

Recommendations

For consumers:

- ◆ Consumers need and deserve much better information on the environmental and health impacts of consumer electronic products.
- ◆ Consumers should buy only “necessary” consumer electronics products and reward “greener” companies with their consumer dollars and punish the “polluters” by not buying their products. If possible, purchase the products that utilize some of the emerging technologies (i.e.: lead-free solder, halogen-free wiring and recycled plastics).
- ◆ Consumers can contact companies directly by sending a letter stating your dissatisfaction with the current state of affairs. Examples of such letters and email addresses for many companies can be found at http://www.svtc.org/cleancc/4ht_letters.htm.
- ◆ If you know of anybody who needs to dispose of old computer equipment after the holiday season, direct them to SVTC’s **Computer Reuse and Recycling Maps of the San Francisco Bay Area** to get a listing of options to get rid of used and outdated equipment. See www.svtc.org/cleancc/recycle/index.html for further information.
- ◆ If you don’t live in the San Francisco Bay Area, contact the International Association of Electronics Recyclers at <http://www.iaer.org/search/>. This site has nationwide information on computer recycling organizations. Also, contact local environmental groups and government agencies to put together a more comprehensive local directory and recycling map in your area. http://www.basic.org/Projects/comp_recycling/bayarea/index.html

For high-tech companies:

- ◆ All companies should include clear and concise disclosures on how consumers can take back older products for re-use or recycling (with incentives or free of charge)
- ◆ All companies should include clear and concise disclosures on the identity and amounts of chemicals used, released, treated and disposed (similar to the Japanese PRTR)
- ◆ All companies should include clear and concise disclosures on the processes that these chemicals are used in.
- ◆ All companies should include clear and concise disclosures on all global company locations
- ◆ Major name brand manufacturers (OEMs) should include clear and concise disclosures about their suppliers and subcontractors (i.e.: a list of all subcontractors in all countries who do over a certain percentage of business)
- ◆ All companies should have the environmental report link on the home page of their website.

For governments:

- ◆ Learn from your counterparts in Europe and Japan and pass laws and regulations to establish Extended Producer Responsibility and take back rules
- ◆ Phase out the most toxic, persistent and bioaccumulative chemicals
- ◆ Pass effective rules for water and energy conservation
- ◆ Require reporting of toxic chemical use as well as releases
- ◆ Get serious about improved occupational health reporting, especially for cancer, birth defects, and other chronic diseases related to toxic chemical exposures on the job