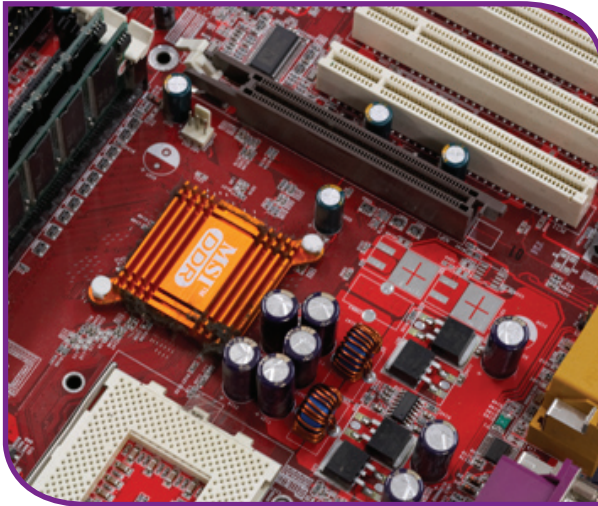


Department for Work and Pensions



Background

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) exists to build a fair and inclusive society for all. It aims to achieve this by helping individuals achieve independence and maximise their potential through employment, by helping people plan for retirement and provide for their children, by eliminating poverty, and by improving the rights and opportunities for disabled people. It also aims to give children the best possible start in life, enabling them to grow up in secure homes and develop skills for the future and one of their goals is to end child poverty by 2020. The DWP consists of several businesses: Jobcentre Plus, Child Support Agency, Disability and Carers Service, Health and Safety Commission and Health and Safety Executive, Rent Service, Appeals Service and Debt Management Service. It's difficult to imagine but almost everyone in the UK will deal with the Department or one of these businesses at some point in their lifetime.

The Challenge

With a large proportion of its employees being office based, the DWP is a vast user of IT equipment and services. System and hardware upgrades can therefore present a significant challenge. Aside from determining new requirements, the DWP needs to dispose of unwanted IT equipment responsibly.

IT equipment – old and new – is an asset and, as it depreciates, represents a cost to the company. It is in the organisation's interest, therefore, to remove redundant equipment at the optimum time.

The options available to the DWP include:

- redeploy equipment within their organisation
- remarket the equipment
- dispose of or recycle the equipment
- donate the equipment to charity

Often organisations are unaware of the possibility of redeploying or remarketing IT assets and the potential value these options represent. They assume old equipment will need to be disposed of and are often unsure of what to do next. Current Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) legislation dictates that all such waste is disposed of safely and responsibly and this can represent a significant cost to large users of IT equipment.



The Solution

DWP enlisted the help of their current IT provider, EDS who outsourced the removal of their existing IT equipment to not-for-profit, ethical company, Remploy. With its ethical stance and its goal to provide sustainable employment for disabled people, Remploy was the natural choice to partner with their existing IT supplier.



Steve Brown, e-cycle's head of operations said "Remploy was the perfect fit to help DWP – in terms of both our ethical approach in creating jobs for disabled people and by helping DWP to maximise their IT assets and minimise electrical waste in accordance with WEEE. DWP is a very large client for us – we are currently processing over 300,000 items on their behalf."

Remploy's role was to manage collections of used IT equipment from DWP sites and deliver it to their sites throughout the UK to be prepared for re-imaging and redeployment, donation, resale, or recycling.

All equipment was data cleansed, and any equipment that still had a useful life was then re-conditioned and redeployed within the DWP, or, where Remploy could

maximise its resale value, remarketed to generate income for the DWP.

Certain equipment was not fit for redeployment or remarketing, and this was either recycled or disposed of in accordance with the WEEE 'duty of care' regulations.

The sifting or 'grading' process was managed by Remploy, as well as the stripping down, reconditioning, data cleansing and deliveries of the machines themselves, offering a fully-integrated outsourced solution.

The Outcomes

Redeploying and remarketing equipment that would have otherwise been destined for landfill has not only benefited the environment but also represents significant cost savings and a new revenue stream for the DWP.

In addition, working in partnership with the DWP has enabled Remploy to create a large number of sustainable opportunities for disabled people, employing a variety of different skill sets – from delivery drivers to technicians and engineers. With 300,000 items passing through our workshops over a period 18 months this has enabled Remploy to employ 170 people on this contract alone. In turn this has helped the DWP achieve one of its major objectives of enabling disabled people to maximise their potential and make a full and valuable contribution to society.

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