

# COMPUTER RE-NEWS

The Quarterly Newsletter of  
**CASCADE**  
ASSET MANAGEMENT, LLC



SUMMER 2006 : VOLUME 6 : ISSUE 2



## CASCADE EXPANDS INTO NEW INDIANAPOLIS FACILITY

Cascade announced its expansion into the Indianapolis market with the opening of a new 24,700 square foot technology equipment asset retirement and recycling operation in the town of Plainfield, just south of the Indianapolis airport.

"We are excited to be able to better serve our national clients and the State of Indiana from this new location," said Neil Peters-Michaud, CEO of Cascade. "Over 65% of the population of the US lives within 700 miles of Indianapolis, making it a strategic hub for col-

lecting and processing electronics."

The Indianapolis location is Cascade's second full-service processing center. Its 32,000 square foot headquarters in Madison, Wisconsin, currently handles over one million pounds of electronics per month. The Indianapolis site also features many of the same green building elements of Cascade's Madison plant and is a brand new construction featuring state-of-the-art IT equipment testing, refurbishing, dismantling, and shredding, as well as data security and infectious waste decontamination capabilities. ■

*"WE ARE EXCITED TO BE ABLE TO BETTER SERVE OUR NATIONAL CLIENTS AND THE STATE OF INDIANA FROM THIS NEW LOCATION"*

*NEIL PETERS-MICHAUD  
CEO*

## CASCADE RECEIVES CERTIFICATIONS

Cascade Asset Management became ISO 14001:2004 Certified, by BVQI, for all operations and activities at its electronic equipment asset management and demanufacturing facility in Wisconsin. This internationally recognized, independently audited certification standard evaluates a company's environmental management system and its commitment to continual improvement in environmental performance. "The ISO Certification is evidence of our commitment to environmental excellence and has been helpful in developing and tracking our environmental objectives," said Sarah Blaser, Cascade's EH&S Coordinator.

The ISO Certification follows Cascade's recent recognition as a Certified Electronics Recycler through the International Association of Electronics Recyclers (IAER) audit program. During the IAER audit, Cascade was evaluated on best practices related to environmental management systems, quality programs, business performance and financial stability, employee health and safety programs, security systems, and operations management. ■



*"THE ISO CERTIFICATION IS EVIDENCE OF OUR COMMITMENT TO ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE AND HAS BEEN HELPFUL IN DEVELOPING AND TRACKING OUR ENVIRONMENTAL OBJECTIVES"*

*SARAH BLASER  
EH&S COORDINATOR*

Since Cascade opened in April, 1999, we've

- \* Collected over 22.9 million pounds of old electronics
- \* Refurbished and resold or donated over 764,430 monitors, computers and printers
- \* Demanufactured and recycled over 295,034 cathode ray tubes
- \* Kept more than 1,180,135 pounds of lead out of landfills
- \* Donated more than \$187,000 worth of equipment to local charities and causes in developing countries
- \* Paid more than \$2.58 million in rebates to customers



Printed on 100% post consumer waste, elemental chlorine free paper

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# EYE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Tips on how to protect our natural resources

Cascade is committed to environmental sustainability to ensure we leave the world better prepared for the needs of the future. We will bring you information in each newsletter to help promote better energy usage and cleaner, safer environmental practices.

One of the easiest and most cost effective ways to save energy is to turn off computers (PCs and monitors) when not in use, especially at night and on weekends. Contrary to what many people believe, shutting down your computer when not in use is not bad for its hardware. In fact, shutting it down may extend the life of its hardware by reducing the amount of mechanical wear and heat related stress.

One popular belief is that if the computer is idling, it will use less energy than when it is being used actively. This is unfortunately not the case. The CPU draws only slightly more energy when being used for something such as running an application than when it is turned on but not being used. Using the power-management on a computer (also known as "stand by" or "hibernation") can reduce energy usage to about 15-25% of active usage amounts.

In cases where the computer is left running for reasons such as automatic back ups or remote access, the monitor may still be safely turned off without affecting performance. Because a CRT can use two to three times the electricity of your PC, turning it off is a big step for significant energy savings. For more information on strategies that result in cost savings and environmental benefits from managing IT energy usage, visit:

[www.cascade-assets.com/environment](http://www.cascade-assets.com/environment) ■



## LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

### RoHS DIRECTIVE GOES INTO EFFECT ON JULY 1, 2006 IN EU

On July 1, 2006, the Restriction of Hazardous Substances Directive (RoHS) went into effect in the European Union. The directive restricts the use of six hazardous materials in the manufacture of various types of electronic and electrical equipment. Often referred to as the "lead-free" directive, the six substances restricted by RoHS are:

- Lead
- Mercury
- Cadmium
- Chromium
- Polybrominated biphenyl (PBB)
- Polybrominated diphenyl ether (PBDE)

PBB and PBDE are flame retardants used in some plastics. Batteries are not included within the scope of RoHS even though they may contain NiCd, lead-acid or mercury.

The directive does not require complete elimination of the six substances but defines a maximum concentration value (MCV) for each homogeneous material equal to 0.1% in weight for lead, mer-

cury, chromium, PBB and PBDE and 0.01% by weight in cadmium. Everything that can be identified as a separate material must meet the limit or the entire product could fail the requirements. For instance, a computer will have a circuit board that contains resistors. A resistor could contain a contact that might contain a pin which has a restricted material in its coating. If the coating is non-compliant, the entire computer would fail.

The directive applies to equipment that is defined by the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) directive. WEEE sets collection, recycling and recovery targets for electrical goods and is part of a legislative initiative directed at the problem of toxic e-waste.

Currently there is no legislation similar to RoHS in effect for the United States. California has passed a law banning the sale of covered electronic devices that would be prohibited for sale in the EU because of the presence of heavy metals. This law, often referred to as "California RoHS", has a compliance deadline of January 2007.

China is currently reviewing similar restrictions and is expected to have legislation similar to RoHS take effect in March 2007. ■



## ENERGY SAVING FAQs

### Will using a screensaver save energy?

Screensavers do not save energy and may even cause more usage by preventing your machine from going into hibernation when not in use. Technological advancements have eliminated "screen burn" and thus screensavers are no longer necessary. If you do use a screensaver, be advised that a white background may use 33% or more energy than a dark blue or black background.

### How much does it cost to leave a computer and monitor on 24/7?

Studies have shown that it can cost from \$115 to \$197 per year. This adds up quickly for businesses with numerous systems.

### Will the extra power needed to start up a computer use more energy than leaving it on all the time?

No. Start-up surges are minimal and only use the equivalent electricity of a few seconds of average running time. It makes more sense to turn your computer off, even if you'll only be away from it for a short period of time.

### How much damage can one computer cause?

According to Harvard's Green Campus program, one computer left on all day for one year can result in more than 1,500 pounds of CO2 released into the atmosphere.