



# ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIFICATION GUIDANCE FOR TONER CARTRIDGES

The District of Columbia is committed to procuring quality goods and services in a timely manner and reasonable cost that support the District in meeting its sustainability goals. Compliance with specification guidance is sufficient to meet PPRa Section 1101(a) environmentally preferable procurement requirements. To access solicitation documents with full contract language, click [here](#).



## BENEFITS

Remanufactured cartridges typically cost **30 – 60%** less than new cartridges on a per-copy basis

Every pound of material used in remanufactured cartridges saves **5 – 9** pounds of virgin material

SOURCE

[stopwaste.org/docs/toner.pdf](http://stopwaste.org/docs/toner.pdf)

## Scope

This specification addresses black inkjet cartridges, laser cartridges, and other toner cartridges for copiers, printers, multi-function devices, and fax machines.

NOTE: The specifications for copiers, printers, multi-function devices, and fax machines can be found under [Imaging Equipment](#).

## Specification Language

Black toner cartridges purchased by the District of Columbia shall meet the environmental criteria defined below.

1. *Remanufactured Cartridges.* Toner cartridges shall be remanufactured.
2. *STMC Remanufacturer Certification.* Toner cartridges procured by the District shall be remanufactured by companies that are certified by the Standardized Test Methods Committee (STMC) of the International Imaging Technology Council (I-ITC).
3. *Provision of Toner Cartridge Take-Back Service.* The Contractor shall offer the District of Columbia an effective and reliable means of returning empty toner cartridges for remanufacturing and/or recycling on request. This service may be provided by the contractor, manufacturer, or a third party. Notification of the take-back service, including how to utilize the service, shall be available to the purchaser at time of purchase through written or online documentation.

## Reporting

At the frequency specified in the solicitation, the Contractor shall submit to the Contracting Officer an EPPS Report, indicating that the products supplied to the District comply with the District's EPPS criteria. The following information shall be included in the report:

- a. Contractor name
- b. Contract award date
- c. Contract #
- d. PO #
- e. Product description - manufacturer description of product
- f. Sku
- g. Number of units sold
- h. Price per unit



## Specification Language (continued)

- i. Total cost
- j. Compliance with DC environmental criteria – Indicate whether each item purchased is compliant with DC environmental requirements. If the environmental requirement was not specified in the solicitation, indicate NA.
- k. Name and contact information for entity providing take back service

An EPPS Report template is available to assist Contractors in meeting the District’s EPPS reporting requirements on the [Sustainable Purchasing Program web page](#).

## Background Information



**STMC** is a committee organized by the International Imaging Technology Council (I-ITC) to identify and promote selected standardized test methods for the printer cartridge industry. The se-

lected test methods are used to evaluate remanufactured toner printer cartridge performance to assure that remanufactured cartridges have the same performance characteris-

tics as OEM cartridges, thereby eliminating a common reason for choosing OEM cartridges over remanufactured cartridges. A company that is STMC certified is one that has had their employees successfully trained by an authorized trainer in these test methods, attests to using these test methods, and has purchased the correct test equipment. A list of STMC certified companies can be found [here](#).

### Environmental Hotspots    The most important environmental benefits associated with this specification

<b>MATERIALS USE/ SUSTAINABLE SOURCING</b>	By reusing components, remanufacturing toner cartridges significantly reduces the use of raw materials. For every pound of new material used in remanufacturing, five to nine pounds of virgin materials are conserved.
<b>RECYCLED CONTENT</b>	By reusing components, remanufacturing toner cartridges significantly reduces the use of raw materials. For every pound of new material used in remanufacturing, five to nine pounds of virgin materials are conserved.

## Significance to the District

<b>PPRA</b>	PPRA § 104 specifies that products meet Default Environmental Standards. U.S. EPA’s Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines which recommends use of remanufactured toner cartridges, is a Default Environmental Standard (DES).
<b>EXISTING CONTRACTS</b>	CW18717 (for black remanufactured toner only); Contractor: <a href="#">Laser Arts Inc</a> ; Contract Expiration Date: 11/11/2015 with three remaining option years
<b>LEED FOR EXISTING BUILDINGS: O&amp;M</b>	This specification meets the requirements of LEED v4 EBOM. LEED’s <a href="#">Materials and Resources: “Purchasing – ongoing”</a> credit requires at least 60% of total purchases of ongoing consumables (by cost) meet at least one specified criterion. The criteria include, but are not limited to, requiring toner cartridges for laser printers to be remanufactured. To gain one point for this credit, electric-powered equipment must meet a separate list of criteria.

For more information about sustainable specification guidance or the District’s Sustainable Purchasing Program, please visit: <http://ocp.dc.gov/page/sustainable-purchasing>, call the OCP Customer Contact Center at: [202.724.4477](tel:202.724.4477), or email [sppdc@dc.gov](mailto:sppdc@dc.gov).