ADVANCED TECHNICAL SERVICES
OEM Support Solutions

2023 Corporate Social Responsibility / Sustainability Report

Legal Name: Advanced Technical Services, Inc.
Headquartered and operates from: 55W Army Trail Road, Glendale Heights, IL. 60108
Nature of Ownership: C-Corp - ownership structure consists of a single shareholder who also serves as the Chief Operating Officer (COO).

Executive Summary

Advanced Technical Services, Inc. is committed to operating in a sustainable and ethical manner. The company has a strong track record of environmental performance, social responsibility, and ethical business practices. Utilizing a Plan, Do, Check, Act management system, maintaining policies, providing training, identifying, and addressing risks and opportunities ensure sustainability.

Key Performance Highlights

- Reduced energy consumption via energy efficient fixtures and appliances
- Diverted 100% electronic waste landfills through recycling.
- Implemented a comprehensive code of ethics.
- Use of energy-efficient appliances and lighting.
- Full compliance to SA8000

Company Profile

Advanced Technical Services, Inc., founded in 1981, provides remanufacturing, repair, assembly, modification, testing and distribution of electronic systems and components to a wide range of industries including automotive, marine, telecom, wireless, and digital entertainment among others.

This Corporate Social Responsibility / Sustainability Report contains identified risks as well as how we measure and react to each risk.

Environmental Risks

1. Hazardous Waste:

- Solvents and cleaning agents: Used for degreasing and cleaning components, these can contain volatile organic compounds (VOCs) harmful to air and water quality.
- Lead solder and other heavy metals: Found in older electronics, improper handling or disposal can contaminate soil and water.
- Batteries and capacitors: Improper disposal can lead to leaching of harmful substances like mercury and lithium.

Measures:

- Substitute safer alternatives: Opt for water-based or biodegradable cleaning agents whenever possible.
- Implement a closed-loop system: Reuse or recycle solvents and cleaning agents through filtration or distillation.
- Partner with certified e-waste recyclers: Ensure proper handling and disposal of hazardous materials like batteries and capacitors.
- Invest in lead-free soldering processes: Minimize reliance on lead in newer models.

2. Energy Consumption:

- Testing and calibration equipment: Running energy-intensive equipment for testing and calibrating refurbished clusters.
- Compressed air: Used for cleaning and other processes, can be inefficient if not managed properly.

Measures:

- Energy-efficient equipment: Invest in energy-efficient versions of testing and calibration equipment.
- Implement power-saving practices: Turn off equipment when not in use, use power strips with on/off switches.
- Conduct energy audits: Regularly assess energy consumption and identify areas for improvement.
- Consider renewable energy sources: Explore options like solar power to reduce reliance on grid electricity.

3. Waste Generation:

- Non-reusable components: Parts beyond repair or upgrade contribute to landfill waste.
- Packaging materials: Improper disposal of packaging materials like cardboard and plastic can create waste.

Measures:

- Maximize component reuse: Repair or refurbish as many components as possible before discarding.
- Explore recycling options: Partner with recyclers who accept specific materials like plastics and metals.
- Optimize packaging: Use minimal packaging, consider reusable or biodegradable options.

4. Water Pollution:

- Wastewater from cleaning processes: If not treated properly, can contain harmful chemicals and metals.

Measures:

- Implement a wastewater treatment system: Filter and treat wastewater before discharging it.
- Reduce water usage: Optimize cleaning processes to minimize water consumption.

Human Rights Risks

1. Labor Rights:

- Low wages and unsafe working conditions: Remanufacturing often involves manual labor, leading to concerns about low wages, long hours, and exposure to hazardous materials.

Measures:

- Fair labor practices: Implemented a living wage policy, ensuring regular breaks, and providing proper safety equipment.
- Ethical sourcing: Partnered with suppliers who meet ethical labor standards, conducting audits, and reporting violations.

- Worker engagement: Established grievance mechanisms and allowing worker representation.
- Child labor: While illegal in the US, electronics used for remanufacturing may originate from countries with lax child labor laws.

Measures:

- Strict sourcing policies: Prohibit sourcing from suppliers linked to child labor and conducting due diligence checks.

2. Health Risks:

- Exposure to hazardous materials: Electronics contain harmful substances like lead, mercury, and beryllium, posing health risks for workers involved in dismantling and processing them.

Measures:

- Safe handling procedures: Provide proper training and protective gear for workers handling hazardous materials.
- Ventilation and air quality control: Implemented measures to minimize exposure to dust and fumes.

3. Data Privacy:

- Data leaks and misuse: Remanufactured electronics might still contain personal data from previous users, raising privacy concerns.

Measures:

- Secure data deletion: Implemented robust procedures to securely erase all data from devices before remanufacturing.
- Transparency and communication: Inform users about data handling practices and offering data deletion options.

4. Environmental Impact:

- Improper waste disposal: Improperly disposing of hazardous materials from electronics can harm the environment and communities.

Measures:

- Responsible e-waste management: Partnered with certified e-waste recyclers who adhere to responsible disposal practices.
- Closed-loop recycling: Recycling materials within the remanufacturing process whenever possible.

5. Community Rights:

- Impact on local communities: Remanufacturing facilities might bring noise, pollution, or other negative impacts to surrounding communities.

Measures:

- Community engagement: Engage with local communities, addressing concerns, and implementing measures to mitigate negative impacts.
- Transparency and reporting: Publishing sustainability reports and transparently communicating environmental and social impacts.

Goals

Our sustainability goals for 2024:

- Divert 100% electronic waste from landfills through recycling.
- Use energy-efficient appliances and lighting.
- Maintain full compliance to SA8000
- Continually assess and improve our sustainability practices

Conclusion

Advanced Technical Services, Inc. is a small company with a big commitment to CSR/sustainability. The company is proud of its track record of environmental performance, social responsibility, and ethical business practices. The company is committed to continuous improvement and will continue to strive to be a leader in CSR/sustainability.