

**Sept. 20, 2018 statement on Intercon leader's guilty plea from Basel Action Network:**

Brian Brundage, the CEO of Intercon Solutions, has finally pled guilty in Count One of the federal indictment to everything BAN said he did, beginning with our press release back in 2011 when we outed them and denied them their e-Stewards Certification. In 2012, BAN and their executive Jim Puckett were sued for defamation. In this plea deal, Brundage admits guilt to engaging in an intentionally false defamation suit against BAN, for fraudulently telling customers that he recycled waste when in fact he either exported it, landfilled it, illegally stored it or sold it for reuse without authorization.

"The wheels of justice turn very slowly but they have finally turned," Puckett said. "This all started with BAN blowing the whistle on containers we tracked to Hong Kong from Intercon's yard in Chicago Heights. We then acquired evidence of hundreds of such exports, and, of course, there were more likely thousands over the years. For our honest reporting, we were rewarded with a defamation suit, which, while it was handled by a legal team pro-bono, cost BAN and our legal team many hundreds of hours to defend. And we are just one of many of his victims, including the countless people his e-waste poisoned. We can take comfort in knowing that without our investigatory work he would likely still be operating, still holding certain certifications and still ruining people's lives. Hopefully, now he will pay a stiff price for his deadly fraud."

BAN warns that sadly, Brian Brundage is not the only fraudster in this industry. There are many still operating that are all about packing and shipping hazardous e-waste to substandard operations overseas. They call themselves recyclers but their primary business is fraud and exploitation of gaps in our legislation.