coal-fired power plants fly ash.
Colour	Grey / black.
Physical chemical properties	Powdery; very fine ash: 10-200 micron.
Basel Convention entry	Non-hazardous: B2050 Hazardous: A2060
HS Code	Ex 2621

Remarks
Fly ash from coal fired power plants is normally classified non- hazardous. If in exceptional cases, coal- fired power plants fly ash is hazardous (containing Annex I substances in concentrations sufficient to exhibit Annex III characteristics) it should be classified A2060
Differentiate from hazardous ashes:
Similar optical appearance can be found also in case of some hazardous wastes or wastes requesting notification for other reasons; e.g.:
• Fly ash from municipal waste incineration plants (Y 47)
• Fly ash from hazardous waste incineration/pyrolysis plants, from wood industry or oil firing devices A4100
• Ashes from coal power plants co-incinerating hazardous wastes A2060
• Dusts and residues from flue gas cleaning in copper smelters A1100

Examples of mis-declarations

Construction and demolition waste (non-hazardous/hazardous, non listed mixture)

Description	(Mixed) construction and demolition waste.

Colour	Various
Physical chemical properties	Physical-chemical properties: solid, mostly inorganic materials in various sizes and shapes.
Basel Convention entry	Non-hazardous: B2040 or non-listed Hazardous: not listed
HS Code	Non-hazardous: no specific; 25309000, 25171080 might be used Hazardous : 3825 69 00, Ex 6809, 2621, Ex 2503 00, Ex 2521 00 00, Ex 2827, Ex 2849 20 00, Ex 2530 90, Ex 7001 00

Remarks

• Depending on level of separation and composition C&D waste is classified as hazardous or not;

Waste from the demolition of buildings containing principally inorganic constituents: broken concrete, waste gypsum wallboard or plasterboard is considered B2040;

• Untreated construction and demolition waste, where concrete bricks and tiles are mixed with other fractions such as soil and stones, wood or plastic, residues from accidental fires, soils and stones, dredging sludge are considered non-listed.

General

Numerous kinds of building and demolition wastes can be identified, based on the type of (basic) material. In general the types of building and demolition waste can be subdivided into stony, woody (ligneous), metallic and other materials.

B2040 comprises principally inorganic constituents: broken concrete, waste gypsum wallboard or plasterboard; natural stones, terracotta, reinforced concrete; fibre concrete (if proven recent EU production)

Other, more specific types of building and demolition wastes which are discussed separately are:

• B3050: untreated cork and wood waste and scrap;

• B1010: metal and metal alloys wastes in metallic, non-dispersible form.

• B2130: Bituminous material (asphalt waste) from road construction and maintenance, not containing tar (< 50 mg/kg) and A3200: Bituminous material (asphalt waste) from road construction and maintenance, containing tar (> 50 mg/kg);

• AB130: used blasting grit;

• A2050: waste asbestos (dust and fibres);

Criteria

Main criteria for distinguishing these categories are the composition, potential contamination and last operation. Even if in an early process stage (collection) building and demolition wastes are separated and relatively clean, later operations like sorting, crushing, mixing and recovery can lead to mixed building and demolition wastes

containing hazardous substances. Mixtures of C&D waste are not listed, notification is required.

Points of attention
Based on these criteria, attention should be paid to the following properties of the waste and/or aspects:
• origin c.q. last operation;
• level of separation (Untreated construction and demolition waste, where concrete bricks and tiles are mixed with other fractions such as soil and stones, wood or plastic, residues from accidental fires, soils and stones, dredging sludge are not listed and request notification)
• potential contamination (Be aware of concrete contaminated with asbestos; contamination will render separated fraction hazardous).
In case of doubts take samples of the waste to be analysed.

