

Industry Statistics

Inkjet Cartridge Market

- Out of 411 million cartridges in 2004, 315 million were original equipment manufacturers (OEM) and 96 million were remanufactured, compatible, or home-refilled cartridges as stated in Lyra's *Hard Copy Supplies Advisory Service (SAS)*
- The average user spends \$600 on ink cartridges during the life of a printer (estimated 3-year life).
- The worldwide market share of refilled and re-engineered ink cartridges is projected to hit 27.7% by 2009 as found in a recent *Wall Street Journal* article.
- The North American share of aftermarket ink jet cartridge shipments will expand from 23 percent in 2004, to 31 percent in 2009, according to Lyra Research.
- Worldwide revenues from wide format inkjet and narrow format inkjet hardware, media and chemistry in 2000 were \$27 billion increasing to more than \$40 billion by 2005 as estimated by I.T. Strategies in Hanover, Massachusetts. This represents a compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) of 8 percent.

Environmental Impact

- Currently, over 70% of all printer users throw away their used cartridges.
- More than 1 million inkjet cartridges thrown away every day, adding 60,000 tons of empty ink jet cartridges to landfills each year.
- If a cartridge is refilled three times there is a 75% reduction of waste.
- Almost half a quart of oil is used to produce each new inkjet cartridge.
- By recycling ink cartridges, over 11 million gallons of oil can be saved every seven months.
- Only 27% of ink cartridges are recycled in the United States.
- In Guiyu, China, the world's dumping ground for e-waste, workers are paid \$1.50 per day to salvage used toner. Once the toner is swept out by fingers or paintbrushes, the plastic carcasses and other electronic refuse are burned – fouling the air – or discarded along the Lianjiang River. This type of dumping has rendered the area's drinking water not potable; the river has 200 times the acceptable levels of acid and 2,400 times acceptable levels of lead. Even after boiling, it does not become clean enough for drinking. From *Imaging Spectrum Magazine*, "Guiyu Revisited: Exposing the Fraud... 18 months later".

