



GENERAL ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERABLE PURCHASING RESOURCES

- US EPA – very extensive resources: <http://www.epa.gov/oppt/epp/index.htm>
- *Purchasing for Pollution Prevention* – INFORM – a nonprofit working on toxics education http://www.informinc.org/p3_00.php
- *Purchasing Strategies to Prevent Waste and Save Money* – INFORM and the National Recycling Coalition <http://www.nrc-recycle.org/councils/SRF/sourcereduction.htm>
- *Making Environmentally Informed Designs Decisions on Computer Purchases* - National Recycling Coalition <http://www.nrc-recycle.org/resources/electronics/procurement.htm>
- *Electronic Equipment and Product Stewardship* - Northwest Product Stewardship Council <http://www.productstewardship.net/productsElectronics.html>

ECO-LABELS

Blue Angel (Germany) label is awarded to computer equipment that combines increased longevity of the system and its components with a recyclable design and the opportunity to reuse and recycle used products or product components. The label also requires that environmentally harmful substances be avoided wherever possible. Other criteria include reduced energy consumption through the use of intelligent power management systems and low noise emissions.

http://www.blauer-engel.de/englisch/navigation/body_blauer_engel.htm

European Computer Manufacturers Association (ECMA) is an international industry association dedicated to the standardization of information and communication systems. ECMA's Product-Related Environmental Attributes (TR/70) identifies and describes environmental attributes and associated measurement methods related to the use of information and communication technology and consumer electronic products according to known standards, guidelines and currently accepted practices.

<http://www.ecma-international.org>

EU Flower (European Union) allows manufacturers to show that their products meet a number of established criteria in favor of the environment, including limits on mercury content in liquid crystal displays (LCD); reduced electromagnetic emissions; energy savings; and take-back and recycling capabilities. <http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/ecolabel/>

Nordic Swan (Finland, Iceland, Norway, Denmark and Sweden) is organized by the Nordic Council of Ministers. The Nordic Swan eco-label requires, among other things, ease of disassembly after use, no chlorine-based plastics, restrictive use of cadmium and mercury in product displays, reduced energy consumption and offering the opportunity to recycle an old product when a new product is purchased.

<http://www.svanen.nu/Eng/default.asp>

NITO (Nordic Information Technology Organization) is comprised of IT organizations from Sweden, Norway and Denmark. Requirements are in the areas of visual ergonomics, ability to be recycled, energy consumption and noise characteristics. <http://www.ecolabel.no/>

Swedish Confederation of Professional Employees (TCO) is an independent third party organization developing global quality and environmental standards for electronics, particularly computers and monitors. The TCO label addresses radiation emissions, energy usage, ergonomics, and noise emissions. TCO works with other standards organization on the environmental aspects, but their main focus is on workplace safety. http://tco.networks.nu/index_publicfirst.htm

ISO CERTIFICATION

ISO 14000 is a family of standards on environmental management that was developed to assist in the implementation of actions supportive to sustainable development. It is primarily concerned with what the organization does to minimize harmful effects on the environment caused by its activities and continually improve its environmental performance. <http://www.iso.ch/iso/en/ISOOnline.frontpage>