

Awareness Training: Waste Management

Waste is defined by the Waste Act 59 of 2008 as “any substance that is surplus, unwanted, rejected, discarded, unwanted or disposed, which the user has no further use of for the purposes of production”

Waste If not correctly managed can result in environmental effects such as soil contamination, surface water contamination and all types of pollution of the environment.

Tractionel Group Holdings generates waste through office activities at HO e.g., use of paper (printing, copying) and through construction activities like concrete works, cable cuts and steel works on sites.

The main waste generated by Tractionel Group Holdings is wood, steel/ scrap metal, concrete, plastics and paper.

To better manage the waste generated we can use the 3 x R's strategy:

(1) Reduce

Sort waste as it is created into things that can be recycled, reused and thrown away (waste segregation); Ensure proper maintenance of equipment and vehicles to prevent ground contamination from hydro-carbon spills; Avoid refuelling of plant and vehicles to avoid spills;

Cover the ground to prevent concrete spills; Use electronic system instead of paper; Invest in double sided printers and scanners to prevent wasting paper.

(2) Reuse

Reuse steel and wire waste generated from manufacturing and cable off-cuts; Reuse unwanted concrete for compacting the ground where needed; Reuse wood and lifting pallets; Reuse plastic water bottle instead of throwing it away; Donate planks to local communities to reuse by making furniture from it.

(3) Recycle

Conduct awareness training on the employees on the importance of recycling to encourage employees to recycle; Segregate waste to hazardous (hydro-carbons and concrete) and general waste (plastic, wood and paper) to avoid damage to recyclable waste and know which waste needs to be recycled; Have enough and clearly marked waste containers to avoid mixing different waste.