

Engineering challenges and context for informal e-waste recycling

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E-waste Recycling











Waste Generation







Waste Generation

Waste Collection





Waste Generation

Waste Collection

Demanufacturing



Waste Generation

Waste Collection

Demanufacturing

Reengineering

Stakeholders

- Informal Recyclers
- Waste Collectors
- Medium-size recyclers
- Formal Recyclers
- OEM's
- Government



























Metrics

- Recovery Rate
- Throughput
- Safety
- Usability
- Profit

Dismantling	Shredding	Separation
• Manual	 Shredder Crusher 	 Magnet Eddy Current Air Separation Density Separation Screen

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Informal GLOBAL DESIGN LAB.

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Formal



Dismantling	Shredding	Separation
• Manual	ShredderCrusher	 Magnet Eddy Current Air Separation
Recovery Rate		Throughput
		Separation • Screen

Opportunity

Improving throughput, safety, and usability of manual dismantling process

TV Dismantling

- 1. Remove casing (unscrew with manual screwdriver or drop TV)
- 2. Snip wires to prevent shock from electricity currents
- 3. Remove controller board
- 4. Remove speakers (unscrew)
- 5. Remove DVD player
- 6. Remove degaussing coil (copper)
- 7. Separate deflection yoke from TV (hammer off)
- 8. Break yoke to get to copper coils (hammer/break yoke)
- 9. Manually separate copper from yoke scraps

Throughput: 7-20 min per TV Safety: cuts from glass, lead exposure

Washing Machines Dismantling





Washing Machines Dismantling





Challenges & Opportunities





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Interdisciplinary Aspects

- What is the value proposition for stakeholders?
- Translating safety, profit, social benefit
- What system dynamics can impact interventions?
- Variation in users, operating context