

Taking Out the Trash

Regulations & Opportunities for Safe PC Disposal

PDS Technology Conference

Waukesha

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Discussion Points

- n Current Regulatory Requirements and Industry Perspective
- n How Does this Impact Business?
- n What does the Future Hold?

Wisconsin

SHWEC EOL Study (2003)

Computers obsolete, 2002: 1.17-1.25 million
Recycled and disposed in Wisconsin (est)

Year	# Recy'd	# Disposed
2002	490,000	194,000
2005	867,000	336,000

Wisconsin Rules

- § State hazardous waste regulations prohibit disposal in municipal solid waste landfills if computers fail toxicity tests
- § Department exercises discretion in enforcement of Hz waste rules if computers are reused/recycled
- § Businesses must recycle to avoid handling as a waste
- § Household computers are exempt but strongly encouraged to recycle

CRT Management Guidance

§ Revised management Guidance (July 2003)

- Covers both broken and intact CRTs
- Provides conditional exemption from hazardous waste transport, manifest, and reporting requirements
- Self transport allowed
- Prohibits speculative accumulation of all CRTs (intact or broken)
- Proposed Federal CRT rule
 - less restrictive on speculative accumulation
 - expected to be in place early 2004

Wisconsin - efforts

- n Computer Recycling Task Force recommendation to Legislative Council on Recycling - summer 2002
 - Immediate landfill ban of CRTs
 - Phased in ban for all other electronic equipment containing hazardous materials
 - Three financing options - all front end fee
 - Foster voluntary certification for e-recyclers

Wisconsin

n Current activities:

- Proposed legislation (in draft)
- E-Recycler checklist

- n an aid for waste generators and waste contractors in choosing a contractor or recycler to properly handle and process electronic waste

- n consistent with Council on Recycling recommendation

NEPSI

n **National Electronics Product Stewardship Initiative (NEPSI)**

- “bring stakeholders together to develop solutions to the issue of electronic products management”
- Dialogue with governments, manufacturers, retailers, recyclers and environmental groups

NEPSI

- n **Develop a system to maximize collection, reuse and recycling which includes:**
 - a viable financing mechanism
 - n Advance Recycling Fee
 - n Partial Cost Internalization
 - n Hybrid
 - appropriate design incentives
 - n facilitate reduce, reuse, recycle
 - n reduce toxicity
 - n increase recycled content

Other States

n Minnesota

- Senate File 905 includes a ban on the placement of CRTs in municipal waste landfills that begins in July 2005

n California

- SB 20 (Sher) considered today with third reading. \$10 fee on CRT devices/product stewardship

Other Factors

- n Export of equipment to developing countries
- n Prison labor issue
- n Abandoned warehouses in US
- n OEM take back programs
- n Shift of cost from taxpayer to consumer/
manufacturer

Practical Considerations for Business

- n What are my disposal options?
 - Legal
 - Practical
 - Economical
- n When does liability end for businesses?

E-Recycler Checklist

- n Objective: A tool for e- waste generators in selection of a recycler to properly handle and process e-waste.
 - Provides a structured approach for information gathering.
 - Raises issues to consider within your own organization before approaching potential contractors/recyclers.
 - An educational tool promoting awareness of potential adverse environmental impacts of e-waste as well as its possible 'improper' ultimate fate, (overseas dumping of techno-trash.
 - Sends a message to contractors that their future market will demand environmental responsibility and accountability.

E-Recycler Checklist

n Checklist topics:

- General questions to ask (can the service provider provide services you need, and references)
- Compliance with federal, state and local laws
- Documentation regarding end-use markets
- Client concerns
 - n eg reuse, exports/dumping, prison labor, donation
- Risk Management

Sources of Information

- n International Association of Electronics Recyclers (most comprehensive directory of electronics recyclers; provides certification program): www.iaer.org
- n WI DNR Recycling Markets Directory
www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/wm/markets/
- n Silicon Valley Toxics Coalition: www.svtc.org/cleancc/index.html
- n Electronic Industry Association: www.eiae.org
- n EPA Common Sense Initiative on Computers and Electronics:
<http://www.epa.gov/commonsense/computer/index.htm>
- n WasteWise publication on electronics: www.epa.gov/wastewise/pub.htm
- n National Recycling Coalition Electronics Recycling Initiative:
www.nrc-recycle.org/Programs/electronics/
- n Cascade Asset Management: www.cascade-assets.com

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