



San Jose, CA: First City in the Nation to Specify EPEAT

City of San Jose EPEAT purchasing precedes system launch!

San Jose is a trendsetter in many ways, and computer purchasing is no exception. The City of San Jose has worked to green its procurement for nearly two decades, adopting a Source Reduction and Recycling Procurement Policy in 1991 and an Environmentally Preferable Procurement Policy in 2001. A cross-agency Implementation Team continually looks for new opportunities to make use of credible environmental standards to green the City’s procurement. In early 2006, city environmental and procurement staff recognized that the nascent EPEAT system could help green the City’s bottom line. With help from EPA and the Green Electronics Council, the Team worked to incorporate EPEAT requirements into a March 2006 RFP for computers. This took faith, coming fully three months before the first products appeared on the EPEAT registry!



environmental dividends. Since the contract was awarded in June 2006, the city has purchased 1015 EPEAT-silver rate desktop computers and 1042 EPEAT-silver rated monitors. Using the Electronics Environmental Benefits (EEB) Calculator - which measures the environmental benefits from purchase and use of EPEAT products - San Jose has been able to quantify those benefits, which are summarized in the featured table.

Calculated Risk Pays Off

San Jose’s leadership has resulted in significant

“[EPEAT] was instrumental in helping the City of San Jose implement its EPP Policy and will help reduce the environmental impact of City service delivery.”

Walter C. Rossmann, Chief Purchasing Officer/Deputy Director of Finance, City of San José

EPEAT helped San Jose maintain their “green edge.” The city’s experience with the simplicity of using EPEAT, by demonstrating that changing purchasing practices can be easy, also created momentum for additional positive actions by city staff and managers.

San Jose’s EPEAT Environmental Benefits

1015 Silver Desktops - 1042 Silver Monitors

Measure:	How much?	Equivalent to:
Energy usage reduced	803,000 kWh	the electricity needed to power 75 households per year
Greenhouse gases avoided	67 MTCE	removing 53 cars from the road /year
Hazardous waste reduced	5.36 metric tons	
Toxic material use avoided	168 pounds	
Money saved	\$73,957	