Examples of mis-declarations

End-of-life vehicles or parts thereof (non-hazardous/hazardous)

Description	Waste end-of-life vehicles.
Colour	Various
Physical chemical properties	Solid waste of motor vehicles. Variable sizes.
Basel Convention entry	Non-hazardous: B1250
Hazardous:	No Basel Convention entry assigned
HS code	Ex 7204

Remarks
Distinction between hazardous and non-hazardous: End-of-life vehicles, containing neither liquids nor other hazardous com- ponents are considered as non-hazardous.
Clarification waste of end-of-life vehicles (ELV)
General
Car wrecks and spare parts can be subdivided into three categories:
1. damaged cars and occasions/historical vehicles;
2. car wrecks;
3. (spare) parts
The major decision to take is the classification as waste or second hand product. The second important decision is the classification as hazardous or non-hazardous

Criteria
Main criteria for distinguishing these categories are:
• the technical state of the vehicle (parts);
• reparability at reasonable costs is viable;
• presence of absence of liquids or hazardous components

Points of attention
• Attention should be paid to the following properties of the vehicle (parts) and/or aspects:
• Does the vehicle meet the legal requirements to drive on public roads?
• Are any essential car parts missing or damaged?
• Are there a sales contract and or a certificate on functionality of a registered trader/technician/garage?
• can the vehicle be repaired at reasonable costs (use a recommended price list for occasions and/or a price list for standard car repairs);
Spare parts: how are they disassembled, packed and documented, in what technical state are they, what is the destination?
• Are there official vehicle (parts) registration certificates and sales contracts?
• Does the vehicle (or parts) contain any liquids (oils, fluids, diesel, petrol, etc.) or hazardous components (air bags, car battery, LPG tank, oil filter, cooling liquids/agents, condensers, lamps, etc.)? Check reservoirs, tubes, draw-off valves, etc.;

Examples of mis-declarations
– Used goods
– Used cars
– Second-hand cars
– Second hand spare parts
– Waste car parts can be hidden in second hand or end-of-life vehicles

E-waste (hazardous/mixed)[1]

Description	Waste electrical and electronic equipment, waste components of electrical and electronic equipment, wastes arising from the processing of waste electrical and electronic equipment or waste components of electrical and electronic equipment in some cases containing or contaminated with Annex I constituents to an extent that the component exhibits an Annex III characteristic
Colour:	various
Physical chemical properties	Physical-chemical properties: various, depending on the type of equipment, but in general electrical and electronic equipment or parts thereof with dangerous components.

[1] Please note that theas amended by the Conference of the Parties in 2022)

Basel Convention entry (current status until 31 December 2024):

Hazardous: A1180 Non-hazardous: B1110

HS Code
A new HS Code 85.49 for “Electrical and electronic waste” commonly referred to as “e-waste” was introduced in the seventh edition of the Harmonized System (HS 2022) nomenclature which became effective from January 1, 2022

Remarks

During their 2022 meeting, the Conference of the Parties amended the Convention in relation to electrical and electronic wastes (e-wastes). The E-waste Amendments refer to changes to the scope of e-wastes covered by the Basel Convention and will make all electronic and electrical waste subject to the prior informed consent (PIC) procedure.

The following changes were made to three Annexes to the Convention which will become effective on 1 January 2025:

- Annex II (waste that requires special consideration: subject to the PIC procedure): addition of new entry Y49 covering all e-wastes, its components and wastes from the processing of e-waste (e. g. fractions from shredding), except for those e-waste covered by entry A1181 (in Annex VIII);
- Annex VIII (waste presumed to be hazardous: subject to the PIC procedure): addition of new entry A1181 covering hazardous e-wastes, its components and wastes from the processing of e-waste (e. g. fractions from shredding), and deletion of existing entry A1180;
- Annex IX (waste presumed not to be hazardous: not subject to the PIC procedure): deletion of the existing e-waste entries B1110 (e-wastes) and B4030 (single-use cameras).

