

Lenovo Sustainability Solutions

Your end-of-life IT hardware and the circular economy

Asset Recovery Services - a simple and effective solution to a growing e-waste problem.



Smarter
technology
for all

Lenovo

A circular economy benefits the environment and the IT industry

As IT resources become harder to find and environmental damage becomes exponentially worse, embracing a circular economy is more important than ever.

A circular economy simply leverages existing resources and puts them back into the supply chain instead of using them once and throwing them away.

The economic advantages of employing a circular model for electrical and electronics goods could be enormous. As much as 7% of the world's gold may be contained in e-waste and current forecasts show that e-waste is worth \$62.5 billion annually.¹

Fortunately, the development of technological solutions and resources are revolutionizing supply chains, product design and materials. Shifting to a circular economy where we regularly reduce, reuse, and recycle can help reduce the negative impacts of e-waste and prevent further generation.²

However, within any asset recovery process, successful circular participation requires e-waste to be handled both securely and in a scalable manner. Harnessing the value from existing e-waste can help save significantly on material costs and contribute to reducing the carbon footprint of a product³.

With **Lenovo Asset Recovery Services (ARS)**, you can manage IT in an environmentally conscious way and optimize the long-term value potential of your hardware.

Effective e-waste management can help minimize the impact on the environment and contribute to improving the bottom line.

The problem of E-waste

E-waste has a huge negative impact on our global environment and it's getting worse every year. Companies face increasing demands for innovative products and solutions, even as resources are becoming scarcer — and more expensive.

E-waste makes up **70%** of our overall toxic waste.⁵

The world produces more than **50 million** metric tons of e-waste a year, weighing more than all the commercial airliners ever made.¹

Only **20%** of e-waste is formally recycled.¹

The e-waste produced annually is worth around **\$60 billion**.¹

E-waste produced is projected to grow to **74.7 million** tons by 2030.⁴

There is **100 times** more gold in a ton of e-waste than in a ton of gold ore.¹

7 Steps for a Smarter Circular Return

7. Receive documentation and payment or credit for new IT investments

6. Have the assets recycled or repurposed in accordance with the highest standards

5. Implement your improved lifecycle strategy

4. Design a custom Asset Management Plan that meets your unique business needs



1. Identify idle IT assets that need replacing or disposing

2. Meet with Asset Recovery Specialists

3. Experts conduct an inventory and value assessment

The solution: Asset Recovery Services

The **Smarter Circular Return process provide benefits** from an environmental and security standpoint. It also allows for offsetting potential new infrastructure costs, helping you innovate and keep up with digital transformations in a sustainable manner.

At Lenovo, our **Asset Recovery Services (ARS)** team are building processes with our partners to maximize the reuse potential of IT assets globally. Lenovo's suppliers follow the hierarchy of reuse first, then recycle. So, IT parts that are still in good shape can be harvested for reuse and those devices no longer suitable for repair and refurbishment are recycled.

Since 2005, Lenovo has processed around **324,811 metric tons** of computer equipment. In 2021, Lenovo managed the processing of **34,163 metric tons** of company-owned and customer-returned computer equipment. Of this total,

5.5% was reused as products or parts and **88.2%** recycled as materials.⁶

For IT equipment that cannot be repaired and resold in secondary markets, Lenovo ARS facilitates the evaluation of parts and components for potential recycling. Any components that can be recycled go back into circulation to be used in the manufacture of new products for a more sustainable industry.

However, before this IT equipment is reused, data is erased which, with the increasing value of data and regulatory requirements for the protection of PII, is critical to a successful Asset Recovery solution.

We provide certified data destruction services, standard compliant data erasure, serial number scanning and reporting, and the reconciliation of serial numbers of IT assets.

Smarter breathes new life into the IT lifecycle.

Since 2008, Lenovo has enabled the recycling and reuse of 325 million kilograms of IT products by FY 2025/26, at least 76% of repairable parts will be repaired for future use.⁶

We further contribute to the circular economy by using closed-loop post-consumer recycled content (CL PCR) in 248 of our products.⁶

Learn more about Lenovo Asset Recovery Services

For further information on Lenovo's efforts and performance in pursuing a sustainable future, [click here](#).

WWServices - ARS_Whitepaper - 021023 - ExtIT - KN

1. <https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/press-release/un-report-time-seize-opportunity-tackle-challenge-e-waste>
2. <https://ewastemonitor.info/e-waste-will-double-by-2050/>
3. <https://www.erm.com/insights/e-waste-turning-a-challenge-into-business-advantage/>
4. <https://ewastemonitor.info/gem-2020/>
5. <https://www.theworldcounts.com/stories/electronic-waste-facts>
6. Lenovo ESG Report 2022: https://investor.lenovo.com/en/sustainability/sustainability_reports.php

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