



IT remarketing & recycling 2023

Our Impact for People and the Environment

Commitment, facts, figures and stories

Status: February 2024

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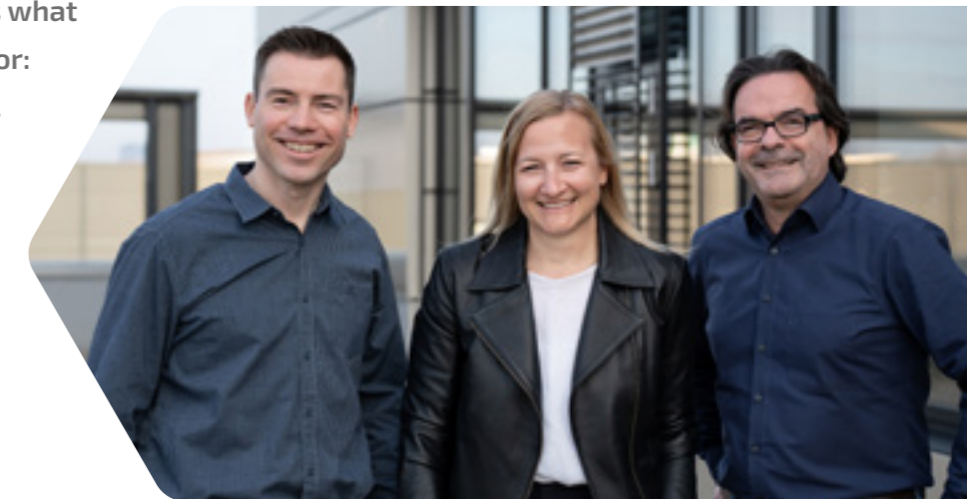


FOREWORD

At AfB, we are committed to changing things for the better. We invest time and effort, money and ideas in our shared vision: we want to be the leading non-profit IT company. We want to give a second life to as many IT and mobile devices as possible. We want to create 500 jobs for people with disabilities.

With our daily commitment to our goals, we create more than just change: we achieve an impact, a social and ecological effect. This is what our claim stands for: "social & green IT".

You can find out how we achieve our impact and how we can measure and demonstrate what we have achieved in our brochure. We would like to sincerely thank all AfB employees who are committed to our vision and drive it forward every day. We would also like to thank our partners and customers who place their trust in our products and services. Together we make IT more sustainable.



[Handwritten signatures]

Daniel Büchle Yvonne Cvilak Mike Reif

Directors of AfB gGmbH

OUR VALUE CREATION

From collection to sale: we can only make an impact together. Our partners include companies, banks and public authorities which entrust us with IT and mobile devices they no longer need. We give as many devices as possible a second life. Refurbished and guaranteed for at least 12 months, these refurbished devices serve private individuals, schools and non-profit organisations well.



Daniel Büchle

CEO AfB gGmbH

How we leave the earth has a major impact on the quality of life of future generations. We stand for a circular economy and inclusion instead of a throwaway mentality and marginalisation.



OUR VALUE CREATION

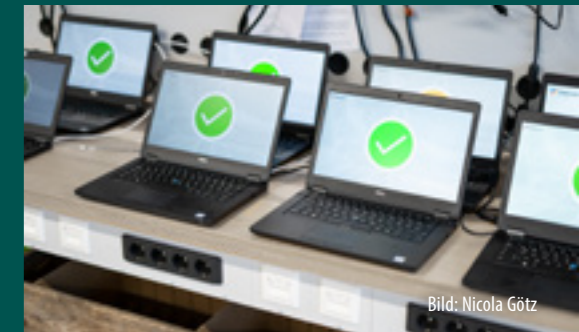


Bild: Nicola Götz

AfB has its own fleet of vehicles and personnel trained in compliance with EU GDPR. In a sealed process, the equipment is collected and recorded in its warehouse and all data deleted.



After the technical processing and thorough cleaning has been completed, the refurbished equipment flows into the various sales outlets: the retail shop, online shop, broker shop or e-commerce.

OUR VALUE CREATION



Kerstin

Warehouse logistics employee

At AfB, people with and without disabilities work together to remarket IT. I like the fact that with my job I can do something good for people and the environment at the same time.



IT REMARKETING HAS A LASTING EFFECT

By remarketing used hardware, we save resources and reduce the emission of pollutants. We record the positive effect on the environment and climate through the reuse of used hardware in detail on the basis of scientific studies.

Our aim is therefore to remarket as many devices as possible. Devices that are no longer functional are used as spare parts.

The rest is then professionally recycled to recover raw materials.

