Press release

Aperam supports European Commission's proposal to strengthen scrap export restrictions

Securing strategic raw materials is essential for Europe's circular economy and industrial competitiveness.

Luxembourg, 28 October, 2026 (9:00 CET) - Aperam welcomes the European Commission's proposed Delegated Regulation under the Waste Shipment Regulation (EU 2024/1157), strengthening controls on exports of recyclable materials to non-OECD countries.

For Europe's entire industrial value chain, scrap is a strategic raw material, not a surplus commodity. With approximately 80% recycled metallic inputs, European stainless steel production depends on scrap to maintain its low-carbon footprint and competitiveness.

> "*Aperam's benchmark profitability in European Stainless and Recycling businesses is thanks to our competitiveness, but also our focus on supplying our customers with the best value for their scrap and stainless needs. In this context, Europe cannot afford to export the very raw materials it needs to decarbonise its industry. Every tonne of stainless steel scrap exported weakens Europe's circular economy and industrial competitiveness, affecting European industry in every way possible:*
> - *Our already done investments to move to a decarbonized value chain, get structurally starved of critical raw materials which cannot be secured elsewhere in the world;*
> - *Speculators betting on short term trading interests decrease the competitiveness of the entire European value chain, and*
> - *The very same scrap is used to deindustrialize Europe as we export low carbon inputs and import the finished products, circumventing the goals of industrial competitiveness and sustainable production.*
>
> *This runs directly counter to the objectives of both the European Industrial Accelerator Act and the European Green Deal. We fully support the Commission's proposal and call for its adoption without delay,"* **said Sud Sivaji, CEO of Aperam.**

As one of Europe's largest stainless and special alloys producers and recyclers, Aperam believes in the profitability and sustainability of the entire European industrial value chain from scrap to finished products and calls on EU decision-makers to:

- Adopt the regulation on time, by 21 November 2026, without extending the consultation or delaying implementation.
- Maintain strict environmental requirements, excluding countries unable to demonstrate EU-equivalent standards, without transitional export quotas.
- Prevent circumvention, including through End-of-Waste classifications or indirect exports via OECD countries, supported by effective customs enforcement.
- Recognise stainless steel scrap as a strategic secondary raw material for nickel and chromium under the EU's circular economy and Critical Raw Materials Act initiatives.

Aperam remains committed to strengthening Europe's recycling value chain and ensuring that circularity, decarbonisation and industrial competitiveness advance together.

About Aperam

Aperam is a global player in stainless, electrical, alloys, specialty steel and recycling, with customers in over 40 countries. Starting from 1 January 2022, the business is organized in four primary reportable segments: Stainless & Electrical Steel, Services & Solutions, Alloys & Specialties and Recycling & Renewables; committed to be the leading value creator in the circular economy of infinite, world-changing materials.

Aperam has a flat Stainless and Electrical steel capacity of 2.5 million tonnes in Brazil and Europe and is a leader in Alloys & high value specialty products with presence in France, China, India and the United States. In addition to its industrial network, spread over sixteen production facilities in Brazil, Belgium, France, the United States, India & China, Aperam has a highly integrated distribution, processing and services network and a unique capability to produce low carbon footprint stainless and special steels from biomass, stainless steel scrap and high performance alloys scrap. With Bioenergia and its unique capability to produce charcoal made from its own FSC®-certified forestry and with Aperam Recycling, a global leader in collecting, trading, processing and recycling of stainless steel scrap and high performance alloys, Aperam places sustainability at the heart of its business, helping customers worldwide to excel in the circular economy.

In 2025, Aperam had sales of EUR 6,080 million and shipments of 2.29 million tonnes.

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