

## Cell Phone Recycling Facts

- The average person upgrades his/her phone every 16 months.
- An estimated 130 million phones will be retired this year in the United States.
- Approx. 202,000 ounces of gold could be recovered if these phones had been recycled.
- For example: approx. 368,000 phones are retired in the Chicago area every month = nearly half a million phones every year (4.4M).
- According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, electronic waste (e-waste) is accumulating almost three times faster than ordinary household trash.
- Researchers at Carnegie Mellon University estimate that at least 60 million PCs have already been buried in U.S. landfills.
- An estimated 100 to 130 million cell phones are no longer being used, many languishing in storage.
- Recycling cell phones reduces greenhouse gas emissions, keeps valuable material out of landfills and incinerators, and conserves natural resources.
- Cell phones and accessories are made from valuable resources such as precious metals, copper, and plastics - all of which require energy to extract and manufacture.
- According to the EPA, if Americans recycled 100 million phones, we could save enough upstream energy to power more than 194,000 U.S. households for a year.
- If consumers were able to reuse those 100 million cell phones, the environmental savings would be even greater, saving enough energy to power more than 370,000 U.S. homes each year.
- Recycling just a million cell phones reduces greenhouse gas emissions equal to taking 1,368 cars off the road for a year.
- The EPA has targeted cell phone recycling because fewer than 20 percent of cell phones are recycled each year and most people do not know where to recycle them.
- In 2007, according to ABI Research, a N.Y.-based technology market research firm, 1.2 billion phones were sold worldwide. Sixty percent of them replaced existing phones. In the United States, phones are cast aside after, on average, 12 months.



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# He's Well Equipped, But Missing One Thing



# Family

*"We're proud to show our support for U.S. soldiers and to contribute to a worthy cause such as Cell Phones For Soldiers, by encouraging DSA employees around the U.S. to donate their old or used cell phones, and also providing a means for colleagues in our industry to do the same. This recycling program not only enables soldiers serving overseas to call loved ones at no charge, but also reduces the number of phones that end up in our landfills."*

*Fran Pierce  
DSA President & CEO*

If you have any questions, please write us at

**CPFS@DSAINC.COM**

### Three things to remember before you recycle your wireless phone:

- Terminate your service
- Clear the phone's memory of contacts and other stored information. Go to [www.recyclewirelessphones.com](http://www.recyclewirelessphones.com) to learn how to do this;
- Remove your phone's SIM card, if it has one. Phones that operate on GSM networks use SIM cards. If you are not sure if your phone uses a SIM card or if you need assistance removing your SIM card, contact your wireless provider.

Phones and components that cannot be refurbished are dismantled and recycled to reclaim materials, including:

- Gold, silver and platinum from circuit boards
- Copper wiring from phone chargers
- Nickel, iron, cadmium and lead from battery packs
- Plastic from phone cases and accessories



# CELL PHONES FOR SOLDIERS®

To a military family, a phone call home is priceless. The Armed Forces Services Exchange operates telephone call centers in Iraq, Kuwait, Afghanistan, and other countries and aboard ships – anywhere service members are deployed. All of these locations stay busy around the clock to keep up communication between deployed troops and their loved ones. But these phone calls are expensive. A phone call from overseas can cost \$7 to \$8 per minute.



Cell Phones for Soldiers addresses an everyday emotional need that everyone has experienced: the imperative to phone home, to hear a familiar voice while far away. DSA is proud to be a sponsor of this program, and we encourage you to help our troops by donating your used cell phones today using the enclosed pre-paid shipping envelope or by sending an email to [cpfs@dsainc.com](mailto:cpfs@dsainc.com).

Cell Phones for Soldiers was founded by teenagers Robbie and Brittany Bergquist from Norwell, Mass., with \$21 of their own money. Their goal is to help our soldiers serving overseas call home by providing prepaid phone cards. Since 2004, their non-profit charity has raised almost \$2 million in donations and distributed more than 500,000 prepaid calling cards to soldiers serving overseas.

All donated phones are sent to ReCellular, which pays Cell Phones for Soldiers for each phone – enough to provide an hour of talk time to soldiers abroad. Approximately half of the phones collected will be reused – the ultimate form of recycling. Functional phones are reconditioned and reprogrammed before being sold to wholesalers from more than 40 countries. Phones that cannot be resold are dismantled and recycled. It's easy to protect the planet and our environment by simply collecting obsolete cell phones and recycling them.

Please help our soldiers serving overseas stay in touch with their loved ones by returning your old phone(s) using the enclosed pre-paid shipping envelope, or by sending an email with your mailing address to [cpfs@dsainc.com](mailto:cpfs@dsainc.com).

# DSA

**Proud Sponsor of Cell Phones For Soldiers**