What is special about AfB is that this contribution to environmental and climate protection is inclusive. Almost half of the employees at AfB are people with disabilities.



Mike Reif

Managing director of AfB

AfB has been certified as a Microsoft Authorized Refurbisher since 2012. An important sign that customers can trust us.

PEOPLE AT AfB

Julio

DISPATCH EMPLOYEE

“ My brother recommended the job at AfB to me. I was impressed that every person here, whether with or without a disability, gets a chance. I have found my place at AfB. ”

OUR MISSION

C

Offering chances



A

Being ambitious



R

Acting respectfully



E

Empowering each other



OUR VISION

// We want to be the leading non-profit IT company.

OUR MISSION

// At our company, people with and without disabilities work together to offer high-quality IT services and products. In doing so, we focus on both economic and environmentally friendly conduct.



Anja Spangenberg & Denis Fasold

Representatives for severely disabled persons

Anja

Representative for the severely disabled at AfB

“ I could write a book about how diverse my methods are for working with all colleagues in easy language or even without words. Although that would probably be more of a picture book. ”

DIVERSITY



Our team brings together people with and without disabilities from 22 different nationalities aged 18-65. Working with a wide variety of people makes us more creative, innovative and resilient.

“Diversity is our recipe for success.

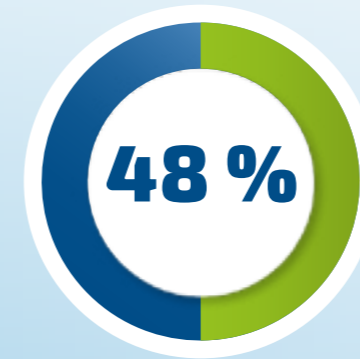
Our goal is to create 500 jobs subject to social insurance contributions for people with disabilities in Europe. We will therefore continue to promote diversity and inclusion and be a driving force for others.”



Yvonne Cvilak

Managing director and head of Human Resources at AFB

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS



People with disabilities

660 employees
at 20 locations
in 5 countries



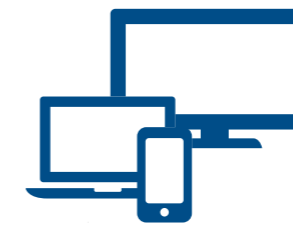
**We are all different.
And that's a good thing.
We are all unique.**

OUR IMPACT ON PEOPLE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

2023

IT remarketing works. Refurbishing and recycling used hardware saves resources and reduces the emission of pollutants. We record the positive effect on the environment and climate on the basis of life cycle assessment studies.

The year 2023 at AfB



around **666,000** IT- & mobile devices
from more than **1,000** IT partners

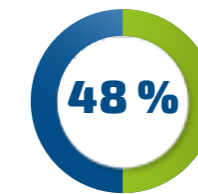


4,400 pick ups

Jobs for people with disabilities



660 employees
at 20 locations
in 5 countries



people with
disabilities

Saved resources and pollutants



70 %
reuse-
rate



66,000
tonnes of CO₂-eq.
greenhouse gas emissions



252,300
megawatt hours of
primary energy



31,000
tonnes of iron-eq.
raw materials



480 MIO.
litres of water



351,500
tonnes of 1,4 DB-eq.
human toxicity

Scientific basis: Studies by TU Berlin, myclimate and Star Cooperation

www.afb-group.eu

SAVING RESOURCES

The reuse of devices generates the greatest impact in terms of saving resources and pollutants. For example, we saved 1,279,465 kg of metals through reuse in 2023.

This corresponds to:

- A) 70 coaches**
- B) 35 km of railway tracks or**
- C) an entire tunnelling machine**

**Second
chance**



Photo credit: Nicola Götz

REMARKETING

70 %
reuse-rate



Three arrows lead to circular economy. For us, this symbol stands for reuse and recycling.



Photo credit: shutterstock/ VIDI Studio



**REPAIR
REUSE
RECYCLE
REPEAT**



A decisive contribution to efficient raw material cycles: IT remarketing

A single notebook goes through an average of 30 individual steps at AfB before it is sold again. In the end, used products work like new again. This process is called refurbishment.

