**Utilisation Options for Waste Toner Powder**

Dilyana Yordanova\*, Svetla Angelova, Ivan Dombalov

*Department of Environmental Engineering, Faculty of Chemical and System Engineering, University of Chemical Technology and Metallurgy, 8 Kl. Ohridski Bld., 1756 Sofia, Bulgaria E-mail: dilyanka\_y@abv.bg*

**Abstract.** Daily use of electrical and electronic equipment and the rapid development of modern technologies in this area lead to the generation of significant quantities of electronic waste. This group of waste includes printers, photocopiers and fax machines that use toner powder for recreating text and images. The composition and particle size turn the disposal of the quantities of waste toner into a serious problem. Main components of toner powders are styrene acrylate copolymer, iron oxide, carbon black, polymethyl methacrylate, amorphous silica, pigments, polypropylene, waxes, and various additives (e.g. titanium dioxide). Some of these ingredients are recognised by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as hazardous to human health and the environment, while carbon black is classified as possibly carcinogenic to humans (Group 2B) by the International Agency for Research on Cancer. The fine toner particles (>10 μm) may remain suspended in the air for some period of time, which can cause the occurrence of certain negative health effects. The environmental risks associated with the improper disposal of waste toner powder are discussed in the publication. An analysis of the test results of four samples waste toner (black, cyan, magenta and yellow) is carried out. The tests were done by means of weight analysis, atomic absorption spectroscopy (AAS), inductively coupled plasma optical emission spectrometry (ICP-OES), infrared spectroscopy (IR spectroscopy), thermogravimetric analysis (TGA), differential thermal analysis (DTA) and differential scanning calorimetry (DSC). The possibility for utilisation of spent toner as a filler and colorant in the rubber manufacturing process is assessed.