

## Providing Solutions for Environmental Challenges



At NETGEAR, we're as committed to protecting the environment as we are to creating technology products that enhance lives. Green practices are deeply ingrained in our corporate culture, not only because we believe that it's good business, but because we believe it's essential for the wise conservation of resources.

These are some of the environmentally friendly solutions we are currently implementing at NETGEAR >>

### Increasing energy efficiency

External power adapters, which convert household electricity to low-voltage DC power for many electronic devices, have a dramatic impact on energy usage, accounting for 11% of electricity consumed in the USA each year.

In 1992 the US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) launched Energy Star®, a voluntary program to identify energy-efficient computers, televisions, refrigerators, lighting and other electrical and electronic equipment. In 2005, the program was expanded to include power adapters.

At NETGEAR®, we have achieved Energy Star® Level IV efficiency for all external power adapters in North America and have made the decision to become an Energy Star® Partner, so that we could work hand in hand with the US EPA to offer consumers energy-efficient choices that help reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Now we have developed an aggressive plan for implementing this energy-saving initiative to our a broad portfolio of products available around the world. We will be compliant in Australia by mid-2008 (nearly a full year ahead of government regulations) and in Europe and the other regions we serve before the end of 2008.

NETGEAR Energy Star® products save you money by reducing the amount of electricity you use, and that's why we're proud to display the Energy Star symbol on our packaging.



## Reducing hazardous substances

In 2006, the member countries of the European Union took the lead in an important environmental issue, putting into effect the Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) Directive. RoHS limits the use of hazardous substances such as lead, cadmium, mercury, hexavalent chromium, polybrominated biphenyl (PBB) and polybrominated diphenyl ether (PBDE) flame retardants in electrical and electronic equipment.

While this directive included an exemption that allows IT equipment manufacturers to continue to use lead solder, NETGEAR strongly supports the principles of RoHS and so we have stringently applied RoHS regulations across the globe since April, 2007. We take these standards so seriously that even the pens used on the production lines meet RoHS standards, ensuring that any handwritten notes that go into the product or inside the package are RoHS compliant.

## Using smarter packaging

Paper and packaging going into landfills has been a growing concern around the world for many years. By 2002, the member countries of the European Union were generating 176 kg of packaging waste per person, an increase of 10 percent in just five years according to the European Environment Agency (EEA).<sup>†</sup>

As the EU was taking steps in 2004 to reduce the packaging waste stream, NETGEAR was changing its approach to packaging. All NETGEAR boxes are now manufactured using a minimum of 80% post-consumer waste. In addition, the papier mache trays inside the packaging are the best current available choice for recycled content and recyclability. By using as much recycled content as is practical in our packaging, we are reducing our impact on the waste stream worldwide.

<sup>†</sup> Source: European Environment Agency website, [www.eea.europa.eu/](http://www.eea.europa.eu/)

[NOTE: specifically, <http://dataservice.eea.europa.eu/atlas/viewdata/viewpub.asp?id=1740>]



Being a responsible corporate citizen  
We are also taking responsibility to help collect, recycle and recover electronic parts at the end of their useful life, preventing toxic e-waste from entering landfills. In Europe, NETGEAR participates in the European Waste of Electrical and Electronic Directive (WEEE) program and has paid to recycle 2365 tons of electronic equipment in 2007 alone.

At NETGEAR, our commitment to protecting the planet continues to grow as we forge a stronger connection with the environment—and the communities that we serve. Won't you join us on this mission to make our world a better place?

## What can you do?

- Look for the Energy Star<sup>®</sup> symbol when purchasing electrical and electronic equipment.
- Use the energy-saving "sleep" settings for your computer and monitor.
- Consider choosing a laptop computer, which uses less electricity than a desktop unit.
- Always properly dispose of old computers and monitors to prevent potentially hazardous materials from entering the waste stream. Contact your waste collection provider for more information.

# NETGEAR<sup>®</sup>

4500 Great America Parkway  
Santa Clara, CA 95054 USA  
1-888-NETGEAR (638-4327)  
E-mail: [info@NETGEAR.com](mailto:info@NETGEAR.com)  
[www.NETGEAR.com](http://www.NETGEAR.com)

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