



LG ELECTRONICS Ranking = 4.3/10

LGE earns points for supporting the precautionary principle and Individual Producer Responsibility. The company also scores points for providing timelines for substituting toxic polyvinyl chloride (PVC) and brominated flame retardants (BFRs), but loses points on product take back and recycling.

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 scored marks out of 30 this has then been calculated to a mark out of 10 for simplicity.

LG ELECTRONICS Overall Score

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

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 supports individual producer responsibility (IPR) while acknowledging the barriers to implementing IPR. More information
Provides voluntary takeback where no EPR laws exist	No information about LGE's voluntary takeback programmes on their website.			
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			
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/greenelectronics](https://www.greenpeace.org/greenelectronics)