Fact Sheet: 2014 Revisions to the Export Provision of the Cathode Ray Tube (CRT) Final Rule

- On June 26, 2014, the EPA published a final rule that revises the export provisions of the CRT final rule under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). (79 FR 36220) The final rule is effective on December 26, 2014.

- These changes will allow the Agency to obtain additional information to better track exports of CRTs for reuse and recycling in order to ensure safe management of these materials.

- These changes were recommended by the Interagency Task Force on Electronics Stewardship, which consists of 16 federal agencies, in its report titled National Strategy for Electronics Stewardship (July 20, 2011). The final rule fulfills an EPA commitment towards the Task Force’s goal to reduce harm from US exports of e-waste and improve the safe handling of used electronics in developing countries.

- Specifically, the rule:

  (1) Adds a definition of “CRT exporter” to eliminate potential confusion over who is responsible for fulfilling CRT exporter duties, including submitting the export notices.
  (2) Requires information on all interim and final destinations for CRTs exported for recycling to provide more complete information to receiving countries.
  (3) Requires annual reports from exporters of used CRTs sent for recycling to provide EPA more accurate information on the total quantity of CRTs exported for recycling during a calendar year.
  (4) Replaces the one-time notice for used CRTs exported for reuse with an expanded, periodic notice to improve tracking, and thus better management, of these CRTs.
  (5) Requires that normal business records maintained by exporters of used CRTs for reuse be translated into English upon request.

- All notices and annual reports are submitted to EPA’s Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, Office of Federal Activities, International Compliance Assurance Division.

- CRT is the glass video display component of an electronic device (usually a computer or television monitor). CRT glass contains a significant amount of lead and must be recycled under safe conditions, which hasn’t always occurred in developing countries.

- For more information about this rulemaking, please visit:
  http://www.epa.gov/osw/hazard/recycling/electron/