SECOND CHANCE FOR GOOD HARDWARE

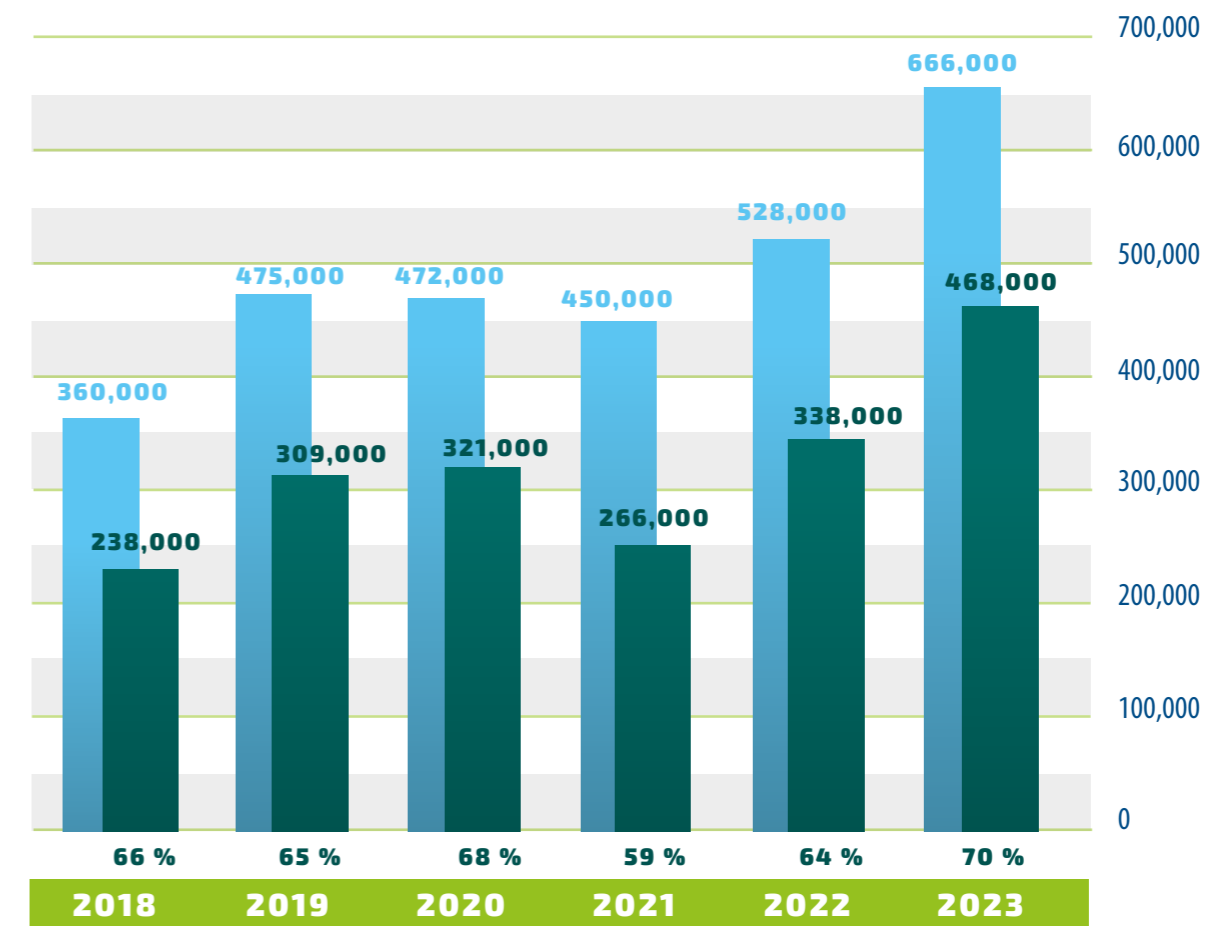


Photo credit: istock/ lovelyday12

CLIMATE PROTECTION



CLIMATE PROTECTION

66,000

tonnes of CO₂ eq.
greenhouse gas emissions



CO₂ SAVINGS AGAINST GLOBAL WARMING

The world is getting warmer. Carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases are warming the planet. The scientific community agrees that man-made CO₂ emissions are the main cause of global warming.

The entire life cycle of a device flows into the CO₂ calculation. The calculation also takes into account the effect of other gases.



The circular economy in IT refurbishment: Climate protection, conservation of resources and compliance

Why is AfB working so intensively on the effects of the circular economy?

The link between resource depletion and climate emissions is evident. One solution is to promote a circular economy that aims to extend the life cycle of products, conserve resources and minimise waste. Unfortunately, the current Circularity Gap Report 2024* shows that the global circularity of the economy has fallen from 9.1% in 2018 to 7.2% in 2023. A rethink is therefore urgently needed. AfB's philosophy is: IT devices that have already been produced should be used for as long as possible. For 20 years now AfB has been offering organisations easy access to the

Christoph Teusch

Sustainability manager at AfB

In future, no company will have a sustainability strategy without a circular economy strategy. This is why we regularly update our impact measurement for our partners in order to provide reliable KPIs.

circular economy through the prolongation of the service life of IT devices. At AfB IT refurbishment means that used equipment is not just disposed of but is refurbished for further use. This process reduces the need for new IT equipment

and the ecological footprint through reduction of resources as well as CO₂ emissions and creates inclusive jobs.

