

# IntraLAN & the WEEE Directive

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**The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive came into force on January 2007 and aims to reduce the amount of WEEE being produced and encourage everyone to reuse, recycle or recover it. The WEEE Directive also aims to improve the environmental performance of businesses that manufacture, supply, use, recycle and recover electrical and electronic equipment. For more information, please review the [Environment Agency web-site](#).**

This document summarises some key points and recommendations for all our customers when disposing of old equipment including PCs, printers, telephone systems etc.

A common misconception (or a grey area) is that functioning equipment that is sold for reuse/recycling is not subject to WEEE as it isn't "waste". Whilst the company buying the equipment may have intentions to reuse/recycle it, you are disposing of it and therefore you are still subject to the WEEE regulations.

## **Key Points:**

- 1) As a *distributor* to businesses only, IntraLAN does not have a requirement to take-away old equipment;
- 2) However the *producer* (e.g. [HP](#), [Dell](#)) does have the responsibility to provide free WEEE disposal provided you deliver the equipment at your cost to one of their collection points (aka Take Back sites);
- 3) So, you will have to either:
  - i) Have your old equipment delivered to the producer's Take Back site at your expense - or -
  - ii) Pay for your old equipment to be collected by a licensed Waste Carrier company. Typical costs are £10 for a PC or CRT and £25 for a server or UPS. Clearly if the equipment has a second hand value, then the Waste Carrier may negotiate a reduced collection charge, hence most of them have an online form to complete to indicate their collection costs in advance.
- 4) If the volume of WEEE is  $\geq 200\text{kg}$  per year (approx 20\* PCs or 10\* 17" CRTs) then you must also register your company as a [WEEE Hazardous Waste Producer](#) ("hazardous" includes PCs, CRTs etc). This isn't onerous and costs £18 per year.
- 5) Finally, all businesses have a "duty of care" to ensure when having your old equipment taken away you secure a *Transfer Note* that shows:
  - i) Your company name + each WEEE item;
  - ii) Proof that the carrier has a [waste license](#);
  - iii) The final destination (whether for recycling or destruction).

## **Recommendations:**

Given the:

- Diverse mix of old business equipment that can be amassed over a period (and therefore the matching variety of different manufacturers for their Take Back services); plus
- Their associated transport costs to Producers' Collection Points,

Leads the majority of our customers to take the easier option and use a third party to deal with the paperwork and collection of old equipment in one transaction. If you are likely to take this option, then please consider:

- 1) There will always be an underlying collection cost for all equipment. Therefore to minimise collection costs (and increase the potential value of the old equipment to off-set collection costs), you may want to put aside a "graveyard" (space permitting);
- 2) Reviewing more than one WEEE disposal company as each will have their own "package" (e.g. minimum collection quantities, what value they can offer for old equipment using their on-line forms etc). Most also offer an associated Asset Management service to track current equipment and their eventual disposal (relevant for <35 PC organisations?);
- 3) Ensure that they include a certificate confirming their removal off all data off disks and/or destruction of the disks themselves;

The following are in SE England and if required you should contact them directly. If you have a particularly good or bad experience, please let your CAM know so that we can try to maintain a panel of professional associations.

- Kent: [www.expiredit.com](http://www.expiredit.com)
- Essex: [www.weeeit.com](http://www.weeeit.com)
- Watford: [www.pcdisposals.com](http://www.pcdisposals.com)
- Your local council may also provide a similar service.

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