



## **EPEAT, Inc.**

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# VERIFICATION PLAN – ROUND 2010-04 September 2010

## Product Verification Committee

### **I. PURPOSE AND CONTENTS OF THIS DOCUMENT**

This Plan describes the verification process to be used in the fourth EPEAT Verification Round for 2010, including the criteria that will be verified, the number of products to be verified for each criterion, and the method of verification for each.

The products and subscribers to be verified are not specifically identified. The intent is for the PVC to be blind to the specific product and subscriber about which they are making decisions. This information will be known by the staff and the Qualified Verifier, but will not be provided to the PVC until after completion of the initial conformance/non-conformance findings of the Round. However, when subscribers present specific information to the PVC regarding a decision, the subscriber and product will be revealed to the PVC in order to resolve any issues.

### **II. PRODUCT VERIFICATION COMMITTEE**

Following are the members of the PVC:

Patty Dillon, Dillon Environmental Associates

Jack Geibig, Director, Center for Clean Products, University of Tennessee

Jim Arnold, Technical and Program Management Consultant, Rissa Studios

### **III. QUALIFIED VERIFIERS**

Following are the members of the Qualified Verifier (QV) team:

Patricia Atherton  
Consultant

Pamela Brody-Heine  
EcoStewardship Strategies

Stephen Greene, Principal  
Howland Greene Consulting

Kim Holmes  
4R Sustainability

Kelley Keogh  
Sin Fronteras Consulting

Carson Maxted  
Consultant

Dresden Skees-Gregory  
Sustainable Environmental Services

Dawn Van Seggen  
Consultant

### **IV. CHARACTERISTICS OF ROUND 2010-04**

Round 2010-04 will specifically investigate three required criteria in the areas of Design for End of Life and Product Longevity / Life Cycle Extension. The three required criteria are:

- 4.3.1.1 Identification of materials with special handling needs



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- 4.3.1.3 Easy disassembly of external enclosure
- 4.4.2.1 Upgradeable with common tools

This Round is conducted under the revised IEEE 1680.1 standard including the new international registry representing 41 countries. Subscribers chosen for this round have been under-verified to date based on an analysis of all Verification Rounds. These criteria will be investigated on one or two randomly selected products from each of the subscribers chosen to participate in this Verification Round. Products will be randomly chosen from among the countries which the subscriber had products declared. All aspects of the requirements of 4.3.1.1, 4.3.1.3 and 4.4.2.1 will be investigated using level one investigations.

It is intended that level two investigations will be conducted for any products for which conformance is questionable, or for which the gathering of additional evidence is suggested, based on the level one investigation. This may be applied to either 4.3.1.3 or 4.4.2.1 criteria for any of the products selected. These may be conducted on a number of products selected by the verification team without notice to the subscriber. For each selected product a unit will be purchased on the market and dismantled to confirm conformance with the criteria.

## **V. SELECTION OF PRODUCTS AND CRITERIA FOR VERIFICATION**

Round 2010-04 will investigate three criteria-- 4.3.1.1, 4.3.1.3 and 4.4.2.1 -- for randomly selected products from the subscribers chosen to participate in this Verification Round. Conformance with the criterion will be investigated in an individual country, selected from those in which the subscriber declares products. Investigations may be limited to a subset of the countries in the international registry to simplify the verification process.

1. A snapshot will be taken of the Registry prior to the start of the Verification Round.
2. This Verification Round Plan lists the three criteria that will be verified and the method of verification that will be used.
3. This Round will begin directly after the snapshot of the Registry is taken. At that time, the product for investigation for each subscriber will be selected by EPEAT staff and Qualified Verifiers will immediately begin the investigation.

### **Possible Out-of-Sequence Selections**

In the event of special circumstances, the PVC may, at its prerogative, decide to schedule an additional investigation(s) at any time, including while Round 2010-04 is in progress. If the PVC determines that such investigation should be included as a part of Round 2010-04, this Verification Round 2010-04 Plan will be amended and reissued without disrupting the timing of the other verification investigations.

## **VI. INVESTIGATION ASSIGNMENTS**

The following Qualified Verifiers will investigate the criterion:

- Kim Holmes
- Pamela Brody-Heine

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**ROUND 2010-04 INVESTIGATIONS**

Criterion		Verification Selection and Process	Number of Investigations
4.3.1.1	Required— Identification of materials with special handling needs	This criterion was chosen because it has not yet been verified. Two products were randomly selected for verification out of a list of under-verified Subscribers.	2
4.3.1.3	Required—Easy disassembly of external enclosure	This criterion was chosen because as products get more compact and efficient, there was a suspicion that this criterion may not be met as easily as in the past. Two possibly difficult to disassemble products were chosen out of a list of under-verified Subscribers.	2
4.4.2.1	Required—Upgradeable with common tools	This criterion was chosen because it has not yet been verified. Two products were randomly selected for verification out of a list of under-verified Subscribers.	2
<b>Total number of investigations</b>			<b>6</b>