



ACQUISITION,  
TECHNOLOGY  
AND LOGISTICS

## THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

3010 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3010

APR 06 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY  
(ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY, AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH)  
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
(ENVIRONMENT)  
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE  
(ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY, AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH)  
DIRECTOR, DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY

**SUBJECT:** Department of Defense Support for the Federal Electronics Challenge

I am writing to bring to your attention a commitment I had the pleasure of making in support the Federal Electronics Challenge, and I strongly encourage you and your facilities to take steps to reflect this commitment.

Used or obsolete electronics are part of an increasing, complex waste stream that represents a serious environmental concern for our country. Some of this equipment contains toxic and/or hazardous materials which, if released, can harm public health and the environment. We must take steps to reduce the impacts of the estimated 10,000 computers that we discard weekly. Electronics contain components that can be recycled, reclaimed, and/or reused in the current marketplace. As the world's largest purchaser of Information Technology (IT) products and services, the U.S. Federal government has a unique opportunity to use our purchasing power to reduce the environmental impacts of new electronics assets.

On November 15, 2004, America Recycles Day, DoD proudly joined 10 other Federal agencies in an initiative to reduce the environmental impacts of our electronics procurement, use, and disposal by signing the attached Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to reduce environmental impacts of electronic assets. One of the tools defined in the MOU is the Federal Electronics Challenge (FEC) – a voluntary program designed to provide technical assistance, tools, networking opportunities, and recognition for federal facilities. I strongly urge you to encourage your facilities and program offices to become formal FEC Partners and craft their contribution to improving the management of Defense Department's electronics.

The Federal Electronics Challenge consists of three parts. The first is establishing a plan to purchase "greener" electronics. The second is managing the existing inventory in a more efficient manner such as extending the life of equipment, promoting internal reuse or



implementing energy saving measures or features. The third part is responsible management of end-of-life processes for electronic equipment. The Defense Logistics Agency completes the disposal process for you through the Defense Reutilization & Marketing Service (DRMS). DoD FEC partners that use DRMS are in compliance with environmentally responsible end-of-life processes.

I personally would like to applaud Fort Lewis and Beale Air Force Base, which have taken a leadership role by already become FEC partners. To sign up to be a Partner, go to <[www.federalelectronicschallenge.net/pledge.htm](http://www.federalelectronicschallenge.net/pledge.htm)>. Together we can help our country by improving our electronics management.

For further information about the Department's efforts to meet the MOU goals, and including electronics management programs and objectives in your Environmental Management Systems please contact Mr. David Asiello, ODUSD(I&E)/EM, [David.Asiello@OSD.mil](mailto:David.Asiello@OSD.mil), 703-697-7363.



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Attachment: