UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

ICT Services & Support

For IT Professionals

Evolving with IT Community Participation...

- Desktop Technology Best Practices
- Data Centre/Server Room Practices (Under Development)
- Computer Power and Patch Management (Under Development)

Desktop Technology Best Practices

1. Get buy-in

- Find out how much energy your systems are really using and share that information
  - Test with a Kill-A-Watt or Watts Up Power Meter
  - Make the meter available to loan to your users
- Set practical energy-saving settings for the typical cases
- Establish good processes to manage the inevitable exceptions
- Focus on energy and natural resource savings rather than costs
- Make green computing practices the norm

2. Promote energy-saving behavior

- Share energy-saving information and available U of S Green Computing Guide materials with your users
- Integrate sustainable computing educational material into user training programs
- Encourage users to visit the U of S Green Computing Guide

3. Buy Eco friendly

- Buy Energy-Star 5.0 and EPEAT-rated equipment
- Consider EPEAT Gold certified equipment from the U of S Campus Computer Store
- Choose more modest specifications for systems that don't require the fastest processor
- Promote laptop purchases where appropriate - laptops are more flexible for lectures, meetings, etc
- Replace monitors with LED models

4. Provide "smart" power strips

- Make power strips accessible and encourage users to turn them off when not using
- Choose "smart" power strips that have combination outlets (manually switched and always-on), motion sensors, and other advanced features; power strips are available from the Campus Computer Store with auto detection of when a computer is off or asleep, then automatically powers off connected peripherals to prevent wasteful power consumption

5. Configure default energy-savers

- Set sleep settings:
  - Monitor/display sleep: Turn off after 15 minutes or less
  - Turn off hard drives/hard disk sleep: 15 minutes or less
  - System standby/sleep: After 30 minutes or less

- Allow exceptions for users who need them
- Automate and deploy power management policies, and tools
- Example: Enforce Power Management Settings with Group Policy

6. Re-evaluate the printing environment

- Consolidate to fewer, shared, printers
- Set double-sided printing as the default to save paper
- Set default printing to draft mode to save ink/toner
- Consider charging; "free" printing invites waste

7. Reuse and responsibly recycle computer equipment

- Transfer older, but working, computers to other U of S departments
- Send truly obsolete gear to Logistics Management - Surplus Equipment Disposal filling out the Declaration and Disposal of Surplus Assets Form

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