



EPEAT: Green Electronics Made Easy

EPEAT - the Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool - is a multidimensional environmental performance standard for desktops, notebooks and monitors. EPEAT was developed through a comprehensive, multi-year, stakeholder process underwritten by US EPA that included environmental advocates, manufacturers, public and private purchasers, electronics recyclers, and technology researchers.

The EPEAT standard was formally adopted through an ANSI accredited process in 2006 as Standard 1680 of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE). The standard covers 51 separate criteria (23 mandatory, 28 optional) in the areas of toxics reduction (RoHS mandatory), recycled content and recyclability, end-of-life management (product takeback mandatory), energy efficiency (Energy Star mandatory), product longevity, corporate responsibility, and packaging. Products qualify as Bronze, Silver or Gold by meeting increasing percentages of the optional criteria.

Changing the Market

EPEAT is transforming the marketplace for greener computer products. In a little over two years, 30 manufacturers have registered nearly 900 products in EPEAT. It has been referenced in contracts issued by:

- States and Provinces: Oregon, Minnesota, Wisconsin, New York, Nova Scotia
- Cities: San Francisco, Phoenix, San Jose, Vancouver, Portland OR, L.A County
- Enterprise purchasers including Kaiser Permanente, Premier, Marriott International, DeLoitte, and McKesson.
- US Federal agencies: EPEAT is cited in over \$40 billion in US federal contracts, through NASA, the Departments of Energy, Defense, Justice, and Interior, EPA and more, and is now required by the government's Federal Acquisition Regulations.

EPEAT Greens Your Bottom Line

Public and private purchasers have turned to EPEAT to help meet their environmental goals, and experience has shown they are making real environmental progress. EPEAT provides an Electronics Environmental Benefits Calculator that measures the quantifiable benefits - green house gas reductions, waste avoided, pounds of mercury eliminated, etc - of specific EPEAT purchases over purchase of conventional products. This information, specific to the actual numbers and ratings levels of products purchased, is suitable for use in Sustainability and Carbon Reduction reporting.

The over 109 million EPEAT qualified products sold worldwide in 2007, compared to conventional products, will:

- Reduce electricity use over the products' lifetime by 42.2 billion kWh - enough to power 3.7 million US homes for a year
- Reduce consumption of primary materials by 75.5 million metric tons
- Eliminate use of sufficient mercury to fill 482,381 fever thermometers
- Eliminate emissions of 3.31 million metric tons carbon equivalent (MTCE) of greenhouse gases - like taking 2.6 million US cars off the road for a year

While providing these remarkable environmental benefits, EPEAT products are sold by the same manufacturers and at the same prices as comparable business computers.

Visit www.epeat.net for more details on the EPEAT system, including a searchable product database, the standard criteria, participating manufacturers, and model specification language. Contact Sarah O'Brien - sarah.obrien@greenelectronicscouncil.org, US 802/479-0317 for additional information or assistance with EPEAT purchasing initiatives.