



FAQs

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Note:

Due to high levels of lead and other hazardous elements, federal and state regulations prohibit businesses and organizations from disposing of obsolete or non-working office electronics (E-scrap) in landfills or dumpsters. These items include, but are not limited to:

Computers - Monitors Terminals - Printers - Mainframe - Midrange - Medical Electronics - Televisions - Mailing Equipment - Circuit Boards - Cash Registers



To avoid penalties for improper disposal, caution should be taken that computer recycling is done through a legitimately identified electronics recycler.

• Traditionally, re-marketers, liquidators or clean out services focus only on good products, with little or no attention paid to environmental disposal.



• Recyclers, through fee-based services, provide a vast array of comprehensive programs. These provide required compliance forms and recycling certificates to meet corporate or government security and environmental guidelines.

US itek, Inc. will transport, process and document that all electronic waste has been recycled using environmentally sound procedures.

We can also provide or simplify:

- Serial Number Tracking
- Data Destruction or Transfer
- Certificates of Destruction

For functional equipment, US itek can help with:

- Employee Purchase Programs
- Donations
- Asset Acquisition
- Liquidation
- Revenue Sharing



Total end-of-lifecycle management projects, including packaging, logistics and transportation are managed professionally. US itek, Inc. credentials can be verified by the companies, schools and municipalities that currently participate in our recycling programs.

We are happy to arrange site visits at our facilities at any time!

Processing:

- The equipment is de-manufactured with the metals, glass and plastics sorted, separated, and categorized.
- Circuit boards are smelted.
- Iron, aluminum, cabling and wiring are processed for niche markets.
- Leaded glass may be shredded and remanufactured into new monitors.
- Plastic may end up as plastic lumber.
- Even metal casings are recycled.

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Q: Is it illegal to dispose of Electronic Equipment in the dumpster?

A: For businesses and organizations, yes it is. Special compliance forms may need to be filed and penalties may apply for non-conformance. Both the US EPA and various state environmental regulations prohibit the dumping or land filling of obsolete or non-working computer and office electronic products. Over 40% of the lead found in landfills is coming from electronic waste, *especially* monitors, because of their high toxic lead content. PCs, printers and copiers have elements of lead solder and possibly mercury. Plastic parts and casings have oil based resins and may be coated with brominated flame retardants.

Q: What about residential equipment?

A: Although small quantity generators (less than 220 lbs.) are currently exempt from penalty in most states, we encourage everyone to be environmentally conscious.

Q: What about donating equipment to a church or school?

A: Units that are not of very recent vintage will probably not run current software. Feel free to contact us regarding up to date benchmarks for obsolescence. Many schools, churches and non-profit agencies end up having us pick up equipment that was donated with good intentions, and they incur the disposal charges. If you want to take this approach, we can help facilitate your donation of working and non-obsolete equipment and help improve the quality of the delivered product.

Q: What if I just give it away or sell some of the parts?

A: The non-working components still need to be environmentally disposed of and EPA and state regulations declare that the waste follows the generator (the original user), who could be subject to Super Fund liability for toxic waste clean up. If you feel that you have equipment of value, we can offer offsets against disposal fees or facilitate an employee purchase program for refurbished equipment.

Q: What about erasing confidential data or other services?

A: US itek, Inc. offers multiple optional services including data wiping, data transfer, certificates of destruction, media degaussing, serial number tracking, equipment valuation, logistics help, re-marketing assistance and asset tag removal.

Q: What areas does US itek, Inc. serve?

A: US itek Inc. offers asset management and environmental recycling services for idle, obsolete and non-working E-scrap throughout the Northeast United States.

KEY POINTS OF E-SCRAP REGULATIONS

- The generator continues to be responsible for product improperly disposed of through non-recycling channels.
- All non-working /obsolete computer products are to be disposed of in an environmentally sound manner.
- Storage for over 90-180 days may be a violation.
- Substantial penalties may apply for non-compliance.
- The recycling facility should be a, legitimate electronic recycler. A Certificate of Recycling or any other government documents should be provided to prove that a legitimate recycler is processing the product.
- Monitors and terminals are **always** hazardous waste
- Other components of a computer system (e.g., circuit boards, keyboards, mice, printers) could be hazardous depending on their lead, mercury, or cadmium content, which can vary from product to product and even from production run to production run.
- Donated product must be operational and for continued use.