For the entire text of the new entries, see decision BC-15/18: http://www.brsmeas.org/20212022COPs/Overview/tabid/8395/language/en-US/Default.aspx

Attention should be paid to the following properties of e-waste and/or aspects:
• Intention or necessity to discard; completeness, damaging, packaging, production date, regular market, documents
• Check for dangerous parts
• Check for hazardousness of toner cartridges and drum-driven cartridges
• PCBs at a concentration level of 50 mg/kg (ppm) or more
Equipment would normally be considered waste if:
a) The product is not complete; essential parts are missing;
b) It shows physical damage that impairs its functionality or safety,
c) The packaging for protecting it from damage during transport and loading and unloading operations is insufficient;
d) The appearance is generally worn or damaged, thus reducing the marketability of the item(s);
e) The item has among its constituent part(s) anything that is required to be discarded or is prohibited under community or national legislation;
f) The equipment is destined for disposal or recycling instead of re-use;
g) There is no regular market for the equipment; or
h) It is old or out-dated equipment destined for cannibalization (to gain spare parts).
Equipment would not normally be considered waste
a) If it is fully functioning and is not destined for any recovery or disposal operations and is directly reused for the purpose for which it was originally intended or presented for sale or exported for the purpose of being put back to direct reuse or sold to end consumers for such reuse, or
b) f it is sent back as defective batches for repair to the producer or repair centres (e. g. under warranty) with the intention of re-use.

Examples of electronic hardware (or parts thereof) with dangerous components:
• list A batteries,
• PCB-capacitors,
• accumulators,
• condensers (PCB concentration level of 50 mg/kg (ppm) or more),
• mercury switches,
• glass from cathode-ray tubes or other activated glass,
• toner cartridges,
• monitors, TV screen with cathode ray tubes,
• plasma screen or LCD-screen, big LCD displays;
• printer drums containing heavy metals,
• toner cartridges

Examples of mis-declarations
– Used goods
– Second-hand goods
– Household appliances
– Warranty goods

– Charity or donations
-– Plastic or metal scrap

Glass waste and scrap

Description	Cullet or other waste and scrap of glass except for glass from cathode-ray tubes and other activated (with coatings) glasses.
Colour	Green, brown, colourless (other colours possible as well).
Physical chemical properties	Solid waste formed as bottles, pots, plates, or pieces thereof.
Basel Convention entry	B2020
HS Code	Ex 7001 00

Remarks
Glass bottles are generally classified as non-hazardous; glass of other origin however, might be hazardous. Coated (mirrors) or activated (cathode ray tubes) glass is classified A 2010.

Examples of mis-declarations

Iron or steel scrap

Description	Iron or steel scrap.
Colour	Mostly grey.
Physical chemical properties	Solid metal waste (iron or steel) which occurs in different kind of properties.
Basel Convention entry	B1010
HS Code	Ex 7204

Remarks
Iron and steel scrap can arise from production, transport packaging, construction and demolition, waste treatment plants (separation) or separately collected fraction from municipal waste. Major criterion for classification is a potential contami- nation. Ferrous metals may be pure iron, like wrought iron, or they may be alloys of iron and other elements. Steel, being an alloy of iron and carbon, is therefore a ferrous metal. Ferrous metals are often magnetic, but this property is not in and of itself sufficient to classify a metal as ferrous or non-ferrous. Austenitic stainless steel, a ferrous metal, is non-magnetic, while cobalt is magnetic but non-ferrous.

Criteria
Main criteria for distinguishing these categories are the composition and last operation of the metals. Points of attention
• Be aware of potential radioactivity
• Look for potential contamination that would render the waste hazardous
• Origin or last operation (sorting, mixing, shredding and recovery can lead to contamination)
• In case of doubts take samples of the waste to be analysed.

Examples of mis-declarations

Lead-acid batteries

Description	Lead-acid batteries, whole or crushed.
Colour	Black, white, greyish often with colourful stickers.
Physical chemical properties	Solid or crushed boxes of variable size; easily recognizable. Relatively large batteries (also accumulators) – e.g. used for cars able or semi-sealable containers; relatively heavy weight.
Basel Convention entry	A1160
HS Code	Ex 8548 10

Remarks
Note: Lead acid batteries are to be considered as hazardous! Be aware of leaking acids!

