

## Electronic recycler applauds national IT waste strategy

Leading Australian e-waste recycling facility, TES-AMM, has today applauded the commitment by Federal and State environment ministers to develop a national waste strategy that will ensure all e-waste is recycled rather than going toward landfill and illegal dumping overseas.

The decision made by the Environment Protection and Heritage Council in Hobart on Friday is a step in the right direction towards putting a stop to unsafe disposal of electronic equipment, especially computers.

TES-AMM Managing Director Alvin Piadasa said today that his company is keen to see the situation of illegal electronic waste exports cease.

“We want to see a product stewardship regulation put into place which will enable Full Recovery Facilities to be set up in Australia,” Mr Piadasa said.

“TES-AMM and its technology provide the best opportunity for Australia to have this capability as it has a low cost, high e-waste recovery process that is environmentally sound.”

According to Mr Piadasa, through this technology, Australia can fully comply with its Basel Convention obligations by having a facility that can fully process its own hazardous e-waste in country, thus removing the requirement to export e-waste.

TES-AMM is currently the only electronic waste recycler to possess a hazardous waste export permit issued by the Department of Environment and Heritage under the Hazardous Waste Act (Regulation of Exports and Imports).

The Governments’ planned e-waste strategy will see increased recycling rates in line with TES-AMM’s ethical standards on safe disposal of e-waste in Australia.

However, TES-AMM warns that many companies and government bodies are unaware that illegal exports are still taking place and advises business dealings only with companies that have transparent recycling processes.

“In treating e-waste in the most ethical and environmentally responsible way possible, TES-AMM is able to guarantee accountability in our processes, which are different to any other e-waste processor in Australia,” Mr Piadasa said. “Companies need to be aware and work with professional recyclers that can demonstrate an auditable recovery process.”

According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, approximately 1.6 million computers are dumped in landfill each year, with another 1.8 million stored away in a garage or office backroom. Only approximately 500,000 computers are actually recycled out of approximately 7 million which reach their end of life.

TES-AMM utilises a unique low cost chemical process to recover precious metals from electronic scrap. The closed loop process allows complete capture of any harmful solid, liquid and gaseous emissions which differs greatly from the traditional smelting method of recovery.

TES-AMM is committed to investing in e-recycling facilities which will see Australia ultimately possess its own in-country recovery capability.

Ends.