



## DENVER ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY REPORT



# ORGANIZATIONAL RESULTS

## Environmental

### Accountability

- 3rd party audits ensure we comply with highest environmental standards
- No hazardous electronic waste is exported to developing countries
- All downstream vendors are audited and qualified to ensure environmental compliance
- Maintain pollution liability policy

### Results – 6 years

- 2011 CAFR Recycler of the Year
- 2013 CO ELP 24 karat gold recipient
- E-Waste collected: 11,728,961 lbs.
- Hazardous Waste Diverted: 337,249 lbs.
- Fluorescent Bulbs Recycled: 103,317
- Single Stream Recycled: 190,422 lbs.
- Greenhouse Gas Reduction: 16,348,888 lbs.

## Health and Safety

### Accountability

- Proactive routine air and noise quality evaluation
- Ergonomic and OHS risk assessments performed

### Results

- No lost time accidents
- 97% work task engagement on production line
- 2010 Arc of the Pikes Peak Area Employer of the Year
- Vocational training program developed with special education programs

## Data Security

### Accountability

- Guarantee data security of all assets managed
- Fully compliant to NIST 800-88, HIPPA, DOD, and Graham Leach-Bliley standards
- Data security handling processes are validated through third-party audits
- Maintain cyber security liability policy

### Results

- Comprehensive chain of custody tracking of all data storing devices
- Offer both physical hard drive destruction and data wiping capability
- Onsite data shredding service available
- Certificates of data destruction available

## Social Accountability

### Accountability

- Registered 501c3 Social Enterprise
- Routinely donates hours of service to community education
- We do not conduct business with organizations using child, prison, or slave labor

### Results

- Meaningful, above minimum wage employment for 26 adults with autism and other disabilities
- \$1,246,675 taxpayer savings of reduced SSDI by employing people with disabilities
- 2012 recipient of the CAFR Media Outreach award
- Conducted over 150 community recycling events
- Hundreds of staff hours donated to community education efforts

# OUR 2016 EHSMS RESULTS

**Objective #1: Decrease the gallons of diesel used per ton of e-waste collected ratio by 10%.**

**We were not able to meet this objective**—We purchased a smaller box truck with the intention of improving efficiency, but the vehicle purchased was never deployed due to mechanical problems.

**Objective #2: Increase the percentage of material going to refurbishment by 25%.**

**We did not meet this objective**—Our goal was to build capacity for refurbishment through a partnership with PCs for People. Unfortunately, the partnership did not meet financial goals and had to be dissolved.

**Objective #3: Mitigate against the potential for fire by improving the electrical wiring at DRO.**

**This objective was not met** during the EHS cycle due to funding limitations but we have since accomplished this objective through our RREO grant.

**Objective #4: We will protect walkways, exits, fire extinguishers, and breaker boxes, creating a visual markers that indicate no-go-zones.**

**We accomplished this objective.**

**Objective #5: Expand capacity within our data security caged area by purchasing and installing pallet racking.**

**Partial Credit**—We were able to purchase the pallet racking, but were not able to install it before the end of the EHS cycle.

**Objective #6: Help underprivileged kids access technology by supporting a quarterly PCs for Kids event.**

**We met this objective!**

## NEW OBJECTIVES FOR 2016–2017:

### ENVIRONMENTAL

**Objective #1:** Purchase a smaller box truck for small pickups saving fuel per ton collected

**Objective #2:** Improve material management by creating staging areas for each downstream vendor

**Objective #3:** Develop a new refurbishment program

### DATA SECURITY

**Objective:** Install camera system for outside the building

### OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

**Objective #1:** Improve vehicle safety through the purchase of a new liftgate

**Objective #2:** We will create walk-ways and no-go zones to ensure OSHA compliance

### SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

**Objective:** Create five new jobs for people with disabilities in DRO



# ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY

At Blue Star Recyclers, we believe we have a responsibility to operate our business in a way that honors and respects the planet, conserves our natural resources, and protects the health and safety of our employees and community. In support of this philosophy, we have made key environmental and occupational health and safety issues a top priority and continue to include them as an integral part of our business. The commitment to environmental, health and safety stewardship starts at the top, with our CEO and Board of Directors, and permeates throughout our organization. We are committed to the following:

