Unique recovery processes
Global administrative management
A team specialising in the treatment of electrical equipment and waste contaminated by PCBs

The specialist in treatment of PCBs and electrical waste management
The Aprochim service in detail

Thanks to its recognized know-how and use of an innovative process, APROCHIM ensures worldwide collection, treatment and recycling of waste materials contaminated by PCBs and of other discarded electrical equipment (whether contaminated or not): transformers, capacitors, circuit breakers with oil or sulphur hexafluoride gas (SF6), all discarded electrical equipment.

1 Study and advice
Site visit, inventory, diagnosis and sampling. Submission of a specifically-tailored commercial proposal taking customer and regulatory requirements into account.

2 Administrative procedure
for transboundary movement of waste
Administrative assistance in compiling the transboundary movement of waste notification form in compliance with the Basel and Stockholm Conventions and EU regulation No 1013/2006 (written application, provision of the documentation, etc.)

3 Intervention on Site
Dedicated team trained and certified for the preparation of materials and waste for shipment to the decontamination and disposal facilities: pumping, handling, loading, securing and stowage inside containers.

4 Logistics
Shipping by multimodal transport of contaminated materials in compliance with the national and international transport regulations and codes for hazardous materials (IMDG, ADR, RID, IATA...). Transfer to our treatment facility.

5 Treatment and recovery
Decontamination of solid and liquid materials by an innovative process and materials recovery. High-performance filtration systems.

Regulations
Stockholm Convention:
- By 2025: Inventory, labelling, phase out and appropriate storage of equipment containing PCBs.
- By 2028: Environmentally sound disposal of equipment and liquids contaminated by PCBs.

Basel Convention: notably regulates transboundary movements of waste between the signatory countries and Environmentally sound disposal of waste.
Treatment of PCBs: innovative processes

- Transport, unloading
- Treatment by high-vacuum process
- Oil < 2,000 ppm, Treatment by dechlorination process
- Oil > 2,000 ppm, External treatment
- Material recovery after decontamination process
The high-vacuum process

The treatment process developed by APROCHIM is unique in France and highly innovative. It uses a high-vacuum desorption technique. Thanks to a combination of vacuum and temperature, PCBs are vacuumed out in gaseous phase and condensed without preliminary dismantling of contaminated electrical equipment. This technique, which replaces the perchlorethylene-based extraction technology (perchlorethylene is a polluting solvent), permits a significant reduction of the toxicity, decreases of waste produced by treatment and preserves the ozone layer. The decontaminated and separated products (<50 ppm) are recovered in specialized centers (steel, aluminum, copper, magnetic ferro-silicon plates).

The dechlorination process

The dechlorination process enables PCB-contaminated oils pumped from electrical equipment to be decontaminated (dechlorination by dispersion of sodium in the oil). The pollutant is thus neutralized.

Priority to material recovery!

Once decontamination has been performed, APROCHIM uses a crushing system to separate copper and paper. All materials thus recovered (copper, aluminum, brass, ferro-silicon wafers, scrap metal, wood, paper) are sent to the appropriate recovery facilities.
APROCHIM is a subsidiary of the CHIMIREC Group (French International group) key player in waste collection and recovery. With 40 facilities (in France and abroad) and more than 900 employees, CHIMIREC and APROCHIM are the partners with companies (private-sector and public-sector) and international organizations for waste management.

For advice or a quote, don’t hesitate to contact us:
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