



The Definitive Global Rating System for Greener Electronics

EPEAT Manufacturer Update: October 5, 2015

In this issue

CA Training Discount
EPEAT Pre-Certification
New EPA Report
PC-2015-04 Launching
IE-2015-01 Level 1

Case Study



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Quick Links...

[My Account](#)

[Manufacturer Resources](#)

[Search the Registry](#)

Early Bird Pricing Ends Friday for November Conformity Assessment Training - Register Now

The 10 percent Early Bird Discount for the November 2015 EPEAT Conformity Assessment training ends this Friday, October 9. The special negotiated pricing for room at the Portland Marriott City Center Hotel ends Oct. 16.

From November 2-5, 2015, the Green Electronics Council will host an EPEAT Conformity Assessment Training in Portland, Oregon, USA. Attendees will learn about the EPEAT® system, and conformance to the IEEE 1680.1 Standard for Computers and Computer Displays, the 1680.2 Standard for Imaging Equipment and the 1680.3 Standard for Televisions. Training will cover all aspects from product declaration through verification.

Those who successfully complete the full 4-day training and pass the certificate exam will meet the training requirement to perform conformity assessment and verification investigations for an EPEAT-approved certification body.

[Register today](#) for this valuable training.

EPEAT Pre-Certification Pilot Program Launching

The Green Electronics Council is exploring the use of pre-certification for the EPEAT system. The first step is a pilot program that will accept pre-certification as evidence of conformance during Level 1 investigations. If you have certified products or have considered having your products

certified to the IEEE 1680 family of standards, we invite you to participate in the pilot program beginning in October. Here is how the pilot program will work.

1. **October - December 2015:** EPEAT Participating Manufacturers may obtain certification for their products using their chosen Conformity Assessment Body (CAB, the bodies formerly known as "PREs"). Manufacturers may select their current CAB or another one. Currently VDE and ULE have confirmed a desire to offer certification services during the pilot program. The GEC CAB (formerly known as the "EPEAT PRE") will not be performing certification at this time. Any associated fees shall be negotiated with the chosen CAB. No fees are due to GEC for participation in the pilot program. Pilot participants must inform GEC which products are certified and must sign a simple agreement allowing the CAB to share conformity evidence with GEC.
2. **January - March 2016:** GEC will select a sample of certified products and perform a "mock verification round" including Level 1 investigations. Manufacturers may present a certificate to GEC as proof of conformance with the Level 1 investigation. GEC will then ask for conformity documentation from the chosen CAB for the certified product. Results of the verification round will not be published, but any declarations found to be inaccurate will need to be corrected.
3. **April - June 2016:** GEC will assess the success of the pilot program and consider whether certification might be recognized in EPEAT verification moving forward. GEC will inform all Participating Manufacturers of the pilot program's results.

If you are interested in participating or have additional questions about the pilot program, please contact [Lindsay Fernandez-Salvador](#).

New EPA Report Shows Polystyrene Foam Recycled at Low Rates in United States

This summer the EPA published a report entitled,

["Advancing Sustainable Materials Management: Facts and Figures 2013."](#) This report is one EPEAT checks for recycling rates in the United States (criterion 4.8.2.2 in both the 1680.2 and the 1680.3 standards). Analysis of this report shows that polystyrene foam (PS or Styrofoam) is still not considered recyclable because it doesn't meet the required national recycling rate of at least 15%. Criterion 4.8.2.2 (Packaging 90% compostable/recyclable) considers a material "recyclable" if it meets one of 3 criteria in a country. The 2015 EPA report (using data through calendar year 2013) provides evidence for the United States that polystyrene (PS) does not meet the 1st criterion: material is recycled at a national rate of at least 15% by weight.

This report (Table 7, p. 58) breaks down polystyrene packaging into 3 categories, plus aggregate of 3 categories with the following percentage recovery:

- Plastic containers (No Data)
- Bags, sacks, wraps (Negligible)
- **Other plastic packaging (9.7%)**
- Total (5.7%)

Polystyrene for packaging of electronics would fall into the last category. While this category has the highest recovery rate (9.7%), it falls short of the 15% recovery rate required in this criterion.

If you have questions, please [contact Erin Gately](#).

Verification Round Plan PC-2015-04 Launching This Week - Training Available

The Plan for Verification Round PC-2015-04 is now available and [can be found here](#). This Round will target four specific criteria (4.1.4.1, 4.1.7.1, 4.3.1.9 and 4.8.3.1) for which, in a previous investigation, corrective actions did not fully address other products potentially impacted by the issue, causing the non-conformance for the investigated product. The Round will also focus on two criteria (4.5.2.1 and 4.7.2.1) that have not been targeted for investigation in the last 24 months.

In total, 34 investigations are planned. You can [learn more here](#).

To help Manufacturers improve their understanding of the criteria and prepare documentation for this Verification Round, the Green Electronics Council (GEC) will hold interactive training webinars on 4.1.4.1, 4.1.7.1, 4.3.1.9, 4.5.2.1, 4.7.2.1 and 4.8.3.1. Three times are scheduled for the webinar - one each for European, American, and Asian business hours. Please [click here to register](#).

Verification Round Plan IE-2015-01 Level 1 Investigations Have Begun

The first Imaging Equipment Verification Round began in June with Level 0 investigations. A "Level 0" investigation looks for publicly available information to determine conformance. There were several questions which needed to be answered during the round, which extended the round considerably.

All Level 0 investigations have now been completed. There were decisions of both "Conformant" and "Inconclusive" based on the Level 0 investigations. In the event a decision of "Inconclusive" was found (because publicly available information was not found), a Level 1 investigation will begin this week.

[Download Verification Round Plan IE-2015-01.](#)

Library of Verification Outcomes Reports

- [PCs & Displays Outcomes Report: PC-2015-01](#)
- [PCs & Displays Outcomes Report: PC-2014-03](#)
- [PCs & Displays Outcomes Report: PC-2014-02](#)
- [PCs & Displays Outcomes Report: PC-2014-01](#)
- [PCs & Displays Outcomes Report: PC-2013-06](#)
- [PCs & Displays Outcomes Report: PC-2013-05](#)
- [PCs & Displays Outcomes Report: PC-2013-04](#)
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- [Imaging Equipment Outcomes Report: IE-2014-02](#)

- [Imaging Equipment Outcomes Report: IE-2014-01](#)
- [Imaging Equipment Outcomes Report: IE-2013-04](#)
- [Imaging Equipment Outcomes Report: IE-2013-03](#)
- [Televisions Outcomes Report: TV-2014-01](#)
- [Televisions Outcomes Report: TV-2013-03](#)