



PRESS RELEASE

5 November 2008

No surprise at continuing data losses.

End of life IT disposal specialists Tier 1 Asset Management, the biggest sellers of second-user laptops on eBay UK, have claimed that it is no surprise that high profile stories of data losses continue to hit the national headlines if companies do not stick to a tried and tested, secure disposal process.

The latest reports of NatWest, RBS and American Express customers' details being discovered on an item sold on eBay has highlighted the vital importance of organisations securing their data. Whilst most corporations have a strategy in place for securing information within their networks, the day when a data bearing asset is retired from active service is fraught with risk and the time when a business is most at exposed to losing control of their own and their customers' precious information.

Just as the question of data encryption is sure to rear its head in the inevitable inquests, the availability of products that guarantee to erase data from hard drives securely is well known. However, this recent episode of data surfacing on equipment purchased on eBay demonstrates the magnitude of the significance that a tried and tested process, in conjunction with using the right tools, can play in keeping an organisation out of the spotlight for the wrong reasons.

Jon Selby, Marketing Manager at secure IT disposal specialists Tier 1 Asset Management, understands why some companies get their data security safeguards badly wrong. “With privacy laws, environmental legislation and data recovery technology in a constant state of development and change, there’s little wonder that a company’s processes vary just as frequently. It’s also easy to understand why IT Managers will forgo the obvious environmental and financial benefits and simply destroy hard drives in an attempt to slash any associated risks.”

Selby also added that with the threat of litigation and a visit from the Information Commissioner’s Office ever-present in the event of a loss of data, demonstrable compliance may ultimately be built on the diligence in the selection and application of processes, tools and associated suppliers.

“We are aware here at Tier 1 that what our clients do with their data today may be scrutinised tomorrow. Our clients know that our HM Government accredited process that includes the physical security of our premises and security-cleared personnel both protects their assets and allows us to maintain our emphasis on re-using securely data wiped equipment. At a time when companies are tightening their belts and looking to maximise revenue return from all sources, commercial returns and ‘green’ re-use issues are just as important as they ever were, and the online re-marketing channels selling directly to the public are just as vital. The good news is that by using established and battle-hardened disposal processes, both data security and revenue return can provide a concrete combination.”

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Tier 1 Asset Management Ltd Profile

Tier 1 Asset Management Ltd is a leading UK company specialising in managing the disposal and remarketing of redundant IT equipment, handling some of the largest and most sought-after projects in the country. Within a secure, ethical and environmentally sound framework, Tier 1 place emphasis on re-use solutions that extend the life of redundant IT equipment in its original form as far as possible before looking for a recycling solution. This attitude helped Tier win a 2008 Green IT Award for Market Leadership. The company is authorised by HM Government to handle data classified up to and including 'SECRET' and is both INFOSEC 5 and ISO9001 accredited. Tier 1's attitude to the environment underpins the business as a whole and is demonstrated through both ISO 14001 certification achieved in February 2006 and prestigious ICER-accredited WEEE Recycler status granted in January 2007.

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