Examples of mis-declarations
– Lead scrap
– Lead waste

Mixed municipal waste

Description	Wastes collected from households. Hazardous wastes most commonly found in municipal waste include for instance: – Batteries – Medical waste – Outdates medicines or chemicals – Residues of solvents, oil, paints, chemicals, sterilizing agents and bleaches – Small electronic appliances, which may contain mercury – Contaminated plastics, papers and metals

Colour	Various
Physical chemical properties	Solid. Mixed fractions of household or similar waste comprising paper, plastics, organics, etc; easily recognizable.
Basel Convention entry	Y46
HS Code	Ex 3825

Remarks

Examples of mis-declarations

Mixed non-ferrous metal

Description	Mixed non-ferrous metal, heavy fraction scrap.
Colour	Mainly dark blue/grey.
Physical chemical properties	Mixture of non-ferrous metals and alloys in various sizes and shapes (shredder output). This material is relatively soft and mouldable.
Basel Convention entry	B1050
HS Code	Ex 7802, Ex 7404, Ex 7503, Ex 7602, Ex 7902, Ex 8002

Remarks
Mixed non-ferrous scrap is not uniform in material and metal type. The classification is depending on potential contamination with dangerous compounds. Be aware of radioactivity.

General
Numerous kinds of non-ferrous metals can be identified, based on the composition. Common non-ferrous metals include aluminium, tin, copper, zinc, and brass, an alloy of copper and zinc. Some precious metals such as silver, gold, and platinum are also non-ferrous.
Ferrous metals may be pure iron, like wrought iron, or they may be alloys of iron and other elements. Steel, being an alloy
of iron and carbon, is therefore a ferrous metal. Ferrous metals are often magnetic, but this property is not in and of itself sufficient to classify a metal as ferrous or non-ferrous. Austenitic stainless steel, a ferrous metal, is non-magnetic, while cobalt is magnetic but non-ferrous.
Sorted fractions of non-ferrous metals are classified under specified waste codes such as:
• B1010
• B 1020

• The characteristics of B1050 are the mixed metal composition.
Criteria
Main criteria for distinguishing these categories are the composition and last operation of the metals. Points of attention
• Contamination with dangerous substances (e.g. contaminated C&D waste or A 1010 e.g. lead waste)
• Origin or last operation (sorting, mixing, shredding and recovery can lead to contamination)
• In case of doubts take samples of the waste to be analysed.
• Radioactivity

Examples of mis-declarations

Paper and paperboard wastes

Description	Paper, paperboard and paper product wastes of: unbleached paper or paperboard or of corrugated paper or paperboard, other paper or paperboard, made mainly of bleached chemical pulp, not coloured in the mass, paper or paperboard made mainly of mechanical pulp (for example, newspapers, journals and similar printed matter), other, including but not limited to laminated paperboard and unsorted scrap.
Colour	Various.
Physical chemical properties	Solid. Paper or cardboard (including bleached, non-bleached, corrugated and laminated).
Basel Convention entry	B3020
HS Code	4704

Remarks
Composition: is it mixed or not and if so with what kind of waste?

Examples of mis-declarations
Commingled or mixed household waste can be disguised as paper waste.

PCB, PCT or PBB containing waste

Description	Wastes, substances and articles containing, consisting of or contaminated with polychlorinated

	biphenyl (PCB), poly- chlorinated terphenyl (PCT), polychlorinated naphthalene (PCN) or polybrominated biphenyl (PBB), or any other polybrominated analogues of these compounds, at a concentration level of 50 mg/kg or more. The following materials can contain PCBs: – Transformers – Capacitators – Plasticizers – PVC coatings – Pesticide extenders – Cutting oil – Flame retardants – Lubricating oil – Hydraulic oil – Sealants – Adhesives – Wood floor finishes – Paints – Contaminated soil
Colour	Mainly black/dark brown.
Physical chemical properties	Liquid oil. Viscous.
Basel Convention entry	A3180
HS Code	Ex 3825

Remarks

Many different substances and articles can be contaminated with PCB, PCT, PCN, and PBB at a concentration level of 50 mg/ kg or more. The most important categories are big transformers and capacitors filled with PCB containing oil (from power stations). However PCB, PCT, PBB or any other polybrominated analogues in corresponding concentrations can also be found in for example waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE), assemblies or scrap containing components, coated cables and in construction and demolition wastes.

