**What is the source of the e-waste problem?**

You've probably heard about the rise in electronic waste, but why is there such a problem with it?

**What is e-waste?**

E-waste is an abbreviation for "electronic waste." It refers to any electrical appliance that has reached the end of its useful life and has a plug.

What are the possibilities that you still have your first smartphone or that you're watching a boxset of actual videos? Because technology advances at such a breakneck pace, it leaves a slew of obsolete technology in its wake. All of this happened in less than a generation. The e-waste problem has been growing tremendously over the previous 50 years, dating back to the 1970s.

**What is the source of the e-waste problem?**

1. waste has become such an issue for a variety of reasons. One of the issues is a scarcity of individuals who can repair gadgets. Other factors include the fact that technology such as VCRs, tapes, and fax machines have all but become outdated. We are continually yearning for the latest model/tech in the age of digital media. In the past, it was common practise to maintain TVs and repair them if a component failed. We now easily replace our gadgets with newer technology. The average phone contract is just 24 months long, by which time the phone is having trouble keeping up with the latest updates.

If the device is not recycled once it has been turned waste, it becomes toxic waste. Many people are unaware of the components that make up a television, computer, or cell phone. Some of these elements, such as beryllium, cadmium, mercury, and lead, must be deconstructed and handled with care. Lithium, gold, silver, platinum, and palladium are all highly precious elements that can be easily recycled.

**E-waste Stats**

The figures on the quantity of e-waste generated each year are startling. Every year, 40 million tonnes of e-waste are produced around the world.

Dumping e-waste is not only bad for the environment, but it also compromises the security of your company's data. Hard drives storing sensitive company data could easily fall into the wrong hands and be hacked. Sending hard drives to a secure shredding centre for disposal and recycling is the safest way to dispose of them.

**E-waste sent overseas**

As our e-waste pile grows, a significant portion of it is exported to underdeveloped countries. E-waste comprising harmful components such as lead, zinc, nickel, barium, and chromium is dismantled in countries such as China, India, Pakistan, and the Philippines. These chemicals are damaging developing countries' waterways, not to mention the health of workers dismantling gadgets and inhaling chemicals with insufficient oversight and safety precautions. China has begun rejecting rubbish from other countries, putting pressure on European countries to address their e-waste issues.

**What can we do to address the e-waste issue?**

**Repurposing and repairing**

Before you throw something out, consider whether it can be mended. Laptops, for example, are frequently advertised as having a four-year lifespan. By obtaining a replacement battery or upgrading your processor, you can dramatically extend the life of your computer. Many people are unaware that even the keyboard and screen of a laptop may be replaced.

**Employ the services of a shredding company.**

You may ensure that all materials contained in e-waste are shredded, segregated, and recycled by enlisting the help of a shredding service.

Recycle Pro can provide you with a price for the removal of your e-waste.