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Remarks: Great environmental/business press for
the new administration already (see #3).
We will keep it coming! Hope all is well.
- Cathy

United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

Communications, Education,
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(A-107)



Environmental News

FOR RELEASE: THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 1993

**EPA, COMPUTER MANUFACTURERS LAUNCH PROGRAM TO
INTRODUCE ENERGY-EFFICIENT PRINTERS**

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Dave Ryan 202-260-2981

In a major expansion of its innovative Energy Star program for energy-efficient computers, EPA today announced a new joint effort with industry to increase the energy efficiency of computer printers and to prevent air pollution from power generation. The Agency estimates that Energy Star printers will save six billion kilowatt-hours of electricity, thereby reducing air pollution from power plants, while saving \$450 million on electricity bills each year.

The firms participating in the program announced today account for 80 percent of all laser printers sold in the United States. Each company has committed to introducing printers that can automatically reduce the power they use when they are inactive -- a move EPA expects will reduce electricity use 30 - 50 percent per unit. Studies show that computer equipment is inactive the vast majority of time it is turned on, and approximately one-third of all units are left running at night and on weekends.

"Today's announcement reflects President Clinton's vision of reinventing government to encourage pollution prevention and voluntary corporate environmentalism," said EPA Administrator Carol M. Browner. "The companies joining the Energy Star printer program should be applauded for being at the forefront of a worldwide movement toward creating consumer products that incorporate environmental protection and energy-saving criteria."

Today's printer initiative is an expansion of the Energy Star Computers program, a cooperative effort between EPA and computer manufacturers to introduce energy-efficient desktop computers,

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2

monitors and printers, thereby preventing air pollution and carbon dioxide emissions (the principle cause of global warming) caused by electricity generation. This coming June, products that qualify for the program will be identified for consumers by the Energy Star logo.

Besides the printer announcement, EPA today also announced the formation of an industry "Ally" group of component suppliers and software developers to support the Energy Star computer program. Under the agreement, 11 companies have pledged to promote energy efficiency in their products and to encourage manufacturers to develop computers that qualify for the Energy Star program. EPA expects the Ally initiative to accelerate the drive toward the program's ultimate goal, the incorporation of energy-saving mechanisms as standard features in personal computers and printers.

By supplying components with energy-saving features or power management software, these Allies provide the critical building blocks for an energy-efficient computer. Almost half of the personal computer market consists of small companies with less than one percent market share. Because these small companies traditionally rely heavily on their supplier's expertise, the active support of the industry Ally group is an important milestone for the Energy Star program.

Computer systems currently account for five percent of commercial electricity use in the United States, with potential growth to 10 percent by the year 2000. EPA expects that by the year 2000, Energy Star computers and other campaigns to promote energy-efficient computer equipment will lead to savings of 25 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity annually. Without the energy-saving programs, computers would consume an estimated 70 billion kilowatt-hours per year in the year 2000. These savings will prevent annual carbon dioxide emissions of 20 million tons -- the equivalent of five million automobiles. There also will be annual reductions of 140,000 tons of sulfur dioxide and 75,000 tons of nitrogen oxides, the two pollutants most responsible for acid rain.

EPA's Energy Star computers program and "Green Lights" energy-efficient lighting program are the first in a series of EPA initiatives to promote energy efficiency and reduce global warming gases through voluntary public and private cooperation. Also in development are programs targeting heating, ventilation and air conditioning in commercial buildings, as well as programs to reduce energy use in residential appliances.

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3

In a related issue, EPA is currently working with the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA), the U.S. Department of Energy and other federal agencies to reduce energy use in federal buildings 10 percent by 1995 and 20 percent by the year 2000. The use of energy-efficient computers is an essential element in attaining the federal government's goal. The U.S. government is the largest buyer of computer equipment in the world, spending over \$4.1 billion on computer hardware and software during the last year. GSA is planning a comprehensive program to lead the federal government in using energy-efficient computer equipment.

A listing of all firms in the Energy Star computer and printer programs and Ally program is attached to this release.

(For further technical information, contact Brian Johnson in EPA's Global Change Division at 202-233-9114.)

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ENERGY STAR
COMPUTERS

ATTACHMENT

Energy Star Computers and Monitors Program

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American Megatrends
Apple
AST Research
Compaq
Digital Equipment
EMPaC International
Hewlett-Packard
Hyundai Electronics America
IBM
Idek/Liyama N.A.

Micronics
Nanac USA
NEC
NCR
Outbound Systems
Silicon Graphics
Smith Corona
Sun Microsystems
Unisys
Zenith Data Systems

Energy Star Printers Program

Apple
Bull Italia
Compaq
Dataproducts

Hewlett-Packard
Kyocera
Lexmark (maker of IBM
printers)

Allies (component suppliers and software developers)

Advanced Micro Devices
Astec Custom Power
Cyrix
Intel
LLR Technologies

Microtest
Palo Alto Digital Systems
Phoenix Technologies
System Soft
Wave Energy
Universal Vectors