



## **CompuCycle Is First Houston Firm To Achieve EPA “R2” Responsible Electronics Recycler Certification**

HOUSTON, Feb. 28, 2011—Houston-based CompuCycle announced today it is the first and only company in Houston to have been awarded the prestigious Responsible Electronics Recycler (R2) Certification accredited by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Designed to combat the growing problem of e-waste, R2 practices require broken or retired electronics to be processed under stringent environmental, worker health and safety, and security guidelines. Computers, televisions and other electronic devices contain toxic materials such as lead, mercury, cadmium, beryllium, barium and Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC). When broken or retired electronics are processed improperly or simply discarded in landfills, these toxins can contaminate groundwater and seriously affect public health and worker safety.

Working with the American National Standards Institute and other organizations, the EPA developed the R2 accreditation program for responsible recyclers. Proper management of e-waste is one of the agency’s top six global priorities.

“The City of Houston applauds CompuCycle’s award as Houston’s first certified recycler,” said Laura Spanjian, Sustainability Director for the City of Houston. “It’s vital that all businesses and individuals practice ecologically sound electronics recycling. Mayor Parker has made a cleaner, healthier environment a centerpiece of her administration.”

CompuCycle Co-founder and Vice President Clive Hess said, “Improper disposal of e-waste is not only harmful to the environment, but also can pose security risks if hard drives haven’t been properly erased. Many recyclers simply export old computers overseas, without regard to where the components end up. Our data security procedures and R2 Certification assure partners and customers that CompuCycle is on the cutting edge of responsible recycling. Moreover, as our business and the industry continues to grow, we hope to create new green jobs in Houston to help the local economy.”

Stewart Title Group President Glen Clements said, “CompuCycle’s R2 certification assures Stewart Title that when our computers are recycled, the hard-drive data will be completely erased and the components properly disposed of in an ecologically sound manner.”

Founded in 1997, CompuCycle has evolved from an electronics scrap processing business to a full-service e-waste recycling operation. Its mission is to be the premier provider of corporate recycling programs in the most environmentally responsible and cost-efficient manner. The company is committed to:

- Preventing e-waste from entering municipal incinerators or landfills;
- Stopping the export of e-waste to non-qualified facilities in developing countries;
- Providing visible tracking of e-waste throughout the product recycling chain;
- Ensuring secure data management, including Department of Defense hard-drive erasure and physical shredding;

- Employing Environmental Management Systems in all its electronics recycling operations;
- Promoting reuse and refurbishment options for product and materials collected.

CompuCycle sells refurbished computer equipment on its Web site, [www.compucycle.net](http://www.compucycle.net), offering weekly specials to schools, resellers and the public. For more on the EPA R2 Program, go to: <http://www.epa.gov/osw/conserves/materials/ecycling/r2practices.htm>.

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