The R2 Standard requires compliance with all international laws and legal requirements. R2® certified facilities, as well as the downstream vendors in their recycling chain, must comply with all legal requirements regarding environmental protection, worker health and safety, and export of reusable electronic equipment.

More reuse opportunity for devices. Because reuse is the most environmentally beneficial option, the R2 Standard allows tested equipment that is in good working condition to be exported for reuse when legally permissible. This includes working devices with minor defects, such as laptops that may have a shortened battery life.

More reuse opportunity for parts. The R2 Standard also permits reusable parts and components to be sold to responsible manufacturers and refurbishers in other parts of the world, when legally permissible. Many used electronic parts can be safely recovered and reused to manufacture completely new and different products.

No landfilling. Maximum recovery of value. R2 forbids landfilling and all unsafe collection, storage and disposal of electronics equipment. This keeps your equipment from harming communities and the environment, and ensures maximum recovery of valuable resources found in electronics.

Protection for your confidential data. The R2 Standard requires protection of confidential and personally identifiable information on electronic devices, and adherence to the top industry standards for data sanitization.

Protection for your bottom line. Using an R2 certified company can reduce your risk of environmental liability, data breaches, and damage to your brand resulting from improper management of your used and surplus equipment.

Most globally accepted e-cycling standard. With R2 certified facilities operating in 21 countries (with more in process), R2 is positively changing how the world recycles electronics. Translations of the R2 Standard are now available in English, Spanish and Portuguese.

Most beneficial for emerging markets. The R2 Program supports responsible and legal trade partnerships that promote reuse, training and technology sharing. As safer recycling methods are shared and adopted around the world, both workers and the environment benefit. R2 is also bridging the digital divide by making affordable, used electronics accessible to more people.

Former Executive Secretary of the Basel Convention for the United Nations Environmental Program, Dr. Katharina Kummer Peiry, weighs in the strength of the R2 program...

"The R2 Standard provides the most comprehensive solution for safe and sustainable electronics recycling and repair. Its emphasis on reuse, and on resource management over “waste” management, has become increasingly important as electronic use around the world—particularly in Asia and Africa—continues to rapidly increase and deplete limited supplies of natural resources. Clearly, efforts of the past decade to ban exports of used electronic devices and components have not been sufficient to respond to these developments. It is essential to prevent illegal transactions, while improving recycling practices around the world with training, technology sharing and accountability. In this area, the R2 program is leading the way."

Dr. Kummer Peiry currently serves as Director of the Swiss-based consulting firm Kummer EcoConsult, and is on the Board of Directors for SERI, the governing body for the R2 Standard.

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