



VERIFICATION PLAN – ROUND 2012-04 August 2012

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 2012, including the criteria that will be selected, the number of products to be verified, and the method of verification.

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. The only case where the PVC knows the identity of a Subscriber during a verification round is if there is an appeal to the PVC finding. In that case, 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:

Jim Arnold, Technical and Program Management Consultant, Rissa Studios

Libby Chaplin, CEO, Arcadian Solutions

Patty Dillon, Dillon Environmental Associates

Jack Geibig, President, Ecoform

Annette Roesler, Ph.D., Independent Professional Chemist

III. QUALIFIED VERIFIERS

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

Patricia Atherton
Consultant

Stephen Greene, Principal
Howland Greene Consulting

Kelley Keogh
Sin Fronteras Consulting

Carson Maxted
Consultant

Dresden Skees-Gregory
Sustainable Environmental Services

Dawn Van Seggen
Consultant

IV. CHARACTERISTICS OF ROUND 2012-04

Round 2012-04 will investigate a large number of criteria for a small number of products. The criteria are:

4.1.1.1 Required – Compliance with provisions of European RoHS Directive

4.1.2.1 Optional – Elimination of intentionally added cadmium

- 4.1.4.1 Optional – Elimination of intentionally added lead in certain applications
- 4.1.5.1 Optional – Elimination of intentionally added hexavalent chromium
- 4.1.8.1 Optional – Large plastic parts free of PVC
- 4.3.1.2 Required – Elimination of paints or coatings that are not compatible with recycling or reuse
- 4.3.1.3 Required – Easy disassembly of external enclosure
- 4.3.1.4 Required – Marking of plastic components
- 4.3.1.5 Required – Identification and removal of components containing hazardous materials
- 4.3.1.6 Optional – Reduced number of plastic material types
- 4.3.1.7 Optional – Molded / glued in metal eliminated or removable
- 4.3.2.1 Optional – Manual separation of plastics
- 4.3.2.2 Optional – Marking of plastics
- 4.5.1.1 Required – Energy Star
- 4.8.2.1 Required – Separable packing materials
- 4.8.2.2 Optional – Packaging 90% recyclable and plastics labeled (look at plastics labeled only)

This Round is conducted under the revised IEEE STD 1680™-2009 and IEEE Std 1680.1™-2009 standards including the international registry representing 41 countries. This Verification Round is planned to include Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 investigations. This Round will include active Subscribers only. EPEAT staff will strictly adhere to the verification schedule as outlined in the Subscriber Agreement which states Subscribers will have 30 days to deliver the required verification documentation.

In addition, any Subscriber who received a Non-Conformance during Verification Round 2012-03 and did not move into Conformance by providing an annual report during the Corrective Action Phase will also be included in this round. Any Subscribers fitting into this category will be investigated for the following criteria:

- 4.7.3.1 Required – Corporate report consistent with Performance Track or GRI

V. SELECTION OF PRODUCTS AND CRITERIA FOR VERIFICATION

Round 2012-04 will investigate the list of criteria in section IV for 3 products. A list of currently active products on the Registry will be used for selection of products to be verified. One product will be selected randomly for verification from each of the Tiers 3, 4 and 5 Subscribers.

The criteria were selected because they lend themselves to Level 2 and Level 3 investigations. Some investigations may include Level 1 investigations, as needed, to obtain additional information from Subscribers to demonstrate conformance. These investigations will lead to a deeper body of knowledge for EPEAT. A total of up to 52 investigations will be conducted. The decisions on the criteria to verify for each product will be based on applicability and cost. The number of products that are declared to each of the optional criteria subject to verification will not be known until after product selection. Only products that declare to a criterion will be verified to that criterion. Further, budgetary constraints might limit the number of investigations for each criterion that we undertake.

For those Subscribers unable to move into Conformance by providing an annual report during the Corrective Action Phase of Verification Round 2012-03, criterion 4.7.3.1 will be investigated via a Level 1 investigation.

The following steps will be taken for this Verification Round.

1. A snapshot will be taken of the Registry prior to the start of the Verification Round.
2. This Verification Round Plan specifies that the above criteria will be verified via Level 1, 2 and 3 investigations.
3. This Verification Round will begin directly after the snapshot of the Registry is taken and the respective products from each of the subscribers has been identified. At that time, the Subscriber(s) for the investigations will be selected by EPEAT staff and Qualified Verifiers will immediately begin the investigations.

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 this Verification Round is in progress. If the PVC determines that such investigation should be included as a part of this Verification Round, this Verification Round Plan will be amended and reissued without disrupting the timing of the other verification investigations.

VI. INVESTIGATION ASSIGNMENTS

The following Qualified Verifier(s) will assist in the investigation of the criteria:

- Patricia Atherton

II. ROUND 2012-04 INVESTIGATIONS

Criterion		Verification Selection and Process	Number of Investigations
4.1.1.1	Required – Compliance with provisions of European RoHS Directive	Criterion periodically verified using Level 3 investigations.	Up to 3
4.1.2.1	Optional – Elimination of intentionally added cadmium	Criterion periodically verified using Level 3 investigations.	Up to 3
4.1.4.1	Optional – Elimination of intentionally added lead in certain applications	Criterion periodically verified using Level 3 investigations.	Up to 3
4.1.5.1	Optional – Elimination of intentionally added hexavalent chromium	Criterion periodically verified using Level 3 investigations.	Up to 3
4.1.8.1	Optional – Large plastic parts free of PVC	Criterion periodically verified using Level 2 and Level 3 investigations. It may require follow up with Subscriber.	Up to 3
4.3.1.2	Required – Elimination of paints or coatings that are not compatible with recycling or reuse	Criterion periodically verified using Level 2 and Level 3 investigations. It may require follow up with Subscriber.	Up to 3
4.3.1.3	Required – Easy disassembly of external enclosure	Criterion periodically verified using Level 2 and Level 3 investigations.	Up to 3
4.3.1.4	Required – Marking of plastic components	Criterion periodically verified using Level 2 and Level 3 investigations.	Up to 3
4.3.1.5	Required – Identification and removal of components containing hazardous materials	Criterion periodically verified using Level 2 and Level 3 investigations.	Up to 3
4.3.1.6	Optional – Reduced number of plastic material types	Criterion periodically verified using Level 2 and Level 3 investigations.	Up to 3
4.3.1.7	Optional – Molded/glued in metal eliminated or removable	Criterion periodically verified using Level 2 and Level 3 investigations.	Up to 3
4.3.2.1	Optional – Manual separation of plastics	Criterion periodically verified using Level 2 and Level 3 investigations.	Up to 3
4.3.2.2	Optional – Marking of plastics	Criterion periodically verified using Level 2 and Level 3 investigations.	Up to 3
4.5.1.1	Required – ENERGY STAR	Criterion periodically verified using Level 3 investigations.	Up to 3

Criterion		Verification Selection and Process	Number of Investigations
4.7.3.1	Required – Corporate report consistent with Performance Track or GRI	This criterion may be investigated using Level 1 investigations for Subscribers who received a NC in Verification Round 2012-03 and did not move into conformance during the Corrective Action Phase.	Up to 4
4.8.2.1	Required – Separable packing materials	Criterion periodically verified using Level 2 and Level 3 investigations.	Up to 3
4.8.2.2	Optional – Packaging 90% recyclable and plastics labeled (look at plastics labeled only)	Criterion periodically verified using Level 2 and Level 3 investigations.	Up to 3
		Total number of investigations	Up to 52