

July 2019

END-OF-LIFE STEWARDSHIP POLICY

E-waste accounted for nearly 45 million tonnes of waste in 2016¹. That figure is predicted to increase to nearly 54 million by 2025 making e-waste one of the fastest growing waste streams in the world. Recycling rates across the world continue to be low as e-waste presents particular challenges for current recycling technology and infrastructure. Small and light-weight electronic products often contain a complex mix of low-value materials, which require special sorting and recycling techniques. The environmental impact of transporting end-of-life products for specialist recycling can sometimes outweigh the environmental benefit of recycling. Batteries and electronics should not be disposed of with household waste to landfill but this continues to occur widely in many countries across the globe.

How does Logitech manage our end of life stewardship risks and opportunities?

As a Responsible Producer, we monitor evolving stewardship laws for Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE), packaging and batteries worldwide. Where we identify emerging legislation, we carry out robust due diligence to identify Producer Responsibility Organisations as early as possible and we provide financial support to enable and support the development of effective recycling infrastructure and schemes. In countries where our importers, distributors, retailers and other partners are responsible for recycling, we carry out due diligence exercises to understand legal obligations, communicate our expectations to business partners and enforce good practice stewardship as a contractual term of business.

A number of countries have stewardship laws and infrastructure for our products, packaging and batteries and the number and scope of stewardship laws evolve and expand year-on-year. We proactively monitor and anticipate these developments. Providing our own voluntary take-back service continues to be a significant challenge in light of our global consumer base, the availability of suitable recovery and recycling infrastructure worldwide and the environmental impact of transporting materials for recovery and recycling. We continue to explore options in this area while currently relying on our existing network of Product Responsibility Organisations (PROs), distributors, retailers and other partners. In 2017, we partnered with PROs across the world to finance the collection of more than 3,355 tonnes of WEEE, 401 tonnes of batteries and 1,900 tonnes of packaging. Since 2010, we have financed recycling of more than 27,000 tonnes of WEEE, more than 2,000 tonnes of batteries and more than 15,000 tonnes of packaging.

Designing for Recyclability

As a consumer products company, we think beyond end-of-life recycling. We accept responsibility for carbon and environmental impacts associated with our choice of materials and the end-of-life phase of the product life-cycle.

To eliminate end-of-life contaminants of the recycling stream, we manage regulated and restricted substances and eliminate company targeted substances (including PVC), which inhibit recycling or cause significant environmental impacts during recycling.

We want to design products to enable use of recycled materials and end-of-life recyclability and we are working to develop additional Design for Sustainability standards and environmental-friendly technologies and solutions including PVC-free cables and Post-Consumer-Recycled (PCR) plastic. We recognise the scale of the challenge but we are making a good start.

We also recognise the need to raise awareness amongst consumers. We provide recycling information and battery removal and recycling labels and instructions on our products, packaging, manuals and website, to promote battery removal, responsible stewardship and raise consumer awareness of the importance of recycling. In FY19 we launched a new Recycling Page on logitech.com (www.logitech.com/recycling) and recycling video on youtube to do our part to raise consumer awareness and empower consumers with information about recycling opportunities in their local area.

We would be happy to provide further information or clarification regarding any aspect of this policy. Any queries can be directed to sustainability@logitech.com.



Robert O'Mahony
Head of Global Sustainability

¹ Bureau of International Recycling and United Nations University,