

Novatech

Sustainable Business Policy



The common sense approach

We are not ashamed to admit that the way we approach sustainability across our business is based on common sense and a keen eye for cost-effectiveness. Put bluntly, saving the planet is about saving resources and that means saving money. At Novatech, we have been saving our customers' precious

resources by saving them money for over twenty years. From encouraging customers to upgrade inefficient components rather than replacing entire machines, to installing simple software that conserves energy, we constantly use our common sense.

What does our common sense approach to sustainability mean to our customers?

Novatech runs a holistic sustainability policy that continuously looks at the 'big picture' of our operation as a whole, as well as individual elements,

but to show what it means to our customers we divide our sustainable practice into three key areas: Hardware, Processes and Services.

Sustainable Hardware

Bespoke Systems

Do your users really need the most powerful graphics cards or hard drives that use large amounts of power? By building machines to order, we can ensure that you get what you really need and minimise unnecessary electricity consumption – as well as minimising cost.

ECO Motherboards

Cooler, quieter motherboards can reduce power consumption by up to 10% and can be retro-fitted to existing PC's reducing capital cost and minimising materials.

Operating systems

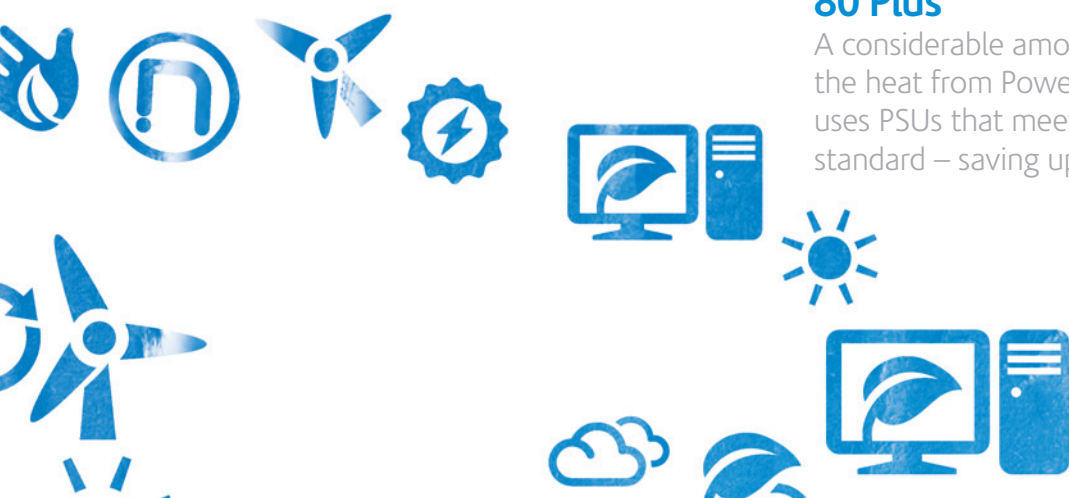
Although it's technically software, Microsoft's flagship OS drives the efficiency of the hardware. Windows7 professional has built-in power-efficiency tools that maximise processor performance to conserve battery life.

Smart Caching

The demands hi-def video and audio files put on a system can be intense, so smart caching technology minimises the impact on bandwidth improving productivity.

80 Plus

A considerable amount of energy can be lost through the heat from Power Supply Units, so Novatech only uses PSUs that meet the 80Plus energy-efficiency standard – saving up to 15%.



Sustainable Services

Power Efficiency

As well as using the most efficient components inside our machines, Novatech can also ensure that the software plays its part too. Intel's latest Vpro technology allows the remote monitoring of multiple machines and Windows7 Professional has built-in power-reporting abilities that can ensure latent processes are de-activated to minimise consumption.

Intelligent Network Management

Novatech can deploy network management tools that can not only schedule the shut down and restart of PC's across an organisation when needed, but also servers, depending on the variations in their workloads.

Product Lifecycle Management

Your Novatech Account Manager can conduct a full audit of all your IT to help you identify which machines are becoming inefficient and when, and how, component and software upgrades could improve efficiency. Developments in sustainable technology continue apace and Novatech can help you plan long-term purchasing strategies to ensure you get the best equipment that keeps your mission-critical systems one step ahead.



Common sense 1

Thinking inside the box

You wouldn't discard your car if all it needed to run better was a new air filter and an oil change so we look at our customers' IT the same way.

