A Fortune In Scrap - Secrets Of The Scrap Metal Industry

by Ken Burtwell, Industry Veteran

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"A Fortune in Scrap - Secrets of the Scrap Metal Industry" written by industry veteran, Ken Burtwell, describes how reclamation is vital to the national economy and ranks high on the list of the nation's largest industries. We’re not talking recycling plastic bottles and aluminum cans here - sure, that’s something all of us can do, but what the average person doesn’t know is the "hidden scrap" that’s not obvious to the casual observer - and when salvaged properly - is worth a fortune! Ken shows you how to identify different metals with magnets and chemical tests and you’ll learn how to prepare them for sale to get the BIGGEST BUCKS possible. Prep tools such as "Flame Cutting" and the awesome power of the "Thermic Lance" are described. From bridges and old buildings to old locomotives and the rails they run on, Ken covers this and shows you his (old) photos of buildings being demolished and their hidden gems. This is an example of BIG RECYCLING, and is a necessary process both from an economical and environmental point of view as there is a reduced demand on the Earth’s natural resources. Included are formulas for estimating weights of steel drums, and tables showing weight-per-pound for different metal thicknesses. After reading Ken’s "A Fortune in Scrap", you’ll agree that recycling today is BIG BUSINESS and those having the moxie to forge ahead will be well rewarded. Topics covered in the book are:- Steel- The Scrap Dealer or Collector- Flame Cutting Steel Scrap- Better Grade - More Value- Metal Scrap from Demolition- The Thermic Lance (aka Thermal Lance)- Railroads and Rail Vehicles- Reclamation Equipment- Sheet Steel Gauges and Weights- More Valuable Scrap Metals- Common Metals: Lead And Zinc- Less Common Metals and Where To Find Them- Identification of Metals- Magnetic Testing- Government Scrap Sales- Precious Metals- Silver Coins- Testing Various Metals- Scrap DealersTHANK YOU for reading the description of this very interesting book and we hope you enjoy your purchase. Please feel free to leave a review as this aids others greatly in their purchasing decision.

**Book Information**

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GREAT BOOK. SOME PEOPLE MIGHT SAY ITS A LITTLE OUTDATED BUT THIS KIND OF INFORMATION NEVER CHANGES SO IT REALLY, NEVER GOES OUT OF DATE. THIS BOOK ADDRESSES A CERTAIN ASPECT OF THE SCRAP METAL BUSINESS. IF THIS IS THE AREA YOU ARE INTERESTED IN, BUY THE BOOK AND GET STARTED. D.O.L.

I found the information to be very interesting but a bit over my head. I believe it’s well suited for someone looking to understanding large scale reclamation project’s. I’m giving it three stars only because I’m not qualified to verify the contents but I think it’s definitely worth reading.

I was in the scrap business for a lot of years. I learned things from this book that I didn’t know. Only 4 stars because I would warn anybody reading this that it was written pre-environmental era and some of the things mentioned, like burning wire and a number of other things, will bring you a hefty fine these days. Hefty as in life changing, bankrupting, jail time when you can’t pay...you get the idea. Use your common sense and double check anything you’re thinking about doing via your favorite search engine and/or calling the scrap yards. Otherwise....a must read if you’re thinking about getting into, or are into scrap.

This book does an excellent job providing a survey overview of the opportunities in scrap steel and how to very quickly generate substantial income in this powerful, global market. The book includes a short history, some quality ideas and a quickly understood mathematical formula used in this
industry. The writing is accurate, concise and clear though more depth is needed in this book. Examples might include tools and equipment that are not only needed but some of the costs involved in turning scrap into real money. Also missing is some of the finer, business type of evolving dynamics of this industry: The role of the London Metals Exchange or even the Midwest U.S. Scrap Futures contract that ultimately influence the pricing of scrap and how a small time startup operator will be affected by the presence and powers of these markets.

The author shows you places where you can collect scrap metals and example on how people profit from demolished building with scrap metal trading. I especially love the chapter dedicated to more valuable scrap metals such as Aluminum, Brass, Bronze, Coppers, etc... The author explains the characteristics, uses, where they can be found and methods of separation. This is really an eye-opener to me! I'm also amazed to realize that the US coins dated 1964 and earlier actually worth a lot more today because of the metal composition it contains! After reading this book, I realized 1 thing - scrap metals can worth a fortune. There is a ton of potential to profit from scrap metal recycling business!

Cheers, Ming Jong Tey

Old price info! Ok if someone has never sold metals and is trying to learn more about how the industry works.

Does not address the economics of scrapping. Only focused on identifying one metal from another. Good thing is it’s a short read.

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