



VERIFICATION ROUND PLAN ROUND: 2012-05

I. PURPOSE AND CONTENTS OF THIS DOCUMENT

This is a plan for a round of verification investigations performed in accordance with EPEAT process document QP-02, rev. 1, the annual verification plan, and other governing documents.

II. APPLICABLE STANDARD: IEEE 1680.1: 2009

III. SELECTION OF PRODUCTS AND CRITERIA FOR VERIFICATION

Credible questions have been raised about whether certain notebook products on the registry with batteries that are not user replaceable meet the criteria related to the easy disassembly of the external enclosure (4.3.1.3) and the identification and safe and easy removal of batteries and potentially other key components (4.3.1.5).

This round will investigate notebooks with non-user replaceable batteries via Level 2 investigations in which products are purchased without the knowledge or participation of the manufacturer and are disassembled and inspected to verify conformance with the following criteria of the above standard:

4.3.1.3 Required – Easy disassembly of external enclosure

4.3.1.5 Required – Identification and removal of components containing hazardous materials

Prior to the beginning of the round EPEAT staff reviewed the Registry for notebooks under a certain weight. EPEAT Staff then searched the websites of those manufacturers to determine which notebooks have non-user replaceable batteries. Finally, EPEAT Staff attempted to find disassembly instructions online that confirm conformance to the criteria in question. No such instructions were found for a number of products. Conformance of these products to the identified criteria will be the focus of the round. A total of up to 12 investigations will be conducted.

Per the current procedures, this Verification Round will proceed as follows.

1. This Round Plan is approved by the Product Verification Committee.
2. A snapshot is taken of the Registry. The registration status of the planned products will be confirmed.
3. This plan is published on epeat.net.
4. EPEAT Staff will instruct independent labs that are on contract to EPEAT to purchase the subject products on the open market and investigate their conformity to the identified criteria.
5. EPEAT Staff will notify the subject subscribers that their products are being investigated and ask the subscriber to provide any information that might inform a recycler in the safe and easy disassembly of their product.
6. The lab(s) will provide reports to EPEAT Staff. For each assigned investigation the lab(s) will complete an Investigation Report recommending conformance or non-conformance.
7. The Product Verification Committee will review the reports and determine conformity.

8. The subject subscribers are informed of the decision. For decisions of non-conformance the subscribers are required to take timely corrective action to restore the accuracy of the registry.
9. EPEAT publishes a "Verification Round Outcomes Report" which identifies the nonconforming products and subscribers and the action taken to restore the accuracy of the Registry.

IV. 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

V. SATELLITE PREs and QUALIFIED VERIFIERS

At the time of the round no products are registered through Satellite PREs. The investigations will be conducted by labs(s) working for the EPEAT PRE.

The following Qualified Verifier(s) are expected to assist in the investigation of the criteria:

TBD

VI. ROUND PLAN APPROVAL

Round Plan approved by PVC: approved by email on 08/10/2012.

VII. ROUND INVESTIGATIONS

Criterion	Product/Subscriber Selection	Number of Investigations
4.3.1.3 Required – Easy disassembly of external enclosure	Certain notebooks with non-user removable batteries.	Up to 6
4.3.1.5 Required – Identification and removal of components containing hazardous materials	Certain notebooks with non-user removable batteries.	Up to 6
	Total number of investigations	Up to 12