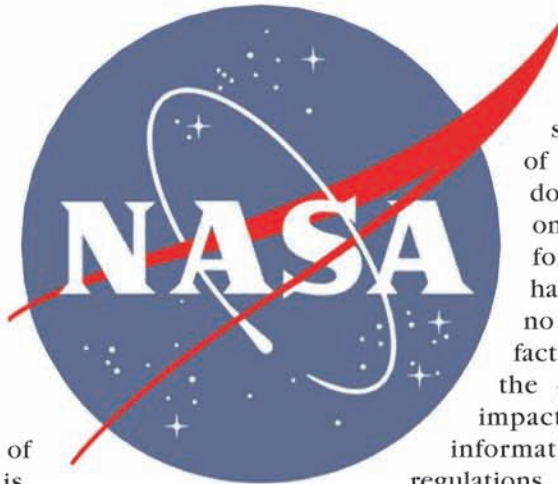


## NASA Ames Pilots Comprehensive Donation Programs for Electronic Equipment



**N**ASA Ames Research Center, one of 10 NASA field installations, is located in the heart of California's Silicon Valley. With more than \$3 billion in capital equipment, more than 4,000 research personnel, and a \$775 million annual budget, Ames' economic impact is significant. Ames conducts critical R&D and develops the enabling technologies that make NASA missions possible.

As part of the FEC pilot program, Ames developed goals for improving its management of electronic equipment. GSA awarded NASA the 2004 Gold Star for Excellence for its implementation of the Federal Computers for Learning program. Each year

NASA facilities donate approximately 5,000 pieces of electronic equipment to needy schools throughout the U.S. One of Ames' FEC goals was to assist donation recipients, such as the ones that participate in Computers for Learning, with the proper handling of equipment when it was no longer useful. Ames developed fact sheets detailing what to do with the equipment, what the potential impacts of this waste stream are, information resources, pertinent regulations, and recycling service providers.

By providing recipients with detailed information about the importance of proper management of the equipment, Ames not only minimizes its liability from improper handling of donated equipment, but also educates the recipients about the importance of recycling of this material. In addition, Ames provided recipients with points of contact in the Environmental Services Office in case recipients had additional questions or needed help locating recycling facilities.

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