



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.

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.

Where two companies score the same number of total points, the company with the higher score on the chemicals criteria will be ranked higher.

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 its products are sold, 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 is updated every quarter. However penalty points are 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.

Ranking guide addition: We first released our 'Guide to Greener Electronics' in August 2006, which ranked the 14 top manufacturers of personal computers and mobile phones according to their policies on toxic chemicals and recycling.

In the sixth issue of the Guide, we added the leading manufacturers of TVs – namely, Philips and Sharp – and the game console producers Nintendo and Microsoft. The other market leaders for TVs and game consoles are already included in the Guide.

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

A penalty point has been deducted from Nokia's overall score for corporate misbehaviour as a result of Greenpeace testing of the companies' takeback practice in the Philippines, Thailand, Russia, Argentina and India.

HP Ranking = 6.7/10

HP drops one place to number 11, after rising from 13th at the last ranking. HP now provides a timeline for eliminating polyvinyl chloride (PVC) plastic and all brominated flame retardants (BFRs) by 2009, but only in computing equipment – not for its entire product portfolio.

HP also scores well for its support for Individual Producer Responsibility and was the first company to devise an electronic waste take-back/recycling metric based on a percentage of past sales. It still has to improve coverage of its voluntary take-back programme to score full marks on all waste criteria.

HP 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				

HP Detailed Scoring

Chemical Score	BAD	PARTIALLY BAD	PARTIALLY GOOD	GOOD
Precautionary Principle				HP's definition of Precautionary Principle reflects the need to eliminate potentially harmful chemicals even without full scientific certainty of harm . More information.
Chemicals Management				HP scores top marks on its chemical management. More information. General Specification for the Environment.
Timeline for PVC phaseout			HP has a timeline for eliminating PVC in 2009 from its new computing products, but not from its entire product portfolio. More information.	
Timeline for BFR phaseout			HP has a timeline for eliminating BFRs in 2009 from its new computing products, but not from its entire product portfolio. More information.	
PVC-free and/or BFR-free models (companies score double on this criterion)	No HP products are completely free of PVC or all BFRs. Although no BFRs are used in external casings, they are still used in the circuit boards. Some products are free of PVC except for external cables. Substitution of BFRs and PVC in these key applications is needed before substantial progress is recognised. More information. Computer systems here, here and here			

HP Detailed Scoring

EPR/recycling score	BAD	PARTIALLY BAD	PARTIALLY GOOD	GOOD
Support for Individual Producer Responsibility				<p>HP supports and lobbies for IPR. In Europe, Hewlett Packard is a founding member of the European Recycling Platform that supports IPR. More information here and here.</p>
Provides voluntary takeback where no EPR laws exist			<p>Voluntary takeback - not for all products and not in every region of the world. For PC hardware takeback, major gaps in Africa and South America. More information here and here. Global map of recycling programs, return and recycling choices. Byteback programme in Victoria Australia, China, Thailand.</p>	
Provides info for individual customers on takeback in all countries where products are sold			<p>No information for HP's individual customers in Latin America, Africa, India, New Zealand. More information here, here and here. Info on a range of options (asset recovery, donation).</p>	
Reports on amount of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) collected and recycled				<p>HP reports a reuse and recycling rate in 2006 of 10% of relevant sales. More information. A press release in February 2008 reports that HP recycled 250 million pounds of products in 2007, 50% more than in 2007.</p>