

**General Electric Canada
(Healthcare)
Annual Report to the Director**

July 1 – December 31, 2012

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1. Executive Summary

The table below summarizes program performance for the Section 8 annual reporting requirements.

Products within plan	Phase 5 products of the electronic and electrical product category under BC's Recycling Regulation (the "Phase 5 Category") that exceed 200 kilograms in weight and are excluded from the Stewardship Plan submitted by EPRA B.C. (Electronic Products Recycling Association of British Columbia).
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Recycling Regulation Reference	Topic	Summary (5-bullet maximum)
Part 2, section 8(2)(a)	Public Education Materials and Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The General Electric (GE) Canada (Healthcare) Product Stewardship Plan details were posted to the external GE website and the RCBC (Recycling Council of British Columbia's) website for public awareness.
Part 2, section 8(2)(b)	Collection System and Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ See Section 4.
Part 2, section 8(2)(c)	Product Environmental Impact Reduction, Reusability and Recyclability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ See Section 5.
Part 2, section 8(2)(d)	Pollution Prevention Hierarchy and Product / Component Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ See Section 6.
Part 2, section 8(2)(e)	Product Sold and Collected and Recovery Rate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ See Section 6 for details on products collected.
Part 2, section 8(2)(e.1)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ See Section 7 for breakdown of product sold and collected volumes.
Part 2, section 8(2)(f)	Summary of Deposits, Refunds, Revenues and Expenses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Not Applicable

2. Program Outline

The GE Healthcare (GEHC) Product Stewardship Plan and annual report applies to those Phase 5 products that exceed 200 kilograms in weight, that GEHC, as producer, sells, offers for sale or distributes in BC and that are excluded by the EPRA B.C. Stewardship Plan. GEHC does not sell, offer for sale or distribute any of the products under this plan to retail consumers, including through retail sales. Instead, the products covered by the GEHC Stewardship Plan are sold by GE, offered for sale, distributed or used in a commercial enterprise for health care institutions and medical professionals. In addition, those Phase 5 products that exceed 200 kilograms applicable to this Product Stewardship Plan include medical devices such as MRs (Magnetic Resonance) and CTs (Computerized Tomography) which tend to have extended lifecycles in the range of 10-20 years.

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GE Healthcare is currently a member and a registered producer with the EPRA BC (Electronic Stewardship Association of British Columbia) for Phase 1, 2 and 5 products. As EPRA BC has an approved end-of-life electronics program for Phase 1, 2 and 5 products (< 200 kilograms in weight), GEHC has appointed EPRA BC as their agent to meet these obligations under the *B.C. Recycling Regulation*. GEHC currently reports and submits the appropriate EHF's (environmental handling fees) to EPRA BC on a monthly basis, for those products that fall under Phase 1, 2, and 5 and are sold as part of medical equipment and devices into the province of B.C.

GE Healthcare is submitting this annual report as a requirement for the GEHC Product Stewardship Plan for those Phase 5 products that exceed 200 kilograms in weight in order to offer an avenue to eliminate or reduce the environmental impacts of GEHC products at end-of-life.

GE Healthcare is committed to achieving the highest recovery rates feasible for the products, in light of all applicable circumstances, including the nature of the products and the purchasers of the products, which do not include sales to retail consumers. GE Healthcare has undertaken an 18-month study to determine the appropriate program performance measurement and recovery rate for the Stewardship Plan. The study is expected to be completed by December 31, 2014.

3. Public Education Materials and Strategies

GE Healthcare has and will continue to make its customers aware of this stewardship plan through direct involvement and communication. GE Healthcare consulted with its major customers as well as other stakeholders such as existing product stewardship agencies such as EPRA BC, Product Care, CESA, MEDEC, trade associations etc. Stakeholders have been encouraged to review the Product Stewardship plan and send their comments and questions directly to GE Healthcare. GE Healthcare offered a series of live webinars and teleconferences with its major customers located in British Columbia. Stakeholder consultation was conducted with GE Healthcare customers and feedback was summarized in the approved Product Stewardship Plan, dated June 28, 2012.

The GE Healthcare Product Stewardship plan was posted on the RCBC's (Recycling Council of British Columbia's) website to promote public awareness of the program. In addition, customers and the public are able to access the GE external public website for details regarding the GE Healthcare Stewardship Plan involving those products exceeding 200 kilograms in weight.

Other than questions directly received from active GE Healthcare customers, there has been no inquiries from the public as a result of posting the GE Healthcare Product Stewardship Plan.

4. Collection System and Facilities

GE Healthcare uses its existing take-back and recycling process for the collection, transportation and processing of end-of-life electronic medical devices and equipment exceeding 200 kilograms in weight. This process involves contracting with an existing service provider (s) for the transportation directly from customer locations to a warehouse in Ontario where the product is either re-sold or shipped to the GE Healthcare Renewable Resource Centre in the U.S. for processing. Refer to Section 6 for more details regarding the processing and recycling process at the GE Healthcare Renewable Resource Centre in Oakcreek, WI.

GE Healthcare does not own or operate any collection facilities in the province of B.C.

GE Healthcare 's Stewardship Plan does not apply to medical devices or obligated products that have been exposed to infectious matter unless these products are properly decommissioned, disinfected and/or sterilized.