Main criteria for distinguishing these categories are:

• the concentration level (> 50 mg/kg);
• the application (e.g. in transformers, capacitors or cables)
• the origin
• the production year of the equipment

Attention should be paid to the following properties of the waste and/or aspects:

• Content: is the PCB containing substance still in the product or article and does it need to be tapped off yet, or is it tapped off already and needs to be disposed off;
• Transformers refilled with PCB free oil can still contain high concentrations of PCB’s, because of absorbed PCB’s in especially wood and paper; existence of oil or oily liquid in old transformers/ capacitors should always be considered suspicious

• Since it can be lucrative to mix PCB containing oil (e.g. with fuel oil), check these kind of shipments too;
• In case of doubts take samples of the oil to be analysed.

Examples of mis-declarations
– Metal scrap – Copper scrap

Stags, ashes and residues of metal refinery (non-hazardous/hazardous)

Description	Metal slags, ashes and residues.
Colour	Various, mainly grey.
Physical chemical properties	Solid blocks or granular waste.
Basel Convention entry	Non-hazardous: B1100, B1150, B1170, B1210, B1230 Hazardous: A1020, A1100, A1150
HS Code	Non-hazardous: 7112, 262030, 262090, 261900, 262050, 810420, ex 810430, and other Hazardous: 7112, 262030, 262090, 261900, 262050, 810420, ex 810430, and other

Remarks

General
Numerous kinds of slag, dross and ashes can be identified, based on the type of production process and composition. Slags and ashes and other residues from metallurgical processes can be either hazardous or non-hazardous; the colour and composition (powdery, particulate, blocky) sometimes helps in differentiation
Hazardous:
A1020: Metal waste (ashes and residues) having as constituents or contaminants, excluding metal waste in massive form, any of the following: Antimony, Beryllium, Cadmium, Lead, Selenium or Tellurium compounds;
• A1100: Dusts and residues (ashes) from gas cleaning systems of copper smelters;
• A1150: Precious metal ash from incineration of printed circuit boards;
• A2060: Coal fired power plants fly ash containing Annex I substances in concentrations sufficient to exhibit Annex III characteristics
• A3090: Waste leather dust, ash, sludges and flours when containing hexavalent chromium compounds or biocides (note the related entry on list B, B3100);
• A 4100: Fly ash from HWI, wood and paper industry or oil firing installations
• Y47: Residues from incineration of household (municipal) waste
Non-hazardous
• B1100: Metal-bearing wastes from melting, smelting and refining of metals: — Hard zinc spelter— Zinc-containing drosses:— Galvanising slab zinc top dross (>90 % Zn)—

Galvanising slab zinc bottom dross (>92 % Zn)— Zinc die casting dross (>85 % Zn)— Hot dip galvanisers slab zinc dross (batch) (>92 % Zn)— Zinc skimmings— Aluminium skimmings (or skims) excluding salt slag— Slags from copper processing for further processing or refining not containing arsenic, lead or cadmium to an extent that they exhibit Annex III hazard characteristics (see also GB 040)— Wastes of refractory linings, including crucibles, originating from copper smelting— Slags from precious metals processing for further refining— Tantalum bearing tin slags with less than 0,5 % tin

• B1150: Precious metals and alloy wastes (gold, silver, the platinum group, but not mercury) in a dispersible, non-liquid form with appropriate packaging and labelling
• B1170: Precious-metal ash from the incineration of photographic film
• B1210: Slag arising from the manufacture of iron and steel including slags as a source of TiO2 and Vanadium
• B1230: Mill scaling arising from the manufacture of iron and steel

Criteria

Main criteria for distinguishing these categories are:

• the origin (metal industry, power plants and others);
• the composition of the slag, dross or ashes

Points of attention

Attention should be paid to the following properties of the waste and/or aspects:

• colour
• composition
• In case of doubts take samples of the waste to be analysed.