- ✦ We will comply with all applicable international, federal, state, and local regulations and will implement programs and procedures to ensure both conformance and compliance. We will strive to move beyond compliance by voluntarily adopting more rigorous industry standards for the responsible recycling of electronic waste. No hazardous or toxic material collected by Blue Star Recyclers will be sent to the landfill, incinerated, or exported to non-OECD countries for dispossession. Blue Star Recyclers is committed to providing safe, ethical, secure, and responsible electronic waste recycling services.
- ✦ We are committed to transparency throughout our operations. We believe we owe our staff, customers, advocates, and the general community honesty and accountability throughout all facets of our business, especially as it pertains to our environmental aspects and impacts.
- ✦ Through our Environmental Health and Safety Management System, we have instituted a systematic approach to plan, control, measure, and improve our own environmental and occupational health and safety performance. We have undertaken this exercise to understand the environmental and occupational health and safety risks associated with our operations and we proactively seek to mitigate against those hazards. As a part of this process, we will continually seek to improve both our environmental and our occupational health and safety performance and will regularly report our progress to all stakeholders.
- ✦ We are committed to prevent pollution and minimize our environmental impact as much as possible.
- ✦ We are committed to maintaining a safe work environment for our employees, volunteers, and visitors and seek to avoid accidents and injuries. We provide training to all of our employees concerning occupational hazards, specifically concerning material management, ergonomics, and emergency protocols. When applicable, we provide routine internal auditing related to incidents and accidents, air quality, exposure to substances, thermal stress, noise exposure, and other occupational risks.
- ✦ We will safeguard any material that potentially contains customer data.
- ✦ We believe that social accountability is tied to environmental stewardship. Therefore, we will only utilize downstream vendors that share our commitment to environmental responsibility and worker safety. We will not utilize any vendor that utilizes prison, slave, or child labor.

- ✦ Blue Star Recyclers is committed to ensuring that the principles outlined in this policy are fully integrated into our daily business operations. We will communicate and reinforce this policy to all employees and business partners. We will devote the resources necessary to carry out our Environmental Health and Safety Management System regardless of changes to our management, budget, staffing, or operational process.
- ✦ Blue Star Recyclers embraces community education as a core value. We are committed to furthering sustainability and environmental stewardship by facilitating educational programs and holding community recycling events.

The Blue Star Recyclers' Environmental Health and Safety Policy has been approved by the Management Team

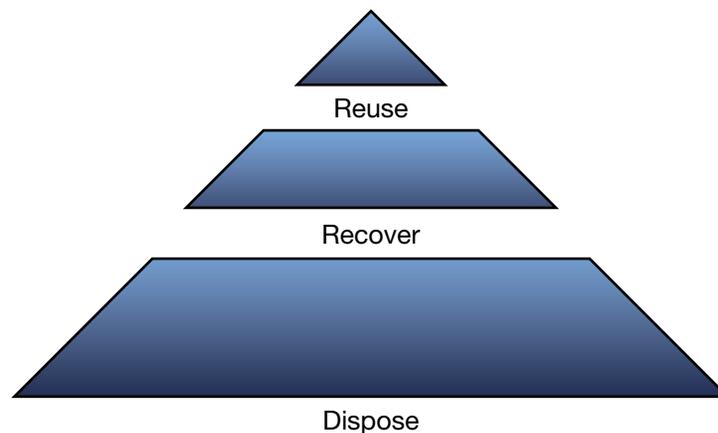
## MATERIAL MANAGEMENT POLICY OVERVIEW

Blue Star Recyclers is dedicated to handling all potentially hazardous material in a manner that safeguards both the environment and worker health and safety.

