

The TechCollect Program

ANZRP Limited – Australia & New Zealand Recycling Platform Limited



A Guide for Collection Partners

Including local government and other site owners/operators

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Choosing the Right Approved Co-regulatory Arrangement for the National Television and Computer Recycling Scheme

Partnering with the TechCollect Program means that Collection Partners can benefit from a national collection, recycling and community education service that is environmentally robust, cost effective and community friendly.

Introduction

Purpose

This 'Guide for Collection Partners' has been prepared by TechCollect for consideration by local government (Councils), metropolitan and regional waste management groups and other organisations interested in becoming a TechCollect Collection Partner.

The primary purpose of this Guide is to inform potential Collection Partners about the value and benefits of partnering with TechCollect.

Choosing the right Approved Co-regulatory Arrangement (Approved Arrangement) such as TechCollect will bring peace of mind to Collection Partners eager to establish a permanent solution for their stakeholders

About ANZRP

The Australia and New Zealand Recycling Platform Limited (ANZRP) is the leading Approved Arrangement in Australia. It has the support of major television and computer companies that are global brands, manufacturers and vendors. ANZRP working in collaboration with its suppliers will ensure the outcomes of the National Television and Computer Recycling Scheme (NTCRS) are met and products are dealt with in an environmentally sustainable manner, at end of life (EOL). ANZRP is the industry driven 'product stewardship organisation' and is solely focused on responsible resource recovery for television and computer waste. It intends to be the most environmentally sound, sustainable, Approved Arrangement in Australia.

About TechCollect

TechCollect is a free national recycling program for computers, computer accessories and TVs (e-waste). Established and managed by ANZRP in response to the Federal Government's National Computer and Television Recycling Scheme (NTCRS) TechCollect is Australia's only government approved, industry backed, not-for-profit e-waste recycling service.

Through its TechCollect program, ANZRP manages and coordinates all end-to-end operational aspects of the service, from collection and transport through to equipment recycling and data collection.

ANZRP coordinates TechCollect designated collection sites and community recycling events across metropolitan, regional and remote Australia in accordance with the Product Stewardship Regulations.

The TechCollect program is free of charge to the public and small businesses at TechCollect designated collection points.

Scheme Requirements

TechCollect is operating within the context of the NTCRS, which requires all Approved Arrangements to deliver a service in accordance with the Product Stewardship (Televisions and Computers) Regulations.

It is important to note the following points outlined in the Australian Government's Fact Sheet on the National Television and Computer Recycling Scheme: *Guide for Local Government*:

- Approved arrangements will need to provide reasonable access to collection services across Australia by December 2013 – the benchmarks for measuring this are set out in the regulations.
- Approved arrangements have flexibility in how they provide collection services, and will collect products from a range of sources including households and business. This could result in a variety of approaches, including fixed collection sites, take-back through retailers, periodic collections in remote areas and direct arrangements with large business.
- Approved arrangements must provide their collection services free of charge to households and small business; noting that this condition does not apply to products collected (for example by local government) before the commencement of the regulations.
- Local government, where relevant, will continue to have a role in managing e-waste. The Scheme will not regulate local government.
- However, should a local government choose to become a collector for the Scheme, changes to existing services may be required to meet Scheme requirements, for example from 8 November 2011 fees were no longer permitted for drop off by householders or small businesses for Scheme run services and relevant occupational health and safety and environmental standards had and continue to need to be met.
- Collection services under the Scheme will start slowly and build up over time, consequently to meet community needs local government may need to continue some existing collection and recycling services as the Scheme is not intended, nor able, to replace these services in its early years.
- The Scheme can only collect televisions and computers, printers and computer products such as keyboards, mice and hard drives.

Source: National Waste Policy Fact Sheet on the National Television and Computer Recycling Scheme: Guide for Local Government. Australian Government. Last updated 8/11/11.

Why you should Partner with TechCollect

Becoming a TechCollect collection partner has a range of direct benefits for local councils:

- TechCollect funding of the transport, reprocessing and recycling of e-waste (as specified by the NCTRS). This means reduced waste transport and disposal costs for collection partners.
- A guaranteed television and computer recycling service that is responsive to the local community's needs.

The indirect benefits of partnering with TechCollect are also significant:

- Ongoing support and advice through direct liaison with TechCollect staff e.g. community education and PR, site management and materials handling.
- No exposure to the commercial risk associated with commodity price fluctuations.
- Reduced levels of illegal dumping resulting from the provision of a TechCollect collection service.

