

3R GOOD PRACTICES IMPLEMENTED BY NGOs/



3R Good Practices in Japan

NGO /CBO	The Green purchasing Network (GPN)
Activity	Promoting green purchasing
OUTLINE OF 3R GOOD PRACTICES	
Keyword	green purchasing, reusable parts and recycled materials, Japan
Country	Japan
Area Implemented	Japan
Address	Cosmos Aoyama 5-53-67, Jingumae, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150-0001
Phone	81-3-3406-5155
Fax	81-3-3406-5190
E-mail	gpn@net.email.ne.jp
Contact Person	Not Available
Waste Sector	municipal solid waste, e-waste
3R Practice	recycling of used products, reuse of reusable parts and recycled materials
Website / Data Source	http://www.gpn.jp/English/aboutgpn.html

OVERVIEW OF PRACTICES

Introduction

- The Green purchasing Network (GPN) was established in February 1996. It consists of organizations which are committed to reduce stress on the environment by promoting green purchasing, i.e. buying the least environmentally-impacting products available.

Activity

- "Purchasing Guidelines" for each type of product
- Publishing "Environmental Data Base" to help purchasers compare and select products
- Promotion of green purchasing

The GPN involved in initiating specific Purchasing Guidelines for each category of products, based on the principles. For instance, the guidelines for "Copying machines" addresses energy consumption, two-sided copy functions, collection and recycling of used products and cartridges, the use of reusable parts and recycled materials, and avoiding the use of halogenated substances and heavy metals. The GPN has developed "GPN Data Base for Green Purchasing", which provides purchasers with quantitative/qualitative environmental information on each product in accordance with the purchasing guidelines. In the "PC" version, environmental information on about 800 products is presented regarding the efficiency of energy consumption, compliance with international Energy Star standards, two-side copying functions, the use of reusable parts and recycled plastic, etc. The GPN is also engaged in the activities to promote green purchasing, namely; holding seminar, forums, and products exhibitions, conducting surveys on the current status of green purchasing and green consumerism, establishing local networks led by local governments and companies, awarding prizes to outstanding members, publishing newsletters, and planning study missions.