



KAO DRIVES A CIRCULAR AND SUSTAINABLE TONER REMANUFACTURING

Electronic waste management has become an unavoidable challenge for Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs), especially in the printing industry.

The accumulation of used toner cartridges presents an increasing environmental problem, while new European regulations on eco-design and the circular economy are forcing companies to rethink their strategies.

In this context, cartridge remanufacturing emerges as a key solution, enabling material reuse and reducing waste generation. However, until now, the cartridge emptying process left an unresolved challenge: the fate of residual toner, which in most cases is incinerated, with its associated environmental impact and economic cost.





KAO: LEADING THE FUTURE OF ECOLOGICAL PRINTING

To achieve truly sustainable remanufacturing, it is essential to minimise the generation of residual toner. Designing a cartridge from the outset with Kao toner ensures more efficient and eco-friendly eco-design. Our goal is for Kao toner to never become waste, and to achieve this, Kao offers OEMs its expertise and adaptability.

We aim to integrate remanufacturing into our production process and manufacture new toner using Kao toner extracted from recovered cartridges by the OEM.

In this way, OEMs can fully close the circular economy loop, minimising waste and improving the sustainability of their operations. This proposal is only possible when the cartridge has been designed from the outset with Kao toner, as this ensures the quality of the recovered toner. Committing to this integration from the development phase not only enables more efficient remanufacturing but also opens the door to a truly circular and fully sustainable economy model.

ECO-DESIGN TAKEN TO THE HIGHEST LEVEL: TOWARDS A ZERO-WASTE MODEL

Thanks to Kao's solution, OEMs can reduce their carbon footprint, avoid the costs associated with waste management, and comply with new regulations without compromising print quality.

Working with Kao to develop toner means elevating the concept of eco-design to the highest level. It's not just about reusing cartridges, but about rethinking the design of consumables from the start so that every particle of toner can be maximised. In this way, Kao contributes to a more responsible printing industry aligned with the principles of the circular economy.

Let's make remanufacturing a truly circular process with Kao!