What TechCollect is offering Collection Partners

TechCollect is offering Collection Partners a range of services including:

- Free recycling of TVs, computers, computer accessories.
- Free delivery of the collection units to your site.
- Free removal of the collection units and replacement with an empty unit.
- Training materials for each council/collection site in relation to receptacle packing and manual handling.
- Guidance on the application of the Interim Industry Standard for Collection, Transportation and Recycling as it applies to drop off facilities. TechCollect can assist councils to become collection ready and Interim Industry Standard compliant.
- Provision of relevant signage for the site.
- Promotion and marketing activities relevant to the specific council site.
- Regular reporting on the recycling performance from the drop off point.

TechCollect will also provide advice and guidance to local councils that receive and manage televisions and computers at TechCollect designated drop off points. This will help ensure compliance with the Interim Industry Standard and therefore maintain high levels of site safety, and environmental performance

How to Best Engage with TechCollect

Choosing the right Approved Arrangement to provide a television and computer collection service is a major decision for all Collection Partners. We believe that the best partnership outcomes are being achieved through direct discussions and face-to-face meetings rather than RFQs, tenders and complex procurement procedures.

Our experience is that RFQs, tenders and other procurement processes are time consuming and costly for all parties and inevitably lead to direct negotiations between the parties to better understand the details. In addition, if you are a large municipality, you may wish to have collection sites operated by more than one Approved Arrangement to cover your local area. In such cases, a competitive tender process is probably not the best approach.

TechCollect is available to discuss your specific requirements and needs, and to work together to tailor a solution that works for all parties

Multiple Collection Sites

A number of Collection Sites are working together to consider their options and strategies for engaging with the Approved Arrangements such as TechCollect. TechCollect is willing to work with individual sites or with collective groups or regions depending on local area requirements.

Our experience to date suggests that despite the benefits of Collection Partners working together, the specific requirements of each site necessitates the need for detailed planning by individual sites.

Furthermore, the collection targets and reasonable access requirements set by the Australian Government means that Approved Arrangements must target strategic locations in each area rather than covering all areas within each region.

Factors You Should Consider

There are a number of factors that Collection Partners should consider when assessing TechCollect with other Approved Arrangements.

As the leading industry-driven service we have sought to address the key issues, challenges and potential risks.

Make sure you can compare 'like with like' when comparing Approved Arrangements. To help you do this TechCollect is ready and willing to meet with your council on site or via phone to get the conversation going.

As a start, run these vital TechCollect credentials across all Approved Arrangements. The benefits and advantages will become obvious.

TechCollect is a **not for profit entity** established solely to manage and discharge liable parties obligations under the Regulations, and has no commercial motivations.

TechCollect is **managed by industry leaders** that are committed to resource recovery and seek to achieve the best possible outcomes for the environment, councils and the community.

- TechCollect is committed to making sure that workers, the community and the environment are protected by ensuring that effective health, safety and environmental standards are in place. This includes rigorous traceability requirements to ensure that products collected through the scheme are effectively dismantled and recycled and that they do not end up on the illegal international market for e-waste.
- TechCollect will require that **all recycling suppliers are compliant with relevant industry standards** including ISO 14001 and the Interim Industry Standards for Collection, Transport and Recycling of end of life televisions and computers (created and developed by industry for industry).
- TechCollect values **protection of its stakeholders' reputation** over the opportunity for short term cost reduction through the use of environmentally sub optimal recycling solutions or other diversion / stockpiling strategies.

Next Steps for your Site

Your Council can now take practical steps towards understanding TechCollect's collection partner requirements. There are some straightforward steps involved in formally nominating to become a TechCollect Program Collection Partner.

Contact us directly now on 1300 229 837 or by email on enquiries@techcollect.com.au and we can get the process moving immediately.

Alternatively download a copy of the ANZRP Product Stewardship Program – TechCollect Collection Partner Information Sheet and Nomination Form, which includes a self-audit checklist.

Undertaking a straightforward self-assessment against our checklist will establish whether you qualify or are eligible to nominate as a designated TechCollect Program Collection Partner under the National Television and Computer Recycling Scheme.

Email your completed checklist to enquiries@techcollect.com.au or fax to 03 9012 6088.

Additional information about collection partnerships can also be found at:
<http://techcollect.com.au/our-partners>.