

# Electronics Recycling Report Card

## Grading for: **Lexmark**



Summary: Lexmark has the fourth largest market share of printer companies in the U.S. They offer a printer takeback program using mailback, but you must pay to ship it to them. There are few details provided about their equipment takeback program on their website, and nothing about policies and standards for responsible recycling, although they are transparent about their vendor. We will look at toner takeback in a separate report card.

Category	Possible Points	Points Earned	Details
<b>Scope of U.S. takeback recycling program</b>	<b>42</b>		
<b>Free, convenient, national takeback program</b> Does the company offer free convenient national takeback and recycling of their branded products for individual consumers? - Convenience requires ongoing physical collection sites as well as mailback options. - Evaluates efforts made in states with no e-waste laws or laws with weak requirements	13	1	Lexmark takes back their equipment for free recycling nationwide, although you must pay shipping.
<b>Significant collection volumes</b> Does takeback program have significant collection volumes, and does the company have high volume even in states where the law does not require it?	16	0	No disclosure of U.S. volumes of products collected. The sustainability report mentions one figure - 4.17 million lbs of e-waste collected from events in 2007 - but no other details or years are provided, making it impossible to assess how much is really coming back through Lexmark's takeback program.
<b>Transparent reporting</b> Is the company transparent in reporting on collection volumes, including where they are coming from?	7	0	No disclosure of U.S. volumes of products collected
<b>Free not just for consumers</b> Does company offer free national takeback recycling for other customers – not just individual consumers?	1	1	Not restricted just to consumers - any customer.
<b>Takeback other brands</b> Does program take products from other brands for free or a nominal charge?	1	0	Only takes Lexmark branded products.
<b>Encourage reuse</b> Does the program encourage responsible reuse of electronic equipment and parts?	4	0	Lexmark's website doesn't talk about product reuse. They do some toner cartridge reuse which will be evaluated in our special report on

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			toner takeback.
SUBTOTAL	42	2	
<b>Does program provide responsible recycling?</b>	<b>36</b>		
<b>Are recycling vendors e-Stewards?</b> Does company only use e-Stewards as vendors for all of its consumer recycling, including trade in/buy back programs? For more info, see <a href="http://www.e-stewards.org">www.e-stewards.org</a>	22	0	Lexmark does not use e-Steward recyclers for printer takeback.
<b>Other public commitment to responsible recycling</b> If the company is not using e-Stewards, does it have another public commitment to not export toxic e-waste* to developing countries, use prison labor or landfill/incinerate toxic e-waste?	Up to 5 of the 22 pts above	0	While Lexmark states that they have an environmentally responsible program, there is no statement about what that means, including any kind of commitment not to export to developing nations.
<b>Publish vendor requirements</b> Does company publish its full recycling standards (vendor requirements) on company website?	4	0	No vendor requirements or any specifics provided.
<b>Disclosure of recycling vendors</b> Does company disclose all of the electronics recycling and refurbishing vendors, used by the company and its trade-in partners, on company website?	6	4	They show Sims Recycling as their recycling vendor.
<b>Disclosure on business takeback streams</b> Do the four disclosures above apply to business streams? While this report card is aimed at consumer streams, company takeback programs for businesses (asset recovery, business trade-ins, lease returns, etc.) comprise a huge volume of some manufacturers' takeback programs.	4	0	Lexmark describes business takeback efforts in the EU and Australia, but not the U.S. except to say they will work with customers to develop strategies.
SUBTOTAL	36	4	
<b>Other</b>	<b>12</b>		
<b>Disclosure of what is closed loop recycled</b> Does company disclose information about what streams from its takeback program are closed loop recycled or make a commitment to move in this direction? Closed loop recycling means recycling material streams back into other products the company makes or products of equal value (not down-cycling).	2	1	In its sustainability report, Lexmark states that it is "working working toward "cradle-to-cradle" design. With this approach, products that reach the end of their useful life can be easily and completely recycled into new products of equivalent quality." They are doing materials research toward this end. They

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			don't seem to be doing this yet, but we gave them one point for stating this as a goal.
<b>Disclosure of how much is closed loop recycled</b> Does company report on the volume of material that is recycled into closed loop recycling?	5	0	No indication that closed loop recycling is happening now.
<b>Recycling info easy to find?</b> Is it easy to find recycling information on company website?	3	3	One click.
<b>Recyclable Packaging</b> Does the company ship products using packaging made from materials that are typically easily recyclable for most U.S. households (cardboard, but not Styrofoam/ polystyrene)?	2	0	Lexmark uses EPS in its packaging. While it's technically recyclable, it's difficult for consumers to find places to take it.
SUBTOTAL	12	4	
<b>Public policy</b>	<b>10</b>		
Does company have a statement in support of strong state legislation for producer takeback, with drivers for manufacturers to collect high volumes, and does company actively support these bills in the States?	5	0	No policy statement on site.
Does the company have a statement of support for federal legislation to ban the export of toxic electronic waste to developing nations and does the company actively support it?	5	0	No policy statement on site.
SUBTOTAL	10	0	
<b>TOTAL SCORE</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>10</b>	

Primary webpage on recycling

[http://www1.lexmark.com/content/en\\_us/about\\_us/collecting-recycling\\_program/recycling\\_program\\_other\\_countries.shtml](http://www1.lexmark.com/content/en_us/about_us/collecting-recycling_program/recycling_program_other_countries.shtml)

\* Toxic e-waste means electronic equipment, parts, and materials destined for recycling or disposal but not for direct reuse, that contain, consist of, or are derived from:

- Cadmium-, lead- or beryllium-containing circuit boards;
- Cathode ray tubes (CRTs);
- CRT glass (processed and unprocessed);
- Batteries containing lead, mercury, and/or cadmium and/or are flammable;
- Components, lamps and devices containing mercury-, beryllium- and Polychlorinated Biphenyl antimony, barium, cadmium, chromium, lead, thallium, beryllium, arsenic, or selenium; and/or
- Non-working or untested parts and whole equipment or devices exported for repair or reuse

For an explanation of the questions and grading, see the [explanation of grading](#)