

## How to distinguish between e-waste and second-hand regulated electrical equipment

Regulated electrical equipment (REE)<sup>#</sup> that has been abandoned by the original owner is “e-waste”. Save for certain exclusions, a waste disposal licence is required for storage, treatment, reprocessing or recycling (not including repairing) of “e-waste”. A permit is also required for any import or export of “e-waste”.

“E-waste” that has undergone testing / proper repairing, destined for reuse for its originally intended purpose locally or overseas and with proper handling (e.g. protected by appropriate packaging or measures, to prevent damage during storage or transportation) may be classified as “second-hand REE”, which is not subject to the control of the Waste Disposal Ordinance. Testing or repairing records of the “second-hand REE” should be properly kept and made available for inspection by relevant departments. Please refer to the attached flowchart which provides assistance on distinguishing between “e-waste” and “second-hand REE”.

The following examples may assist in defining “second-hand REE”:

- The equipment is not destined for abandonment or dismantling
- Essential parts of the equipment are not missing
- The equipment does not have any damage or defect that impair its key function or safe uses
- Appropriate packaging / measures is present to protect the equipment against damage during storage, transportation, loading or unloading
- The equipment is not seriously worn or damaged in appearance, thus reducing its marketability
- There is a regular market for the equipment



**Abandoned waste computer**

The Environmental Protection Department may request relevant second-hand e-appliance dealers, waste traders, recycling site operators, importers or exporters to provide proof to show that the “second-hand REE” can be directly re-used, such as:

- Evaluation or testing reports (such as functionality tests or repairing records)
- On-site testing
- For equipment designated for import / export, importers / exporters should confirm with the relevant local and overseas authorities that the equipment can be legally imported/exported for sale.

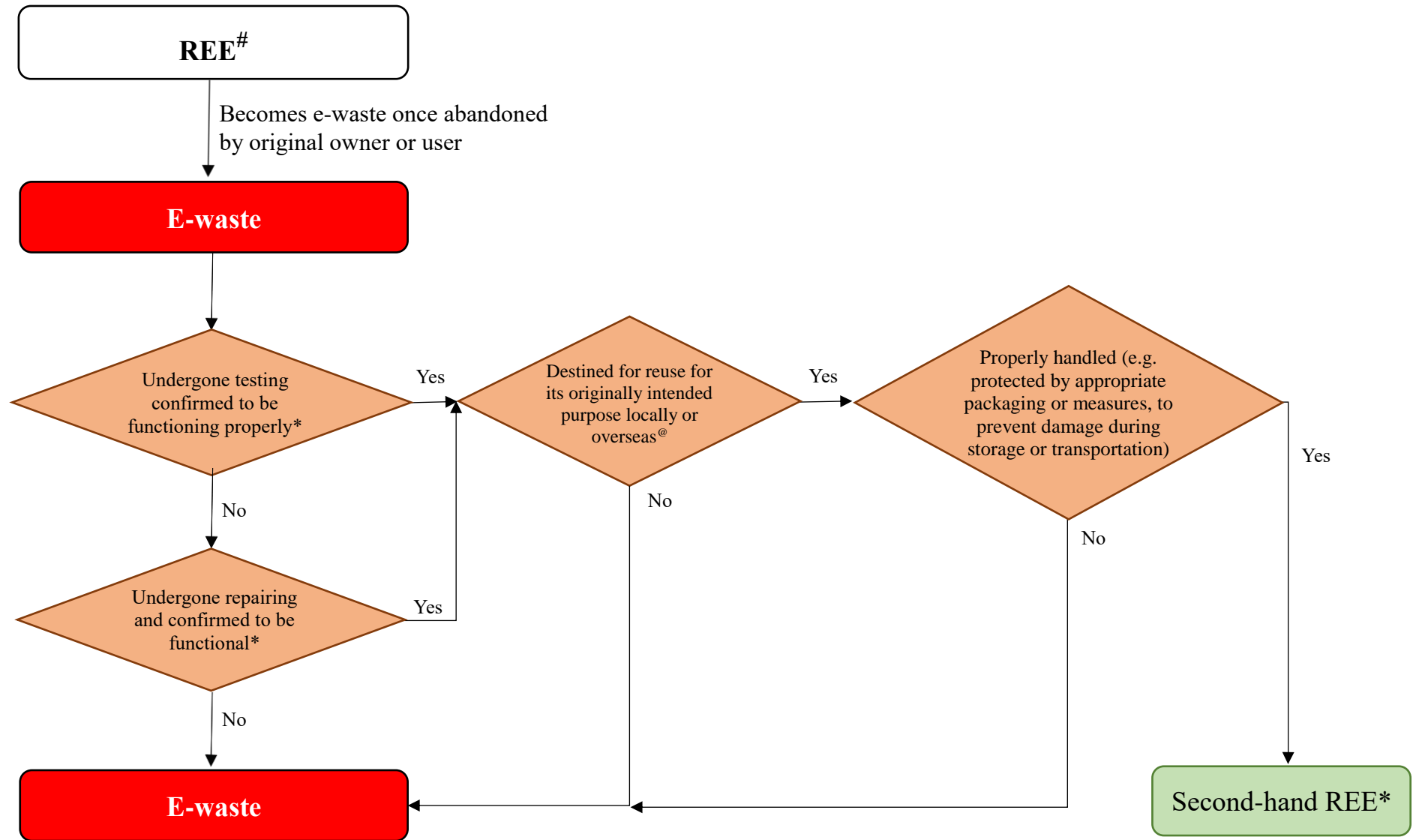


**Second-hand computers for reuse**

Besides, importers/exporters should produce additional documents, such as sales contracts or invoices, to prove that there are suitable second-hand markets locally or overseas.

<sup>#</sup>REE includes air-conditioners, refrigerators, washing machines, televisions, computers, printers, scanners and monitors

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# REE includes air-conditioners, refrigerators, washing machines, televisions, computers, printers, scanners and monitors.

\* Functionality tests and repairing records shall be properly kept for checking by relevant departments.

@ The Environmental Protection Department may request relevant operators to provide proof.