COMPUTER E-WASTE AND ITS DISPOSAL AT CSU

WHAT IS E-WASTE?

E-Waste is the term given to electronic waste and includes computers and accessories, mobile devices and accessories, televisions, whitegoods (e.g. fridge and washing machine), alarm clocks, digital cameras and so forth.

WHY RECYCLE E-WASTE?

E-Waste contains **non-renewable resources** *(a resource that cannot be readily replaced by natural means on a level equal to its consumption)* such as plastic and precious metals including gold, silver, platinum, nickel, zinc, aluminium and copper. Some can be *toxic to the environment if placed in landfill*, like lead, mercury, phosphorus and cadmium. These substances can leak into groundwater, contaminate the soil, and enter the food chain.

When electronic items are sent to landfill, the valuable resources that were used to make those products are *lost forever*. **This means that new electronic items will continue to require mining and production for the non-renewable resources they contain**. Almost 99% of the components that make up a computer can be recycled. The metal is 100% recyclable, glass 99% recyclable, and plastic (apart from very small particles) 100% recyclable.

EASY E-WASTE DISPOSAL AT CSU

The CSU Computer Shop runs a collection and recycling program on all campuses for CSU issued computers, accessories and powerboards. The CSU Computer Shop ensures that all old computers and other e-waste items are disposed of in an environmentally responsible way. This *includes* the removal of all data and CSU owned software. Since 2008, this program has been funded and continues to be funded by the profits made from the resale of old computers at public auction.

It is simple to dispose of e-waste through the CSU Computer Shop.

Options for disposal include re-imaging and cascading (transferring) your computer to another staff member in your section OR disposing as e-waste.

To cascade or dispose of unwanted CSU issued computers and accessories:

• **Log a job via the DIT Service Desk (csu.edu.au/division/dit/services)** and identify whether a reimage and cascade OR disposal is required. The job will be routed to the CSU Computer Shop and you will then be contacted by the shop.

If you wish to cascade your existing computer, you will need to indicate this on page 2 of the new computer order form.

• **Fill in the Asset Disposal Form www.csu.edu.au/division/finserv/staff/forms/policies/pdf/Asset-Disposal-Form.pdf** and have it ready for the CSU Computer Shop to collect with your e-waste.

If you require any information regarding computer disposal or cascading, please contact the CSU Computer Shop via their email, **computershop@csu.edu.au** or their online enquiry form **csu.edu.au/division/dit/compshop/order/quote**. Facts from Australian Bureau of Statistics (abs.gov.au updated 18 February 2013) and Planet Ark **(http://recyclingweek.planetark.org updated 2014)**

DID YOU KNOW?

AUSTRALIANS ARE AMONG THE HIGHEST USERS OF TECHNOLOGY, AND E-WASTE IS ONE OF THE FASTEST GROWING TYPES OF WASTE.

AUSTRALIA

E-WASTE

WHITEGOODS
CAMERAS
TELEVISIONS
MOBILES

AUSTRALIANS BUY MORE THAN **4 MILLION** COMPUTERS ANNUALLY

37 MILLION COMPUTERS HAD BEEN SENT TO LANDFILL BY 2008.
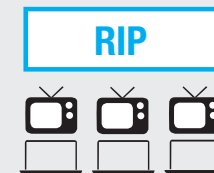
OF THE **15.7 MILLION** COMPUTERS THAT REACHED THEIR **'END OF LIFE'** IN AUSTRALIA IN 2007-08

RIP COMPUTERS

ONLY **1.5 MILLION** WERE RECYCLED!

THAT'S LESS THEN <10%.

THE VOLUME OF **E-WASTE** IS GROWING

3x FASTER THAN OTHER WASTE STREAMS.

THE CUMULATIVE TOTAL OF **TELEVISIONS AND COMPUTERS** REACHING THE END OF THEIR USEFUL LIFE IS

OR **44 MILLION** UNITS BY

THE AVERAGE LIFESPAN OF COMPUTERS IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

RIP

EXPECTED TO REACH **181,000 TONNES**

2027 - 2028

DROPPED FROM

SIX YEARS IN 1997 TO JUST **TWO YEARS IN 2005**

CSUgreen
sustainability - your actions count!