



FAQ FOR INDIVIDUALS: CLIMATE SAVERS COMPUTING

What is CSCI?

Started in 2007 by Google and Intel, CSCI is a nonprofit group of eco-conscious consumers, businesses and conservation organizations dedicated to reducing the energy consumption of computers and reducing the environmental impact of new and emerging technologies.

More than 500 organizations belong to CSCI — including our Board of Director-level members: CSC, Dell, Google, HP, Intel, Microsoft and World Wildlife Fund — and thousands of consumers have pledged their support.

Who can become a CSCI member?

Anyone with an interest in protecting the planet, and an interest in saving money and avoiding needless waste, can join CSCI. We provide opportunities for both individuals and organizations of all types, from students to Fortune 500 companies.

How can I join CSCI as an individual? What's required?

CSCI membership is free for individuals. You can join us by pledging to follow our recommended power management tips and purchase energy-efficient equipment when it's time to replace your PC and peripherals. We also encourage individuals to educate their friends and family members about energy efficiency.

Individuals can take the CSCI pledge here: <http://www.climatesaverscomputing.org/individual-join/>

What are CSCI's membership benefits for individuals?

Individual members can save money and energy while fighting climate change and becoming part of something bigger than themselves. They can also gain tips and tools for educating others about energy efficiency and more sustainable computing.

How can my company/organization/university join CSCI? What are the benefits?

You can encourage your employer, school or other types of organizations to join CSCI at the membership level best suited to their needs. CSCI helps participating entities increase deployment of high-efficiency computer systems and power management technologies that save money, reduce energy consumption and decrease greenhouse emissions. The recognition they receive as an environmental and industry leader strengthens members' brands. It also gives employees and students an opportunity to rally around a common purpose.

Here are the levels of CSCI membership:

- **CSCI Board of Directors:** Board members commit to purchasing energy-efficient systems, using power management and designating a representative to serve on the organization's Board of Directors. Climate Savers Computing Board members rank among the top industry leaders. These companies guide the organization and actively help facilitate strategic activities and outreach. Board company participants also assist in driving the organization's various workgroups and programs.
- **CSCI Sponsors:** Sponsors commit to purchasing energy-efficient systems, using power management and participating in technical and marketing workgroups.
- **CSCI Associates:** An organization that commits to be an environmental leader by purchasing energy-efficient systems and using power management, and by invitation can participate in technical and marketing workgroups.
- **CSCI Supporters:** Organizations that help us spread the word about energy-efficient computing.
- **CSCI Affiliate:** Free for any organization that commits to purchasing energy-efficient systems and using power management.
- **CSCI Non-Governmental Organization (NGOs):** Commit to educating end-users about the benefits of energy-efficient computers and power-management tools for home use.



- **CSCI Consumers:** Encouraged to participate by using power-management capabilities on their PCs and by choosing systems that meet or exceed the latest ENERGY STAR specification for any future PC purchases.

If you'd like more information to share with key decision-makers, please visit:

<http://www.climatesaverscomputing.org/about/member-directory/>

Companies, organizations and individuals can apply for membership here:

<http://www.climatesaverscomputing.org/act/join/>

Universities can apply for membership here:

<http://www.climatesaverscomputing.org/university>

How much energy does the average computer user waste?

The average computer wastes nearly half the electricity it pulls from the wall. This energy never reaches the processor or other components, and most of it is expended as heat, which can then drive up air-conditioning costs. The average server wastes 30 percent of the electricity it pulls from the wall. And a computer left on all night causes the biggest drain, wasting all of its energy.

What kind of change can we hope to make?

Globally, computers waste \$5.5 billion in energy costs each year and create an estimated 54 million tons of needless CO₂. That's equivalent to 11 million cars per day.

We'll soon share the planet with two billion PCs. We have the power to build and use these machines efficiently to minimize their effect on the planet and our bottom lines. On an individual level, through power management alone, we could each save more than \$60 a year in energy costs — per computer. Imagine all the computers at your company, school or organization, and you can see how much money we could all save while doing the right thing.

How does CSCI track the results of its efforts?

We ask members to report how many computers they've set up to enable power management, and how many new, energy-efficient systems they've purchased. We will report the sum of these results, along with their effect on CO₂ emissions, back to our membership.

What does CSCI mean by "power management?"

Power management starts with thinking of a computer like you would a light or a water faucet — a resource that should be turned off or minimized when not in full use. To manage a computer's power usage, CSCI recommends enabling automatic tools like sleep and hibernate settings, turning computers off at night and ideally unplugging them completely when possible.

What are CSCI's recommended power management settings?

To improve the power efficiency of your computer, CSCI recommends the following power management settings:

- Monitor/display sleep: Turn off after 15 minutes or less
- Turn off hard drives/hard disk sleep: 15 minutes or less
- System standby/sleep: After 30 minutes or less

Instructions for enabling power management vary by operating system. See

<http://www.climatesaverscomputing.org/learn/saving-energy-at-home/> to learn the steps for your computer.

How can I find a CSCI-compatible PC or server?

CSCI offers an online catalog of products compliant with our energy efficiency standards. You can find this catalog at <http://www.climatesaverscomputing.org/tools/smarter-computing-catalog/>.