



LG ELECTRONICS Ranking = 4.0/10

LGE gets top marks for its support of the Precautionary Principle and also scores points for providing timelines for substituting polyvinyl chloride (PVC) and brominated flame retardants (BFRs). It loses points on product take back and recycling. LGE has slipped down to the 11th place in the ranking due to its double standards on Individual Producer Responsibility (IPR), thereby losing the points it scored for supporting IPR. While LGE's global website states that the company believes that the producer (not consumer) should be responsible for financing the waste management of its own brand products when they are discarded; in the US, LGE is part of a Coalition that has been opposing Producer Responsibility and lobbying for U.S. consumers to pay an Advanced Recycling Fee (ARF).

Ranking criteria explained

The ranking criteria reflect the demands of the Toxic Tech campaign to the electronics companies. Our two demands are that companies should:

- clean up their products by eliminating hazardous substances;
- takeback and recycle their products responsibly once they become obsolete.

The two issues are connected. The use of harmful chemicals in electronics prevents their safe recycling when the products are discarded. Companies score marks out of 30, which are then re-calculated to give a mark out of 10 for simplicity.

LG ELECTRONICS Overall Score

| | BAD (0) | PARTIALLY BAD (1+) | PARTIALLY GOOD (2+) | GOOD (3+) |
|--|----------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| Precautionary Principle | | | | |
| Chemicals Management | | | | |
| Timeline for PVC phaseout | | | | |
| Timeline for BFR phaseout | | | | |
| PVC-free and/or BFR-free models (companies score double on this criterion) | | | | |
| Individual producer responsibility | | | | |
| Voluntary takeback | | | | |
| Information to individual customers | | | | |
| Amounts recycled | | | | |

LG ELECTRONICS Detailed Scoring

| Chemical Score | BAD | PARTIALLY BAD | PARTIALLY GOOD | GOOD |
|--|--|---------------|---|--|
| Precautionary Principle | | | | LGE provides a strong definition of the precautionary principle reflecting the need to take action to eliminate harmful chemicals even though their effects may not be scientifically proven. More information |
| Chemicals Management | | | LGE provides a substance list that includes future substances to be reduced, including beryllium and antimony. More information | |
| Timeline for PVC phaseout | | | | The first PVC-free products are to be launched in 2008; the remaining uses of PVC are to be phased out by the end of 2010. More information |
| Timeline for BFR phaseout | | | | All new models released in 2010 are to be BFR-free. More information |
| PVC-free and/or BFR-free models (companies score double on this criterion) | No BFR-free or PVC-free product systems on the market. | | | |

| EPR/recycling score | BAD | PARTIALLY BAD | PARTIALLY GOOD | GOOD |
|--|--|---|----------------|------|
| Support for Individual Producer Responsibility | LGE loses its 3 points (in support of IPR) due to double standards. LGE claims to support IPR on its global website. See info But in the US, LGE is part of the Electronic Manufacturers' Coalition for Responsible Recycling which does not support EPR, but is demanding that consumers pay ARFs (Advanced Recycling Fees). More information | | | |
| Provides voluntary takeback where no EPR laws exist | No information about LGE's voluntary takeback programmes on their website. More information | | | |
| Provides info for individual customers on takeback in all countries where products are sold | No information on what customers can do with their discarded LGE e-waste. More information | | | |
| Reports on amount of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) collected and recycled | | LGE provides information on their recycling rates only in Japan and Korea. More information | | |

Toxic chemicals criteria

Greenpeace wants to see electronics companies clean up their act.

Substituting harmful chemicals in the production of electronics will prevent worker exposure to these substances and contamination of communities that neighbour production facilities. Eliminating harmful substances will also prevent leaching/off-gassing of chemicals like brominated flame retardants (BFR) during use, and enable electronic scrap to be safely recycled. The presence of toxic substances in electronics perpetuates the toxic cycle – during reprocessing of electronic waste and by using contaminated secondary materials to make new products.

Until the use of toxic substances is eliminated, it is impossible to secure 'safe' recycling. For this reason, the points awarded to corporate practice on chemicals (five criteria, double points for PVC – and BFR-free models) are weighted more heavily than criteria on recycling, because until the use of harmful substances is eliminated in products, it is impossible to secure 'safe', toxic-free recycling.

The electronics scorecard ranks companies on:

Chemicals policy and practice (5 criteria)

1. A chemicals policy based on the Precautionary Principle
2. Chemicals Management: supply chain management of chemicals via e.g. banned/restricted substance lists, policy to identify problematic substances for future elimination/substitution
3. Timeline for phasing out all use of vinyl plastic (PVC)
4. Timeline for phasing out all use of brominated flame retardants (not just those banned by EU's RoHS Directive)
5. PVC- and BFR-free models of electronic products on the market.

Policy and practice on Producer Responsibility for taking back their discarded products and recycling (4 criteria)

1. Support for individual (financial) producer responsibility – that producers finance the end-of-life management of their products, by taking back and reusing/recycling their own-brand discarded products.
2. Provides voluntary takeback and recycling in every country where it sells its products, even in the absence of national laws requiring Producer Responsibility for electronic waste.
3. Provides clear information for individual customers on takeback and recycling services in all countries where there are sales of its products.
4. Reports on amount of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) collected and recycled.

[Click here to see more detailed information on the ranking](#)

Ranking regrading: Companies have the opportunity to move towards a greener ranking as the guide will be updated every quarter. However penalty points will be deducted from overall scores if Greenpeace finds a company lying, practising double standards or other corporate misconduct.

Disclaimer: Greenpeace's 'Guide to Greener Electronics' aims to clean up the electronics sector and get manufacturers to take responsibility for the full life cycle of their products, including the electronic waste that their products generate. The guide does not rank companies on labour standards, energy use or any other issues, but recognises that these are important in the production and use of electronics products.

For the latest version [greenpeace.org/greenerelectronics](https://www.greenpeace.org/greenerelectronics)