Examples of mis-declarations

Textile wastes (carpets and floorings)

Description	Textile wastes, provided they are not mixed with other wastes and are prepared to a specification and waste textile floor coverings, carpets.
Colour	Various
Physical chemical properties	Solid, soft, flexible, but also tough and prickly materials (tissue, textile ropes or cables and animal hair by specification; worn clothing, rags).
Basel Convention entry	B3030, B 3035 (floor coverings, carpets)
HS Code	5003 (10); 5003 90; 5103; 5103 10; 5103 20; 5103 30; 5202; 5202 10; 5202 91; 5202 99; 5301 30; Ex 5302 90; Ex 5303 90; Ex 5304 90; Ex 5305 19; Ex 5305 29; Ex 5305 99; 5505; 5505 10; 5505 20; 6309 00; Ex 6310; Ex 6310 10; Ex 6310 90

Remarks
Textiles are generally considered non-hazardous, but mixing with other wastes and hidden contamination can request notification or result in export ban.

General
Numerous kinds of textile wastes can be distinguished based on the type of material (composition) and origin. In general a subdivision can be made between textile wastes from textile industry (treated and untreated textile fibres), worn (-out) textile wastes from households and textile floor coverings. Most of the textile wastes are being re-used, recycled or recovered, also as secondary fuel.
Criteria
A priority decision is the question whether the material is a product or waste; intention or necessity to discard and functionality (appropriateness for direct reuse) are the major parameters for distinction.

Main criteria for distinguishing these categories are:
• Type of material (silk, wool, hair, cotton, yarn, flax, true hemp, manmade, synthetic or artificial fibres);
• Origin: worn clothing and other textile articles, used and worn-out rags, twine, cordage, rope (sorted and unsorted) and
waste textile floor coverings.

Points of attention
• Distinction second hand product versus waste
• Mixing with other wastes; textile wastes pre-eminently can be used to 'hide' other (hazardous) waste during transport. So
make sure physically check a cargo with textile wastes.
• Sorted or unsorted textile wastes;
• Contamination: Carpet waste should not be contaminated with glue, tar, PCB, asbestos, etc; rags may not be contaminated
with oil, solvent or heavy metals).

Examples of mis-declarations

Waste metal cables (non-hazardous/hazardous)

Description	Waste metal cables coated or insulated with plastics.
Colour	Various.
Physical chemical properties	Solid with metal wires and plastic coating.
Basel Convention entry	Non-hazardous : B1115

	Hazardous : A1190
HS Code	Ex 7404, Ex7602, Ex 7802

Remarks
Distinction between hazardous and non-hazardous: waste metal cables coated or insulated with plastics containing or contaminated with coal tar, PCBs, lead, cadmium, other organohalogen compounds or other Annex I constituents, to the extent that they exhibit Annex III characteristics are considered hazardous waste.
Waste metal cables coated or insulated with plastics, not included in list A1190, excluding those destined for Annex IVA operations or any other disposal operations involving, at any stage, uncontrolled thermal processes, such as open-burning are considered non-hazardous.

Main criteria for distinguishing the two categories are the composition and last operation of the cables. Based on these criteria, attention should be paid to the following properties of the waste and/or aspects:
• Origin; (unknown origin or underground cables are commonly contaminated);
• Destination: (Waste destined to Annex IVA operations or any other disposal operations involving, at any stage, uncontrolled thermal processes, such as open burning is not covered by B1115);
• Composition; (plastics containing or contaminated with coal tar, PCB, lead, cadmium, other organohalogen compounds or
other Annex I constituents).
• In case of doubts take samples of the waste to be analysed.

Examples of mis-declarations
– Copper scrap
– Aluminium scrap
– Plastic waste/scrap

Waste mineral oils

Description	Waste mineral oils unfit for their originally intended use or waste oils/water, hydrocarbons/water mixtures, emulsions.
Colour	Mainly black/dark brown.
Physical chemical properties	Liquid oil. Viscous.
Basel Convention entry	A3020, A4060
HS Code	Ex 2710; Ex 271099

Remarks
Edible oils are in principle non-hazardous waste. Main criteria for distinguishing the two categories are:

– Origin (mineral, synthetic)
– Composition (pure, mixed and contamination)
Attention should be paid to the following properties of the waste oils and/or aspects:
• type of transport (e.g. tanker);
• type of containment (e.g. tank, barrels);
• destination (Disposal or Recovery); for example incineration as secondary fuel in cement kilns is generally accepted in many countries;
In case of doubts take samples of the oil to be analysed. Waste oils can be used easily to mix and blend other hazardous sub- stances.