One of Novatech's strengths is our ability to constantly produce new and more efficient components, like motherboards, power supplies and graphics cards that customers can use to radically reinvigorate out-dated hardware; extending the machine's life and improving performance.

On every new model we always ensure that we use the most efficient and up-to-date components such as power supplies with intelligent temperature controls and motherboards that both maximise performance and minimise power wastage. All Novatech motherboards conform to the EUP 'Ecodesign' standards

Common sense 2

Switching off

Reducing power consumption is the most effective way to save money and to reduce the environmental impact of your organisation's IT. Hitting the off button is not always as simple as it sounds but Novatech can provide a range of software that can shut off processes when they are idle both in individual PCs and across whole departments. This can be applied while the computer is in use as well as at the end of the day when staff leave.

Our new server virtualisation technology uses spare capacity to run multiple functions on one machine, reducing hardware, power consumption and air-conditioning. The latest wireless networks not only reduce the amount of cabling required for a busy office, but are also able to respond to increases and reduction in demand as required.

Common sense 3

Thinking deeper inside the box

Necessity is the mother of invention as they say and that is true in the way we now package our products. Some years ago, a shortage of suitable packaging for our PCs meant that we had to re-use the boxes and polystyrene blocks the housing arrived in and in a stroke a new recycling policy was born. We not only save recycling costs and space in the warehouse, but also save on the production of new packaging; all of which helps us to keep our prices to a minimum.

When we have to use a new box all Novatech PCs come in 100% recycled cardboard boxes with minimal print that in turn are cheaper and easier to recycle at the end of their life.

Sustainable Processes

Bulk Packaging

If you are buying multiple machines and items, we will, wherever possible box them together to reduce packaging. We're mindful of keeping the contents totally safe in transit, but our team always look at the most effective way of getting large orders out efficiently.

Mass Dispatch

Similarly, we use intelligent dispatch systems to ensure that multiple items arrive to customers in one load, minimising the number of delivery vans on the road. We work with our couriers to minimise truck movements. Every day, they deliver a stand trailer, which we fill and they collect – meaning that although we post thousands of items a day, they all go in one vehicle.

Novatech and the WEEE Regulations

In order to meet the requirements of the WEEE regulations (waste electrical and electronic equipment), producers of electrical and electronic equipment are required to contribute financially for the recycling of household "waste electrical products". To meet these requirements, Novatech is discharging its distributor obligations through Volpak's Distributor Takeback Scheme (DTS) Registration ID 5493.

This scheme ensures that all registered companies contribute to the cost of processing WEEE through your local amenity processing site and is helping to fund a national network of collection facilities for Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment.

WEEE Recycling

Working with our partners Green Magnet Novatech conforms to all the tightest WEEE recycling standards, both in our assembly facility and for our customers. We recycle any of our customers' unwanted devices and will collect machines from our business customers for free. With some of our Education equipment suppliers we even offer financial incentives to 'trade-in' end of life devices like projectors against new purchases.

Second-life Boxes

Whenever possible we re-use packaging that components arrive in, to ship out finished products en masse – i.e. as the necessary secondary packaging for transit, such as pallets and larger boxes. In fact 75% of all the incoming cardboard boxes are re-used again for dispatch.

By taking your waste electrical products to one of the registered amenity sites, customers can be confident that their product will be subjected to a monitored and controlled recycling process, thereby preventing these products being sent to landfill. To help customers identify Waste Electrical or Electronic Equipment, a crossed out wheeled bin logo has been affixed to the product.

WEEE is a fast growing waste stream, containing hazardous by-products. The DTS at your local registered amenity sites will ensure that these products are recycled to ensure that they do not damage the environment through landfill waste.

Common sense 4

The long view

Sums only add up when you count all the numbers and if you have a large network of IT hardware it is often the Total Cost of Ownership of a PC or server, across its lifecycle that matters more than the initial price tag.

Devices with sustainable components and software may appear more expensive, but the long-term savings on power use, efficiency and extended working life and make the TCO a bargain.

Common sense 5

Money for old rope

When a customer does need to buy new equipment, we offer to recycle the old units and batteries for free. Virtually every part of a Novatech PC is recyclable and our WEEE partners Green Magnet, take all the metals, plastics and ceramics to be broken down for new products. There's considerable value to the alloys and composites and the money we receive from recycling goes back to keep our prices down.

In our shops, office and production facility we are just as rigorous and the amount of waste we recycle rather than landfill is now just 10% of the total tonnage – meaning 90% of the company's waste is recycled.