

Greener Electronics

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Outline of the presentation

1. The problem
2. Greenpeace Campaign
3. Criteria for greener electronics
4. Practical Solutions

E-waste, what is the problem?

- We use more and more electronics, and create more and more e-waste
- It is difficult to recycle
- It is often dumped in developing countries
- It contains hazardous chemicals

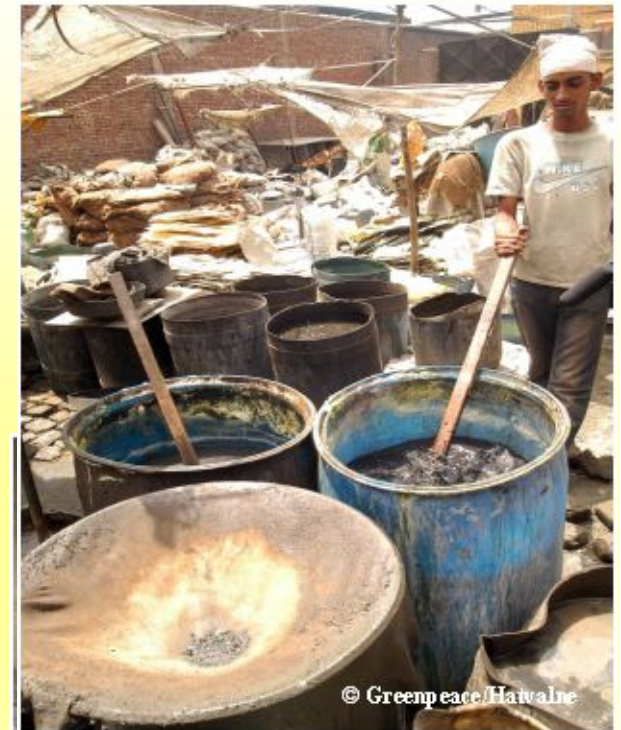
Recycling in developing countries, what is the problem?

1. Toxic Emissions
2. Health problems
3. Inefficiency



Top three of causes of health problems

- Acid baths
- Cooking
- Burning



Hidden flows: The rising tide of European e-waste

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NBC-dWgElbl>

How big is the problem?

- Consumers have to bring it to municipal recycling points
- 85% of all e-waste goes to an unknown destination
- Worldwide 20 – 50 million kilo e-waste
- The Netherlands 300.000 tons e-waste

Which hazardous chemicals are used in electronics?

- Lead
- Phthalate
- Beryllium
- Cadmium
- Antimony
- Mercury
- PVC
- Chrome
- perfluorinated compounds
- brominated flame retardants
- ect....

Which chemicals are allowed?

ROHS Directive:

From the 1st of July 2006, new electrical and electronic equipment put on the market should not contain any of the six banned substances:

lead, mercury, cadmium, hexavalent chromium, poly-brominated biphenyls (PBB) or polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDE)

What is Greenpeace Campaigning for?

We believe that manufacturers of electronic goods should take responsibility for their products from production through to the end of their lives.

To prevent an e-waste crisis, manufacturers must:

- design clean electronics with a longer lifespan
- products that are safe and easy to recycle
- not expose workers and the environment to hazardous chemicals

One of our campaign tools is the Guide to Greener Electronics



What is greener electronics?

Our three demands are that companies should:

- Eliminate hazardous substances.
- Take back and recycle their products responsibly.
- Reduce the climate impact of their operations and products.

Criteria in detail 1:

Hazardous Chemicals

1. Precautionary Principle and support for revision of RoHS Directive
2. Chemical Management System
3. Timeline for PVC & BFR phase out
4. Timeline for additional substances phase out
5. PVC-free and/or BFR-free models

Criteria in detail 2:

Recycling:

1. Individual producer responsibility
2. Voluntary take-back system
3. Information to individual customers
4. Amounts recycled
5. Use of recycled plastic content

Criteria in detail 3:

Energy and Green House Gasses (GHG) emissions

- Global GHG emissions reduction support
- Carbon Footprint disclosure
- Own GHG emissions reduction commitment
- Amounts of renewable energy used
- Energy efficiency of new models

Practical Solutions

- Sustainable purchasing policy
- Energy saving policy
- Qualified recycling processor

To summarize, a green computer is:



- Free of toxics
- Sustainable in use
- Low in energy use
- Produced using little energy
- Sustainably recycled

TNO and all participants
thank you



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