Examples of mis-declarations
– Off spec material/fuel
– B-quality oil

Plastics wastes (non-hazardous/hazardous/mixed)

Description	Solid plastic waste, scrap plastic of non-halogenated polymers and co-polymers, cured waste resins or condensation products, and certain fluorinated polymers.
Colour	Various.
Physical chemical properties	Solid plastics. Variable size and form including shredded, milled material or granulate of polymers and copolymers (e.g. PE, PS, PP, PET, PU foams, resins, and certain fluorinated polymer).
Basel Convention entries	Hazardous (A3210), Non-hazardous (B3010) Other (mixture) (Y48)
HS Code	3915; 3915 10; 3915 30; 3915 90 80; 3915 90

Remarks
Classification depends on the contamination with other wastes, like household waste. Plastic waste can be classified non-hazardous, hazardous, or other (mixture).

Major criteria to distinguish categories are material (optical appearance) and the level of contamination, and separation:
- **Hazardous plastic wastes (entry A3210 in Annex VIII**): Plastic waste, including mixtures of such waste, containing or contaminated with Annex I constituents, to an extent that it exhibits an Annex III characteristics;

- **Non-hazardous plastic waste**s (**entry B3011 in Annex IX**): Plastic wastes destined for recycling in an environmentally sound manner and almost free from

contamination and other types of waste that remain excluded from the PIC procedure (certain single polymers or mixture of PE, PP and/or PET).

- **Waste that requires special consideration**:(**entry Y 48 in Annex II**): all plastic waste, including mixtures of plastic waste, except for the plastic waste covered by entries A3210 (in Annex VIII) and B3011 (in Annex IX).

In addition

• The terms "almost free from contamination and other types of wastes" and "almost exclusively consisting of" in entry B3011 may apply together. Plastic may not be considered B3011 if the content of contamination, other types of wastes or non-halogenated polymers, cured resins or condensation products, or fluorinated polymers other than the one non-halogenated polymer, cured resin or condensation product, or fluorinated polymer that makes up the bulk of the plastic waste exceed a certain amount of the weight of the consignment[2].
•Plastic may not be considered B3011 if other materials e.g. metals, wood, paper, composite packaging are mixed in; if mixed with different types of wastes (except for PE, PP and/or PET);
• Heavily contaminated plastics from separate household collection should be considered as household waste;
• Foams that contain CFCs are considered hazardous;
• PC waste (CDs, DVDs) mixed with larger quantities of paper (shredded covers, booklets) are considered a mixture of waste;
• Waste mixtures of (PMMA), polyester resins and wood (production residues from wood industry) are considered amixture;
• Waste floorings, cable isolations containing PCB or asbestos are considered hazardous;
• Not fully emptied plastic packaging with dangerous content are considered hazardous (A3210);
• Not cleaned lead accumulator housings are considered hazardous (A1160 or A1020);
• Olyacrylmethacrylate (PMMA) lacquers are considered hazardous (A4070).

Examples of mis-declarations

- 39.20 – Plastics
- 63.05 – Used big bags

Waste pneumatic tyres

[2] EU Correspondents' Guidelines No 12 adopted in November 2021 specify that contamination in the bulk of the plastic waste should not exceed a total maximum of 2 % of the weight of the consignment.

Description	Waste pneumatic/end-of-life tyres, excluding those destined for final disposal operations (Annex IV A of the Convention).
Colour	Dark grey/black.
Physical chemical properties	Solid, not granulated, flexible material (for example: inner pneumatic tyres).
Basel Convention entry	B3140
HS Code	Ex 4012 20

Remarks

Waste non waste; waste tyres are often intended to be shipped under product codes as used tyres. The national requirements of tread depth could be used in decision making whether the tyre is waste or second hand products.

Examples of mis-declarations

– Second hand tyres