



EVALUATE YOUR E-RECYCLER USING THESE 5 FACTORS

There are many electronics recyclers who might not recycle at all - they merely resell valuable equipment and/or export items to developing countries; exposing your company to a range of data security, environmental and brand protection liabilities. Operating with a company like that could expose your company to the same concerns.

Here are 5 ways your company can evaluate your e-recycler before you work with them:

1. REVIEW THEIR STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS OR COMPLIANCE PACKAGE

If your recycler is only concerned about protecting data on computers and servers then Sims would not recommend this recycler for you. Ask for your recycler's security policy and verify their procedures. Do they wipe hard drives to NIST SP 800-88 recommendations prior to resale? Are they a member of the National Association for Information Destruction (NAID)?

2. ENSURE DATA SECURITY IS TOP PRIORITY

The need for data security affects all organizations. Unfortunately, all too often, sensitive information is not secure, particularly upon equipment disposal. Ensure that your recycler is fully up-to-date with their current requirements. Sims operates to the highest standards when it comes to data security. Our data wiping services provide peace-of-mind, accountability and assurance that our customers' privacy and corporate reputation remain intact and eliminates potential compliance risks associated with retired IT assets.

3. DISCUSS ON-SITE AND DOWNSTREAM ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Your recycler must manage your environmental exposure both on and off-site. Ask and identify where and how are materials of concern such as batteries, CRT glass, and mercury bulbs removed and stored. Is there an Environmental Manager whose primary responsibility is ensuring compliance? Off-site your recycler must conduct site audits of their vendors, especially for these materials of concern.

4. REVIEW CAPACITY AND CAPABILITIES

Recycling electronics efficiently requires large, expensive equipment. A shredding system can cost between \$7M to \$14M, depending upon its complexity. If your recycler says they handle 40M lbs per year, they'll need a site of around 150,000 sq ft and around 100-150 staff.

5. CONDUCT A THOROUGH AUDIT

For the protection of your company and clients, it is recommended that you audit your recycler thoroughly. This will help prevent the risk of confidential data such as credit card information, Social Security Numbers, medical records, or the negative impact to your company's brand and reputation if their equipment is found dumped in Asia or Africa.

Ask about our plant tours and audits. Let us prove how we are the best choice for the management of your end-of-life electronics.