

Don't Throw Away That Irrigation Controller!



Warren Gorowitz - Director of Corporate Social Responsibility





The Problem...

 Once an irrigation system reaches its end of life the materials are not easy to recycle









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The Challenges with Recycling

- Inconsistent infrastructure
- Bulky
- Changing habits
- Training





Responsibility

Who should be responsible for solving these challenges?

- What is the irrigation industry doing about this?
 - Irrigation Association Sustainability Common Interest Group







One Solution for E-Waste Recycling









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Solve Two Problems...



Wasted Talent: Of the 50 million people in the U.S. with a disability, less than 20% are participating in the labor force*

*Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2014



Solve Two Problems...



Wasted Resources: Globally only 17.4% of e-waste discarded in 2019 was recycled (United Nations)





Solve Two Problems...



In 2019, the U.S. generated 6.92 million tons of e-waste (46 lbs per person), only 15% of the material was recycled.





With One Solution:





Recycle electronics to create jobs for people with disAbilities









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Why are we doing this?

- Helps us live our value of Social Responsibility
- Our goal is to keep irrigation controllers out of the landfill.
- Partnering with Blue Star Recyclers, helps provide jobs for people with Autism and properly recycles ewaste.
- Since 2019 we have recycled over 10,000 lbs of irrigation controllers!





What happens to the irrigation controllers that are recycled?











Other Irrigation Industry Recycling Programs











The Future...

- Expanded program launching in July 2021
- Design for sustainability
- Audience discussion
- Share your thoughts...







Thank You!

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