

Cell Phone Recycling Solution Helps Corporation Go Green!

Las Vegas, Nevada from the CTIA, the Wireless Association Annual Conference, April 4, 2008 - The Wireless Source is promoting a new service that offers large corporations and their employees the ability to recycle their wireless devices in a safe and secure manner and get rewarded for the value of those retired units. The service is cost-free and features guaranteed data removal from the retired wireless handsets, while ensuring proper disposal of unusable devices.

As cell phones have increased in popularity, the average life of a cell phone is now less than 18 months. As organizations and their personnel upgrade their phones, it frequently creates a stockpile of unused handsets sitting idle in closets and desk drawers. Many used cell phones still have financial value and can be recycled profitably. Businesses can be rewarded directly with payment for their devices or a donation can be made to their corporate charity or they can elect to receive carbon offsets for the value of the devices.

“So many of these units are not properly retired and organizations are concerned about privacy and identity theft of data residing on the wireless device,” said Bob Sullivan, CEO of the Wireless Source. “Wireless devices used by corporations have the added liability of often having proprietary applications, customer, suppliers and vendor as well as personal information of the handset user. Many corporations want to recycle or donate these retired handsets, but want the peace of mind knowing that all the data will be safely removed before it is retired.”

Sullivan further said, “We also provide our clients with tools via the web where they can remove the data themselves or they can simply send the units to us we’ll do it for them. We use the latest electronic tools to remove all data from retired handsets and then provide back a validation to the account outlining each unique serial number and the function performed.”

It is estimated that there are more than 500 million cellular phones stockpiled in the United States alone. Non-usable handsets are properly recycled to minimize any environmental threat.

Organizations can learn more by going to www.thewirelessource.com or calling 800-527-4700.

About The Wireless Source

The Wireless Source is a global leader in the reuse and recycling of mobile devices. The company supports recycling and asset recovery services to wireless service provider, businesses, retailers, charities and consumers in secure and environmentally sound manner. The Wireless Source is an ISO14001 registered company. Visit www.thewirelessource.com or our charitable contributions group at www.charitablerecycling.com.

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Mobile Phone Recycling

1. The estimated 500 million retired handsets in the USA weigh the same as a US Navy Aircraft carrier
2. Mobile phones returned to The Wireless Source are prepped for reuse. Reusable units have any personal data removed and are tested and/or remanufactured for redistribution. Those phones that cannot be reused are sent to an end-of-life mobile phone smelter, where the device is broken down into various components for full recycling.
3. Mobile phones contain numerous substances, which need to be disposed of in a safe and efficient manner.
 - a. The cadmium in a single battery from an old phone could seriously contaminate 600,000 liters of water, enough to fill a third of an Olympic size swimming pool. Cadmium is being phased out of new batteries, but many other poisonous materials remain.
 - b. Lead- which affects the immune, endocrine and central nervous system is used to solder components to the printed wiring boards
4. It is estimated that there are over 500 million used and out-of-service mobile phones stockpiled in the US with an estimated 130 million being retired each year.