IT ASSET RETIREMENT

RE-NEWS

SAFE & SOUND
SECURE DATA DESTRUCTION
ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE RECYCLING

CASCADE
ABSET MANAGEMENT, LLC

CASCADE ASSET MANAGEMENT'S CUSTOMER NEWSLETTER

Quick Facts and Figures

Since Cascade opened in April, 1999, we've:

- Collected and Processed over 52 million pounds of old electronics
- Paid more than $7.3 million in rebates to customers
- Refurbished and resold, redeployed or donated over 900,000 monitors, computers and printers
- Demanufactured and recycled over 636,000 cathode ray tubes
- Kept more than 2.5 million pounds of lead out of landfills
- Donated more than $262,000 worth of computer equipment to charities in partnership with our customers

Contact Cascade

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Plenty of green computers to purchase

The Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) is gaining wide acceptance in the marketplace as a system to help purchasers evaluate, compare and select electronic products based on their environmental attributes.

Spurred by a Federal Executive Order commit-ting agencies to spend over $300 billion for EPEAT compliant computer hardware, manufacturers have responded by registering over 1,200 devices in the EPEAT program.

The EPEAT website **(www.epeat.net)** includes tools for institutions to help them identify environmentally preferable products, write bid language to specify EPEAT products, and track the impact of these purchases with an environmental benefits calculator.

EPEAT products also have been demonstrated to reduce the total cost of ownership of personal computers by including energy efficiency, upgrading and disposal standards.

Data theft is a significant issue during disposal

A report published on May 7, 2009 found that of 300 hard disks bought randomly at computer fairs and an online auction site, 34% still held personal data. The purchases were part of an ongoing research project by the University of Glamorgan in Scotland which bought disks from the US, UK, Germany, France and Australia for the past four years with similar results.

Dr. Iain Sutherland, of the University of Glamorgan, commented, "Of significant concern is the number of large organizations that are still not disposing of confidential information in a secure manner. In the current financial climate they risk losing highly valuable propriety data."

In the United States and elsewhere, a number of privacy protection regulations have been promulgated in an effort to stem the tide of data losses. For example, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 2003 requires the development of security standards by health care institutions to protect the confidentiality of individually identifiable health information. Hospitals, insurance companies, and clinics need to demonstrate all personal health information on electronic media is destroyed upon disposal or they face significant fines.

HIPAA and other such regulations tend to require businesses to set up an auditable process for destroying personal information contained on their computer equipment during disposal. Cascade can work with institutions to set up a compliant process that incorporates data destruction on hard drives and other media through on-site wiping and crushing of hard drives or off-site media destruction, as required by the customer.

Resources for you

Go to Cascade's Web Site and click the Security Link on our home page to access our Toolkit:

- Sample IT Asset Control and Disposal Policy
- HIPAA Compliant Data Security Addendum
- White Paper on Data Security During Disposal
- Video of Cascade's Media Shredder

Coast to Coast IT Asset Retirement Solutions, with Processing and Technical facilities across the United States

Wilmington, Delaware * Orlando, Florida * Indianapolis, Indiana * Madison, Wisconsin
Houston, Texas * Denver, Colorado * Los Angeles, California * Seattle, Washington

News reports and legal action focus on export and dumping of PCs

National Geographic reported in January, 2008 that "less than 20 percent of e-waste entering the solid waste stream is channeled through companies that advertise themselves as recyclers . . . While some recyclers process the material with an eye toward minimizing pollution and health risks, many more sell it to brokers who ship it to the developing world, where environmental enforcement is weak."

Computers dumped in Ghana, from *Frontline* report

The flow of electronics is well documented into China, India and Africa, where primitive processing techniques and an absence of health, safety and environmental protections are the norm. Television reports by *Frontline* and *60 Minutes* provide a graphic illustration of the harm caused by the export of un-processed computer equipment.

Last summer, the General Accounting Office posed as brokers and buyers of used electronic scrap. It found 46 American recyclers were willing to sell them untested and/or non-working electronics for overseas processing. Many of these firms claimed on their websites that they have a no-landfill policy or ensure 100% domestic recycling.

Since that time, two processors have been fined by the EPA for the illegal export of cathode ray tubes. New rules from the EPA require processors to get the consent of importing countries who receive CRTs for recycling. Only 17 companies are now approved by the EPA to export CRTs for recycling. Cascade's EPA approval document for CRT recycling is available on our web site.

New export legislation

A new bill (HR 2595) was introduced in the House of Representatives by Rep. Greene (D-Texas) to address the export of used electronics from the US. Recently, an exception to the export ban was included to allow items with the "intent to be reused" to be shipped overseas.

Environmental groups and many processors (including Cascade) that once supported the legislation now claim this exception creates a gaping loophole that would essentially continue the flow of nonworking computers into developing countries. Now that consensus on this bill has been lost, its future is in question.

Resources for you

Go to Cascade's Web Site and click the Environment Link on our home page to access more information about this topic:

- Links to news stories and articles (the Frontline and 60 Minutes Web sites have a wealth of information on the global trade of electronics.)

- Video on the E-Stewards Program— an independent certification of processors that reviews a company's environmental, health, safety and security programs and which seeks to prevent the dumping of non-working computers or electronic hazardous waste into developing countries.

- Details on current environmental regulations and how they apply to electronic asset disposition.

Leverage Cascade to work for you:

Minority Business Enterprise

Cascade is a Certified Minority Business Enterprise. Claim your work with Cascade as part of your diversity programs.

National Pick-up Solutions

With 8 locations across the U.S., Cascade is close to every major metro area. We perform about 15,000 pick-ups per month.