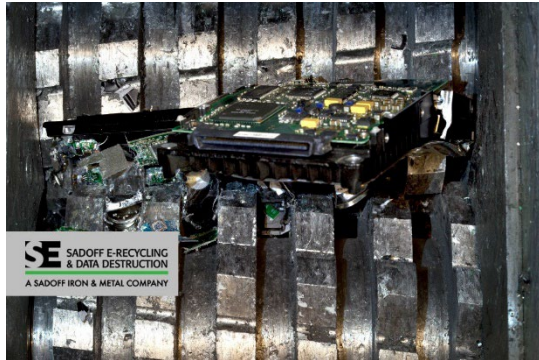


Why Physical Drive Destruction is Often the Best Option



Trying to understand what you should do with your old hard drives to ensure the proper destruction of data. There are a few data destruction methods that are used by professional services, and ultimately, the best method to use may depend on your situation, but find out why physical drive destruction is often the best option.

How Does Physical Destruction Work?

Do you want to know what physical destruction looks like for your hard drives? Imagine a wood chipper, but instead of wood, this wood chipper can tear right through metal, and it destroys the drive with some level of precision too ensuring that no piece large enough to have recoverable data on it will survive.

This machine is about the size of a compact car and it has a two small slots on the top for hard drives to fit into. One of the slots is for HDDs and one for SSDs ensuring that each goes through a shredding process that is optimized for them. This leaves no chance for error as the drives enter the shredding mechanism in the proper orientation every time. The machine is loud, but as it eats your drive, it spits out hunks of metal onto a little conveyor belt, and then it's off to be recycled. You can see it in action with the video below.

What Happens to Material from Physically Destroyed Hard Drives?

A physically destroyed drive is reduced to just a few pieces of metal, electronic material, and plastic. After destruction, these materials are sorted and recycled appropriately just like any other electronic that would enter our facility.

Of course, we have all the proper certifications and follow the procedures outlined in those certifications, so you know that all the materials get handled appropriately. This means they will not cause harm to the environment nor to our employees and they will be recycled to the furthest extent possible.

What Drives is Physical Destruction Ideal For?

Hard drive destruction machines are custom made for HDDs and SSDs. This means that essentially all drives are suited for physical destruction except for data storage mediums that don't fall into those two categories such as CDs, DVDs, thumb drives, floppy disks, etc. We have other methods of data destruction that can appropriately deal with those types of data devices.

Ultimately, if you don't want to reuse your old drive or if you don't want to attempt to sell it after a professional data overwrite, you should choose physical destruction for your data storage devices.

Gets Rid of Outdated Technology

How many hard disk drives or HDDs do you have sitting around? These drives are slow, clunky, and at this point in their lifecycle as the faster, lighter and more compact solid state drives or SSDs have taken over the market. This is especially true in the laptop space. Choosing physical destruction is your way to get rid of those old drives and clear the way for upgrades to SSDs.

3 Ways You Can Reduce Your E-Waste as a Company

The Three Rs of Waste Management

It may seem overused but even in reducing your e-waste the three Rs of waste management still apply. We know you've heard them in grade school or on children's television before but it comes down to reduce, reuse, and recycle. Have you actually thought about what those three words mean though? Notice too that recycling is the last step. We're going to dive into each term and specifically how they relate to reducing your e-waste.

Reduce Your E-Waste Production

Obviously, reducing e-waste is the end goal, but there's something you can do early on in the e-waste stream to reduce the amount of e-waste your company produces. E-waste begins at the moment of purchase. Every electronic you buy, you are eventually going to throw away.

This means reducing comes down to two factors, buying only what you need, and buying products that last. Don't buy 20 laptops when you only need 10. Yes, you may be planning for growth, but waiting is almost always better. For one, the tech may be better or cheaper when you are ready to buy and you're not tying up your budget needlessly and early.

You also want to think about the longevity of the products you are buying. It's better to spend more on a laptop that will likely last you 6 years rather than 3. This saves you from buying an additional laptop, and it also prevents one more from becoming waste.

Reuse Your Old Electronics

When you decide to no longer use an electronic, first consider if it has another use case. Perhaps a laptop that is no longer up for the job in one field may still be suitable for another. Maybe old Wi-Fi equipment can be repurposed as the guest Wi-Fi that clients have requested in the past.

There's also the option to sell your electronics on a secondary market. Either way, if the equipment has data of any kind you will want to make sure that this data is professionally destroyed. Not only can Sadoff take care of destroying your data, but we can also sell your old equipment for you in a process we call IT asset remarketing.

Recycle Your E-Waste

Once you have reduced what you buy and committed to reusing—or even selling—where you can, then you are ready to recycle what's left and this is just as important as the other two steps.

Recycling is the end of the road for your electronics, and you want to make sure that you do it the right way. That means you aren't just throwing it out, you aren't letting it sit and accumulate, and you certainly aren't just throwing it in your recycling bins and hoping for the best.