Furthermore, Blue Star vets all downstream partners to ensure that this material stream is managed in conformance with the e-Steward Standard throughout the entire recycling chain. Our commitment to due diligence extends to the point of final disposition.

Blue Star Recyclers is committed to a “reuse, recover, dispose” hierarchy of material management. Whenever possible, we aim to direct functional material with viable reuse value to a market that can legitimately reuse it. Material that does not have resell value is sorted and/or disassembled manually at our facility by employees trained in the safe handling of Hazardous e-Waste and Problematic Components.

The material is then sent to one of our downstream partners for further ethical processing. It is the policy of Blue Star Recyclers to ensure that all material not targeted for remarketing be responsibly recycled, provided that it is technically and fiscally viable to do so. When recycling is not an option, Blue Star directs the material to disposal facilities in compliance with the e-Steward Standard.

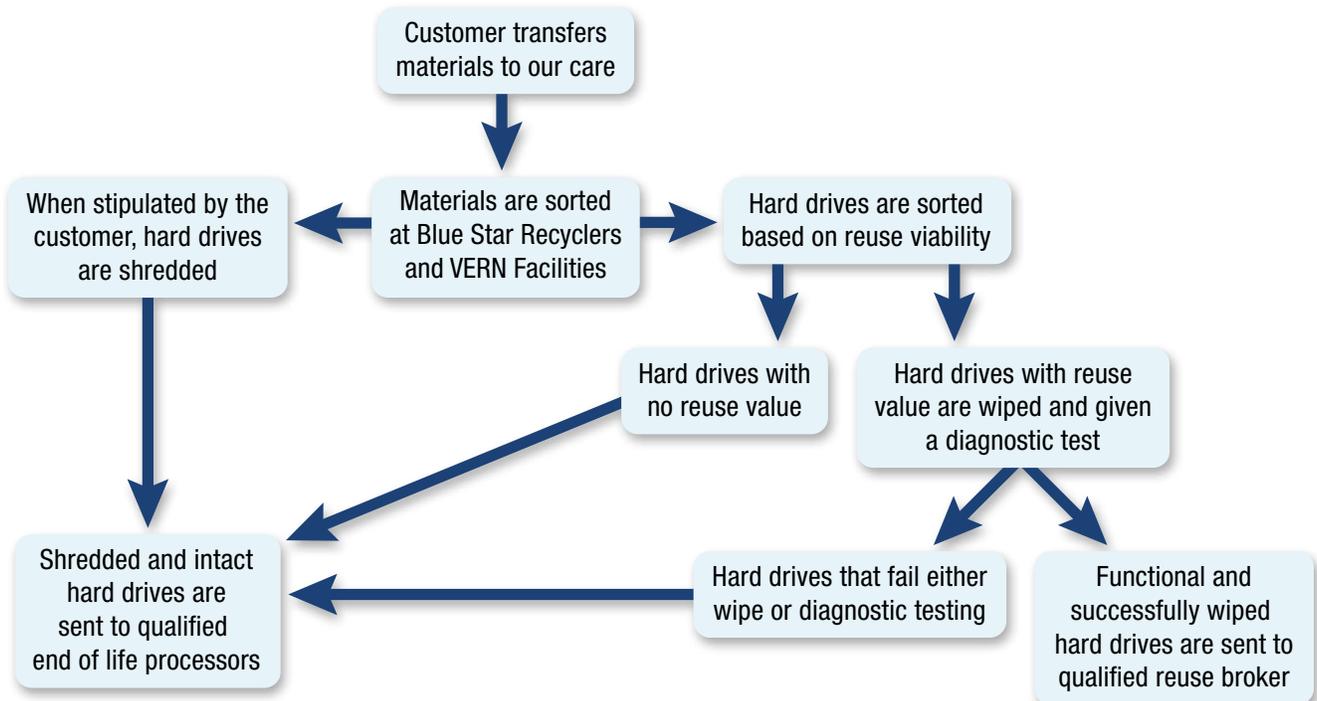


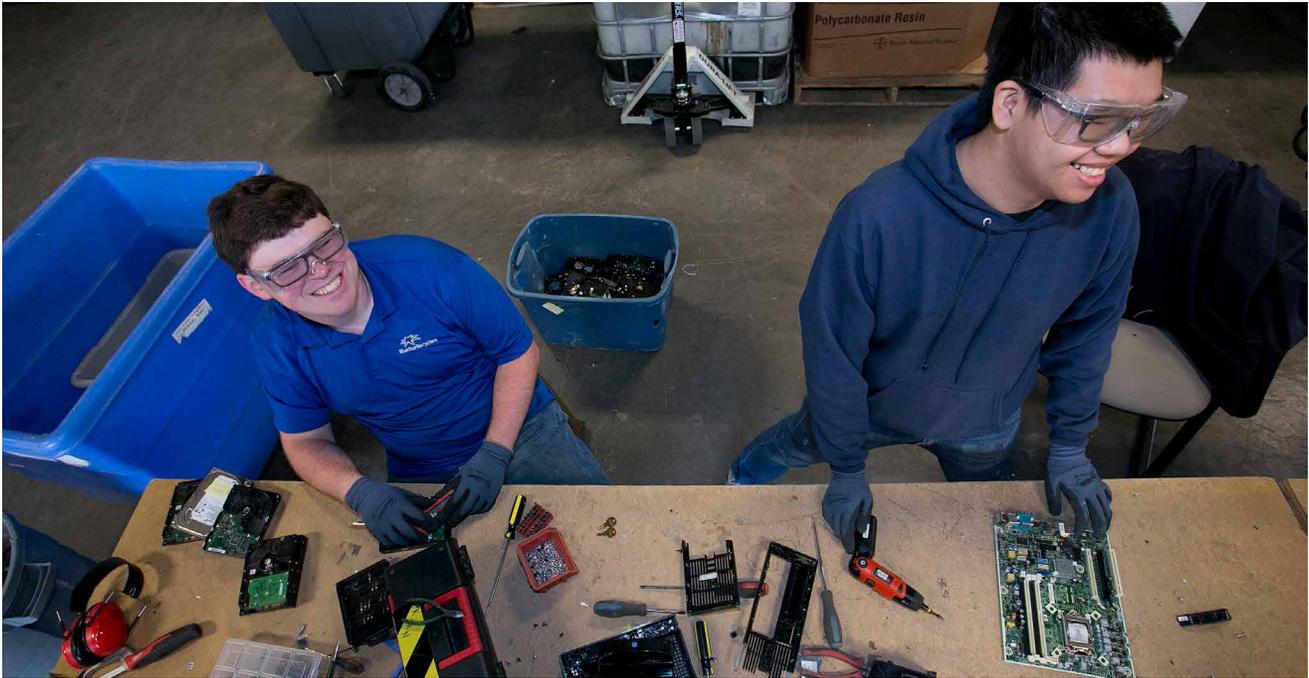
## REUSE POLICY OVERVIEW

Blue Star Recyclers/VERN is committed to a “reuse, recover, dispose” hierarchy of material management. When viable, we recognize that reuse is the most environmentally beneficial solution for discarded electronics. Although we recognize the benefits of reuse, there are a number of difficulties with ensuring material targeted for reuse ends up in a legitimate market. Some recyclers have used reuse as a guise for unethical dumping on impoverished communities throughout the world. Therefore, it is critical that material targeted for reuse be both fully functional and have a viable market for buyers that intend to reuse the component as the original manufacturer intended.

## DATA DESTRUCTION POLICY OVERVIEW

One unique aspect of electronic recycling is the issue of data security. Unlike a lot of other material streams, electronic waste often incorporates devices that store a variety of confidential information. With the right expertise, it is possible that this sensitive information can be recovered from even non-functioning components. Consequently, it is very important that we handle data storing devices in a manner that ensures the information is fully sanitized. This Data Security Policy is designed to implement the procedures necessary to ensure security.





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