

THE MONSTER FOOTPRINT OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY



Knowledge

Addressing technological obsolescence would be the most powerful approach to lower the ecological footprint of digital technology

Link to an online resource : <http://www.lowtechmagazine.com/2009/06/embodyed-energy-of-digital-technology.html>

Language of your contribution : English Attached resources language : English

When we talk about energy consumption, all attention goes to the electricity use of a device or a machine while in operation. A 30 watt laptop is considered more energy efficient than a 300 watt refrigerator. This may sound logical, but this kind of comparisons does not make much sense if you don't also consider the energy that was required to manufacture the devices you compare. This is especially true for high-tech products, which are produced by means of extremely material- and energy-intensive manufacturing processes. How much energy do our high-tech gadgets really consume?

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