



Classified and High Security Data Destruction

Quick Guide to NIST 800-88 Media Sanitization Requirements

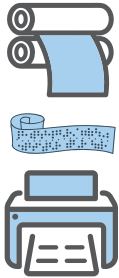
Keep Your Data Center in Compliance

Two Classes of Media

Hard Copy



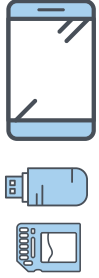
Hard copy media are physical representations of information, most often associated with paper printouts. However, printer and facsimile ribbons, drums, and platens are all examples of hard copy media.



Electronic



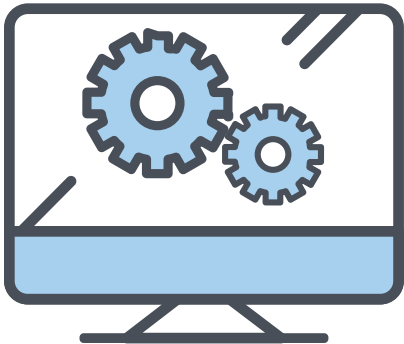
Electronic media are devices containing bits and bytes, e.g. hard drives, RAM, ROM, disks, flash memory, memory devices, phones, tablets, mobile computing devices, networking devices, office equipment, and others.



Sanitization Classifications

CLEAR (ELECTRONIC)

Clear applies logical techniques to sanitize data in all user-addressable storage locations for protection against simple, non-invasive data recovery techniques; typically applied through the standard Read and Write commands to the storage device, such as by rewriting with a new value or using a menu option to reset the device to the factory state.



PURGE (ELECTRONIC)



Purge applies physical or logical techniques that render Target Data recovery infeasible using state of the art laboratory techniques.

Purge is highly dependent on media and includes a broad range of methodologies including overwrite, block erase, cryptographic erase (CE), shredding, degaussing, disintegrating, incinerating, and pulverizing.

NIST 800-88 Guidelines for Media Sanitization is 56 pages long, 13 of which detail the appropriate sanitization methods with instructions for each type of media.

DESTROY (ELECTRONIC AND HARD COPY)

ELECTRONIC

Destroy renders Target Data recovery infeasible using state of the art laboratory techniques and results in the subsequent inability to use the media for storage of data. This includes shredding, disintegrating, and degaussing as well as incinerating and pulverizing.



HARD COPY

Destroy paper using cross cut shredders which produce particles 1mm x 5mm [0.04in. x 0.2in.] in size [or smaller], or pulverize/disintegrate paper materials using disintegrator devices equipped with a 3/32in. [2.4mm] security screen. Destroy microforms [microfilm, microfiche, or other reduced image photo negatives] by burning to white ash. *There are no other acceptable sanitization methods for hard copy. NSA listed destruction devices meet this requirement.*



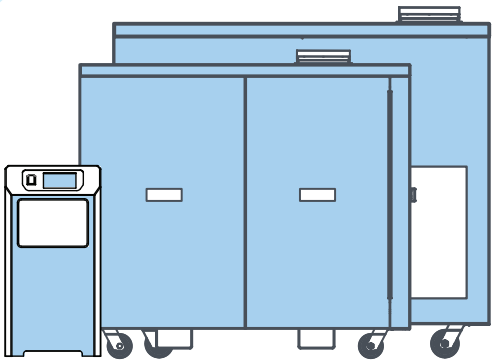
Tips on How to Comply

There is a quick, easy, cost-effective way to comply with *NIST 800-88 Guidelines for Media Sanitization* without having to try to memorize the entire manual and all its intricacies: "Destroy: Shred, Disintegrate, Pulverize, or Incinerate" is a line item as approved sanitization methods for each and every single media type listed. Follow this mandate and take the guesswork out of compliance.

Additionally and significantly, *NIST 800-88 Guidelines for Media Sanitization Appendix C.1* states: "This guide also recommends that the user consider the National Security Agency (NSA) devices posted in the Media Destruction Guidance area of the public NSA website." See www.semshred.com/nsa-epl

ELECTRONIC DESTRUCTION DEVICES

DEGAUSSER
Electromagnetic pulse scrambles the 0s and 1s and renders the drive unusable



IT SHREDDER
Rotating cutting heads cut media into 1.5" or smaller final particle strips

IT DISINTEGRATOR
Rotating and stationary knives pulverize until the particles can fit through a screen

HARD COPY DESTRUCTION DEVICES

PAPER DISINTEGRATOR
Rotating and stationary knives pulverize until the particles can fit through a 3/32" screen

PAPER SHREDDER
Rotating cutting heads cross-cut media into 1mm x 5mm final particle