Given the products do not include sales or distribution to retail consumers, there is no need for consumers to have access to collection facilities related to the plan.

There has been no change to the method of collection or the location of GE Healthcare's recycling facility.

5. Product Environmental Impact Reduction, Reusability and Recyclability

GE Healthcare is committed to managing its products in an environmentally responsible manner by designing products for improved environmental performance, energy efficiency and minimizing the use of restricted hazardous materials. Where practicable, GE Healthcare strives to eliminate or reduce the environmental impacts of the products throughout the product's life cycle. Refer to the GE Healthcare Product Stewardship plan for more details regarding *Ecomagination*, *Restriction of Hazardous Substances* and *Energy Efficiency* programs.

6. Pollution Prevention Hierarchy and Product / Component Management

GE Healthcare offers collection and recycling services to our customers for both GE and non-GE medical devices and instruments. At end-of-life, many medical devices and products retain an inherent value, parts and components are reclaimed for re-use and the majority of the metals, electronic circuit boards, and other materials are recycled.

GE Healthcare operates a Renewable Resource Centre (RRC) in Oak Creek, Wisconsin which is involved in the reprocessing of approximately 6 million kilograms of de-installed and returned medical equipment and parts each year. The Renewable Resources Centre has a current combined reuse, redeploy and/or recycling rate of 94 percent with only 6% of the incoming material, by weight, being disposed of by the RRC. Imaging systems may be sent to repair suppliers for use as test beds for repair parts. Others are disassembled and the usable components are reclaimed or placed into inventory or added to our repair pools.

GE Healthcare manages returned products in adherence to the pollution prevention hierarchy as outlined in the Product Stewardship Plan.

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There were 29 medical products and systems collected and returned from B.C. Customers from July 1 to December 31, 2012. Of these twenty-nine (29) products, twenty-eight (28) products and systems were not in scope of the GE Healthcare Product Stewardship Plan as they do not exceed 200 kilograms in weight. One (1) product collected exceeded 200 kilograms in weight and was in scope of the GE Healthcare Product Stewardship Plan and the annual report.

Below is a breakdown of the 30 medical products and systems collected and returned from B.C. Customers from July 1 to December 31, 2012. The one (1) medical system collected and returned from B.C. was re-sold and did not enter the recycling stream.

Timeframe (2012)	No. of Products < 200 kg in weight collected	No. of Products < 200 kg in weight re-sold	No. of Products < 200 kg in weight recycled	No. of Products > 200 kg in weight collected	No. of Products > 200 kg in weight re-sold	No. of Products > 200 kg in weight recycled
July 1 – Dec 31	28	27	1	1	1	0

7. Product Sold and Collected and Recovery Rate

Please see attached summary of product sold and collected volumes applicable to the GE Healthcare Product Stewardship plan during the period from July 1 to December 31, 2012.

Timeframe	No. of Medical Systems Sold (Products > 200 kg in weight)	No. of Medical Systems Collected (Products > 200 kg in weight)
July, 2012	0	0
August, 2012	2	0
Sept, 2012	0	0
Oct, 2012	0	0
Nov, 2012	0	1
Dec, 2012	1	0
Total	3	1

GE Healthcare is committed to achieving the highest recovery rates feasible for the products, in light of all applicable circumstances, including the nature of the products and the purchasers of the products, which do not include sales to retail consumers.

Generally, the recovery rate is a measurement of what is collected over what is sold. Medical device monitoring and control instrumentation products typically have a lengthy useful life, and therefore a significant lag time between date of purchase and disposal of an end-of-life product. Furthermore, given the capital investment for these products, customers are inclined to maintain these devices rather than incur additional capital investments.

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Thus, GE Healthcare is in the process of collecting data to determine the most appropriate performance measurement (18 month study) to be used to determine an appropriate recovery rate for the Stewardship Plan. The study is expected to be completed by December 31, 2013.

8. Summary of Deposits, Refunds, Revenues and Expenditures

GE Healthcare does not charge deposits or any ecofees as part of the Product Stewardship Plan. Thus, financial statements are not required to be included in the annual report.

9. Plan Performance

As stated in GE Healthcare Product Stewardship Plan, GE Healthcare will undertake a study for the first 18 months of the program to determine the most appropriate measurement to be used to determine the appropriate recovery rate for the Stewardship Plan.

To assess the annual performance of the plan, information will be collected on the GE equipment covered by the Stewardship Plan from de-installs, performed by GEHC, estimates of GE Healthcare product expected lifespans, and the GEHC equipment installed in the province of B.C. This data will be compared to the actual performance by tracking the amount of equipment returned, where it went and the application of the Pollution Prevention Hierarchy. GEHC will seek to modify data collection efforts to support program performance measurements.

The following table summarizes the specific targets related to plan performance and measurement.

Plan Target	2012 Results	Strategies for Improvement
1. Performance Measurement Study	Initiated an 18 month study to determine the appropriate performance measurement. Data collection for 2012 completed.	N/A

APPENDIX A

THIRD PARTY ASSURANCE REPORT FOR NON-FINANCIAL INFORMATION



General Electric
Canada (Healthcare)