How did you arrive at the data?

We regularly commission studies on product life cycle

assessments and use the data obtained with the help of external support to improve communication and transparency towards our partners. We call the companies and organisations that hand over used IT hardware to us. We are constantly trying to improve in this area and eliminate blind spots. Only when we have reliable data can we recognise further potential and derive measures.

How is the topic developing? Europe is pursuing a clear course towards sustainable business practices. For example, the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) and the national circular economy strategy are clearly moving in this direction in line with the Green Deal. By integrating circular economy models, companies can realise environmental benefits, meet regula-

tory requirements and improve their compliance. The switch to sustainable business practices is necessary to overcome the challenges of climate change. It also offers economic opportunities and strengthens corporate social responsibility. At a time when sustainability is becoming increasingly important, promoting the circular economy is a crucial and inevitable step towards a sustainable future.



Agnes Strehle

Sustainability manager at AfB

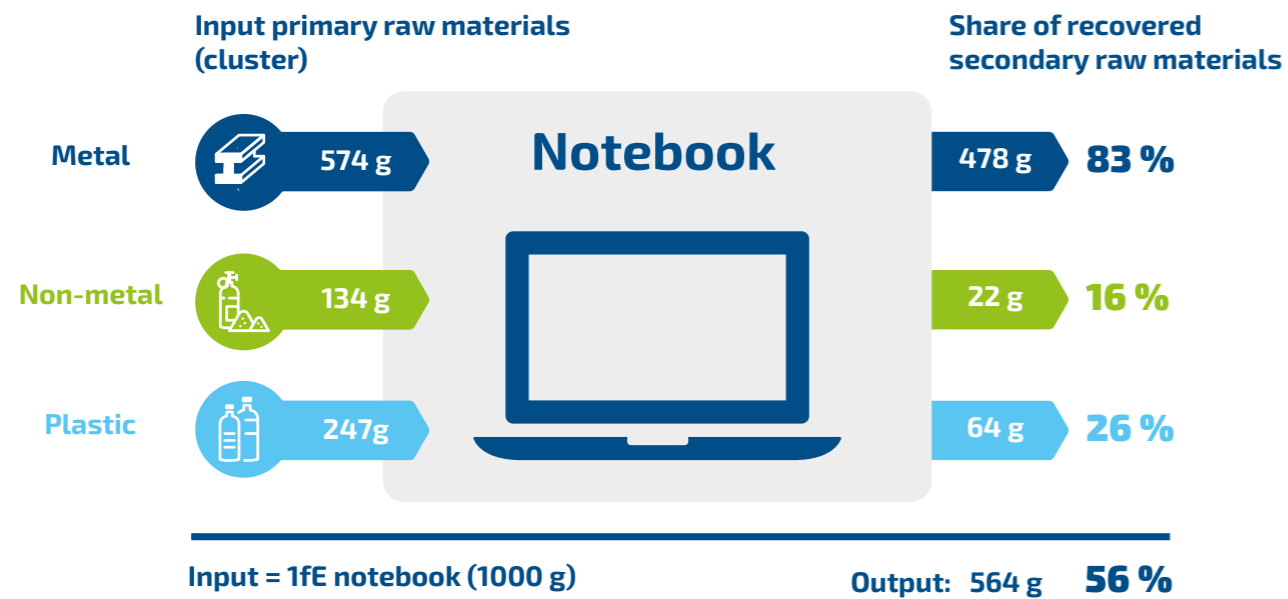
The necessary rethink goes hand in hand with making the benefits and potential of the circular economy measurable. In future, economic activity will require transparency and credibility, as sustainable progress can only be achieved through open practices and trust-building.

RAW MATERIAL RECOVERY

Refurbishment is not possible for very old or defective devices. We then rely on recycling to recover the raw materials contained in the devices. In 2023, we calculated for the first time how many metals, non-metals and plastics can be kept in the cycle through both reuse and professional recycling*. The savings potential varies depending on the product.



To lay one metre of railway track, you would need the metal from 84 recycled notebooks**



* Study: Star Cooperation 2023

** 49 kg per metre of European standard gauge railway, assumed notebook weight of 2.04 kg.

RAW MATERIALS

31,000
tonnes of iron eq.
raw materials



Fiona Dittrich

Environmental manager at AfB

Only when sustainability becomes measurable can we visualise how environmentally conscious we really are and where we can still improve. This is exactly what I am achieving with my work.

