The Development of Recycling Aluminium Industry in China 2012

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China is a big country in nonferrous metals industry, which has a biggest output for ten years and a biggest consumption for consecutive nine years. Meanwhile, China’s nonferrous metals industry is facing some important challenges such as increasing pressure in resources and environment, metals recycling and reuse. Thus, secondary metals industry is getting more focus and support.

In 2012, the output of recycling aluminium was about 4.8 million tons, a 9% year-on-year increase. Also in 2012, China imported aluminium scrap of total of 2.59 million tons, a 3.7 % year-on-year decrease, a total amount of $4.13 billion, down 10.8%. However, from domestic sector, scrap aluminium was 2.7 million tons, an increase of 22.7% that achieved a substantial increase, which met the needs of fast development of secondary aluminium industry in China.

Significantly, the primary aluminium industry and secondary aluminium industry have become two pillars to support the development of modern aluminium industry. Along with the development of scrap aluminium collection, pre-treatment, melting, processing and utilization, the share of primary aluminium industry and secondary aluminium industry is changing with economic development. Primary aluminium industry has developed rapidly – it promotes aluminium consumption, and increases the accumulation of social aluminium scrap, which provides plenty of raw materials for recycling aluminium industry. In the meantime, the secondary aluminium industry has been greatly developed. Recycling aluminium industrial expansion is reducing dependence on resource and energy and alleviating environmental pressures. Recycling aluminium industry represents the development direction of modern aluminium industry in the future that is the most vitality part of modern aluminium industry.

It is notable that every tons of secondary aluminium alloy by using aluminium scrap equals to save 3.4 tons of standard coal, 14 cubic meters of water, reduced 20 tons of solid waste emission. In 2012, recycling aluminium industry in China saved 16.32 million tons of standard coal, 67.20 million cubic meters of water, reduced 96 million tons of solid waste emission and reduced carbon dioxide emissions by 57.60 million tons. This has made a positive contribution to achieve the goal of energy conservation and emission reduction for nonferrous metals industry in China.

Through the analysis on industrial characteristics, the aluminium scrap processing centres concentrate in the areas such as Pearl River Delta, Yangtze River Delta, Circum-Bohai-Sea, and Chengdu-Chongqing Economic Zone. The scale based on the actual annual output over 50,000 tons records 20 companies in 2012 from 2 companies in 2003.
Looking forward, resources from wastes provide advantageous conditions to the sustainable development of the industry. It is believed that there is enormous room for improvement of technical equipment of recycling aluminium. Furthermore, the recycling aluminium industry’s layout in China is optimized and the industrial concentration is improved gradually.

**Biography of Presenter**

**Mr. Bian Gang**  
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Mr. Bian has been a state official since 1992 working with China National Nonferrous Metals Industry Corporation and the State Administration Nonferrous Metals Industry after 3 years working as one of the leaders of China Tungsten Industry Association. Bian is now Chairman of International Lead and Zinc Study Group and Vice Chairman of International Copper Study Group, United Nations, Lisbon Portugal. Bian is a post graduate of the Beijing Normal University. China Nonferrous Metals Industry Association officially came into existence in April 2001 as a result of China’s institutional reform of its industry ministries. All of the 10 industry ministries became industry associations with CNIA as one of them by the end of 2000. CNIA is a national, non-profit, industrial economic social organization and a cooperate body, which was registered under the State Administration for Industry and Commerce after the State Council authorized.

CNIA has over 1000 member companies including Chinese nonferrous metals enterprises, institutions, associations and universities.