



# **The Global Problem:** What to do with end-of-life electronics

Electronic devices make many positive contributions to our lives but they can also be hazardous to our health when they're no longer needed. The Information Age has created a virtual tidal wave of electronic devices - devices that become obsolete or wear out at an increasingly faster rate.

According to the Gartner Group, an estimated 133,000 personal computers are replaced or discarded in the USA every day. The National Safety Council warns that more than 300 million will need to be recycled over the next four years. With many of the nation's landfills already filled to capacity, and with the hazardous materials that electronic devices contain, simply putting obsolete electronics in the trash is not a viable solution. In fact, improperly discarded electronics account for more than half of the heavy metals found in our landfills – and can seep out to contaminate our air, water and soil.

Electronics recycling isn't just a virtuous alternative, it's the sensible choice. With its state-of-the-art electronics recycling equipment and experienced staff, Creative Recycling Systems, Inc. provides a cost-effective way to recycle electronic equipment, eliminate liability risks and warehouse fees, ensure that proprietary information is completely removed, and help save the planet.



## The Hidden Threats of Obsolete Electronics

- End-of-life computers should not be seen as scrap metal and plastic, but as libraries of data.
- If a system is dumped, donated or refurbished and resold improperly, any remaining data could be accessed by those with criminal intent.
- "Delete" is not enough. Data is only gone once it has been written over completely, or physically destroyed.
- Last year billions in fines were paid by U.S. corporations in violation of data security laws.
- Approximately 10 million Americans will be affected by identity theft this year. A large number of them will become victims as a result of inadequate or improper data security.

## You Can Trust CRS

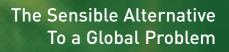
### With Your End-of-Life Technologies

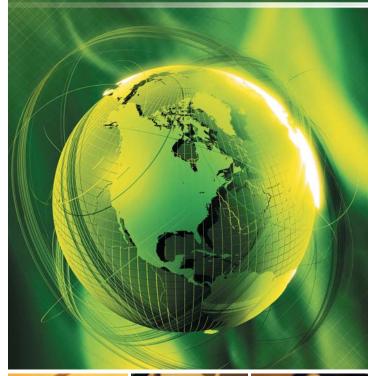
CRS employs state-of-the art data security equipment and methodologies that allow for the secure removal of proprietary information from obsolete technologies, helping to protect your assets and comply with privacy laws. We are bonded and insured for additional protection.

**CRS' Data Security** processes available:

- Removing the asset and customer identification tags from each item
- Performing three wipes, or overwrites, of each item
- Degaussing all hard drives, floppy disks, magnetic tape, and other IT media.
- Overwriting data as many as 35 times
- Shredding hard drives
- Providing a Certificate of Destruction
- Certified destruction of optical media









Facilities Throughout the Southeast [800] 797.2061 [FL] / [800] 409.9068 [GA] www.crserecycling.com





Since 1994, Creative Recycling Systems Inc. (CRS) has been an industry leader in the recycling and reuse of a vast array of end-of-life and obsolete electronic equipment.

Our clients include small, mid-size and Fortune 100 companies, government agencies, non-profit organizations, educational institutions and concerned citizens.

#### Our services include:

- Custom solutions for our clients' electronics recycling needs
- Environmental management systems
- Data security and destruction, including wiping and/or shredding hard drives
- Data security, recycling, and destruction certifications

CRS maintains sophisticated facilities throughout the southeastern United States, which are designed to properly recycle and reuse an ever-growing array of electronic equipment, and own our own fleet of trucks to ensure prompt service.

# Service you can rely on

Creative Recycling Systems does more than just collect and properly recycle obsolete electronics. The company creates a symbiotic system between end-of-life electronics and recycled/refurbished electronics for businesses around the world. Clients rely on CRS for superior customer service. We pride ourselves on delivering what we promise. Our integrity and honesty has ensured our success.

Our processes and facilities were created for the sole purpose of the proper management of electronic equipment. Our state-of-the art equipment allows us to securely remove proprietary information from obsolete computers, allowing clients to comply with privacy laws. Our process allows us to provide documentation that states that your electronic materials were recycled safely and securely.

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## Our Goal is Zero Waste

CRS utilizes an innovative process that allows retrieval of usable materials from what would either be scrap or destined for improper disposal. In this process more than 99% of all materials collected by CRS are reused or recycled, and thus totally removed from the waste stream. The remaining 1% is processed in full compliance with all state and federal regulations and without harming the environment.

### Our process includes:

- Weighing and identifying units, and assigning them to be reused or sold, demanufactured, donated, or recycled in an environmentally responsible manner.
- Functional electronic equipment is prepared for resale or donation.
- In the case of demanufacturing, individual components are separated by type and function. Reusable parts are sold on the secondary market.
- Integrated circuits are retrieved and refurbished as necessary.
- Remaining materials are properly recycled and sold for their intrinsic materials value.

# **CRS** Awards

- 2002 commendation for environmental contributions by the University of South Florida's Department of Environmental Science and Policy
- 2002 Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce Small Business of the Year Award
- 2003 Florida Family Business of the Year Award
- 2004 Mass Mutual National Family Business of the Year Award

### **Obsolete, surplus or end-of-life products include:**

- Computers and related equipment: Personal computers, mainframes, peripherals
- Telecommunications Equipment: PBX, switching equipment, telephones, central office equipment
- Banking and Financial Equipment: ATM's, POS, check processing
- Consumer Electronics Equipment: televisions, monitors, cell phones, rechargeable batteries
- Electronic Circuit Boards and Components: integrated circuits, resistors, capacitors, diodes