THANKS

At this point we would like to say thank you:

Thank you for your trust in AfB. Together, we are shaping a more inclusive and sustainable society.



Nicolai Gräff
key account manager

All partners receive an annual certificate with their individual impact.

The partnership with AfB – a contribution to seven SDGs

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adopted by all member states of the United Nations (UN) in 2015. The UN has thus created the basis for shaping economic progress within the framework of our ecological limits and social responsibility. At the heart of the agenda are 17 goals for sustainable development - the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

AfB has set itself the following interim goals by 2025, which we want to achieve together with committed partners like you in order to support the SDGs:



Through an IT partnership with AfB you make an important contribution to attaining 7 SDGs.



Equal opportunities is linked to access to good educational materials. AfB supports educational projects worldwide by providing IT devices.



By reusing IT devices the water consumption and the effect on the ecological water system due to the emission of toxic substances are reduced.



IT remarketing contributes to sustainable raw materials extraction and to the reduction of electronic waste dumps in the Global South.



By creating inclusive workplaces AfB promotes social and economic inclusion as well as the self-determination of people with disabilities.



AfB contributes to reducing resource consumption, emissions and electronic waste by reusing IT hardware.



Reuse and recycling of IT equipment lead to savings of emissions, raw materials and energy and thus contribute to climate protection.



The cooperation between AfB and IT partners considerably supports the attainment of social and ecological goals.

GLOSSARY

Terms and clarification



Jobs for people with disabilities

Your used IT equipment contributes to creating and maintaining jobs for people with disabilities at AFB.

Greenhouse gas emissions

Greenhouse gasses generated by human activity contribute to the warming of the earth's atmosphere and thus to climate change. The Global Warming Potential (GWP) is used as an indicator. All greenhouse gas emissions are converted into CO₂ equivalents to facilitate comparisons.
*A saving of 1,000 kg CO₂ eq. corresponds to a trip of 4,900 km with a mid-class petrol car.**



Primary energy consumption

The primary energy consumption reflects the demand on primary energy resources (crude oil, coal, hydropower, etc.) of a product over its entire life cycle from its production to disposal. Primary energies are required for the provision of end use energy (electricity, etc.).
*The indicator is measured in the unit kWh. A saving of 1,000 kWh corresponds to a third of the annual power demand of a 2 person household in a single family home.***

Saved resources

Through the reuse of used IT equipment, less resources are mined to produce new equipment. The globally available metal and mineral reserves (e.g. palladium, iron) vary greatly, which is why the consumption of a given metal is set in relation to its availability.

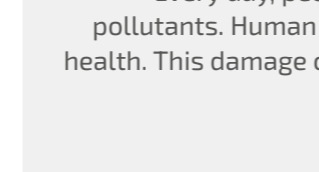
To facilitate comparison all metals and minerals are reported in iron equivalents (kg Fe eq.).

This is based on an ecobalance study of the Technical University of Berlin from 2013.



Water consumption

Water is required for many processing steps of a product. However, the availability of water is at risk in many regions. Water consumption relates to the water quantity saved and can comprise withdrawal, use, pollution and evaporation.
A saving of 1,000 litres corresponds to five full bath tubs.



Human toxicity

Every day, people are exposed to a large number of environmental pollutants. Human toxicity measures the effect on or damage to human health. This damage can be triggered by substances (e.g. nitrogen oxides), which are released into the air, water and soil.
Measurements are given in 1.4-dichlorobenzene equivalents (t 1.4-DB-eq.).



Reuse rate

Producing IT equipment results in considerable social and ecological impacts. From a sustainability viewpoint, the best option today is to extend the time IT equipment and mobile devices are used. With the reuse quota we indicate how much of your IT equipment is refurbished and remarketed through the certified AFB process.

* https://www.tagesschau.de/multimedia/bilder/grafik-co2-101--_origin-47ca801f-6a31-4285-8b38-f4d7a5678a29.html, accessed on 10 December 2020
** <https://www.co2online.de/energie-sparen/strom-sparen/strom-sparen-stromspartipps/stromverbrauch-im-haushalt/#c120941>, accessed on 10 December 2020

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www.afb-group.eu

The impact figures communicated here refer to AfB gGmbH,
AfB mildtätige und gemeinnützige GmbH, Stiftung AfB, AfB S.A.S., AfB s.r.o.



Photo credit: Nicola Götz