

MEDIA RELEASE

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BYTEBACK!... TO THE FUTURE

There are approximately 14 million computer and related peripherals items in Victorian households!!

And of these just over 10 per cent are not in use or not working and are candidates for recycling.

But what to do with the ones in the shed, gathering dust?

Well help is at hand with Byteback, a computer recycling initiative developed by Sustainability Victoria and the Australian Information Industry Association (AIIA).

Byteback gives Victorians the opportunity to dispose of unwanted computers and other IT products in an environmentally responsible way, with up to 97 per cent of materials recovered to be recycled or re-used.

The service is free to the public and for small businesses and will be rolled out to nine sites around the state, beginning with Camberwell and Geelong.

Geoff Mabbett the Chief Executive of Sustainability Victoria said the partnership between industry and government can deliver product stewardship solutions.

Climate change concerns everybody and it's great to see Victorians leading the way when it comes to the issue of recycling. The 2 million dollar program is a Government initiative aimed at providing a model for industry that can be adopted at a national level he said.

With the support of the Australian Information Industry Association, ten major IT brands, including Apple, Canon, Dell, Epson, Fujitsu, Fuji-Xerox, HP, IBM, Lenovo and Lexmark have joined Sustainability Victoria to take the Byteback program right around Victoria.

Most of the computers will be recycled in Victoria those that can't will be sent to overseas plants that will be able to carry out the recycling process.

"This is just the start I encourage other brands to come on board and help make a difference" Mr Mabbett said.

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