

# Compliance: What Recent BAN and EPA Actions Reveal About Systemic Compliance Weaknesses

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The recent Basel Action Network findings on outbound e-waste shipments by several U.S.-based ITAD operators have widened an ongoing discussion about environmental governance across the electronics lifecycle. BAN's investigation did not allege violations of U.S. federal export law, which is limited in scope, but it did show that certain shipments were sent to jurisdictions whose import rules restrict or prohibit these materials under Basel-aligned frameworks. The more relevant takeaway is not the legal technicality but the operational one: downstream controls remain uneven, even among firms that outwardly present themselves as compliant, certified, or aligned with responsible recycling principles.

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