

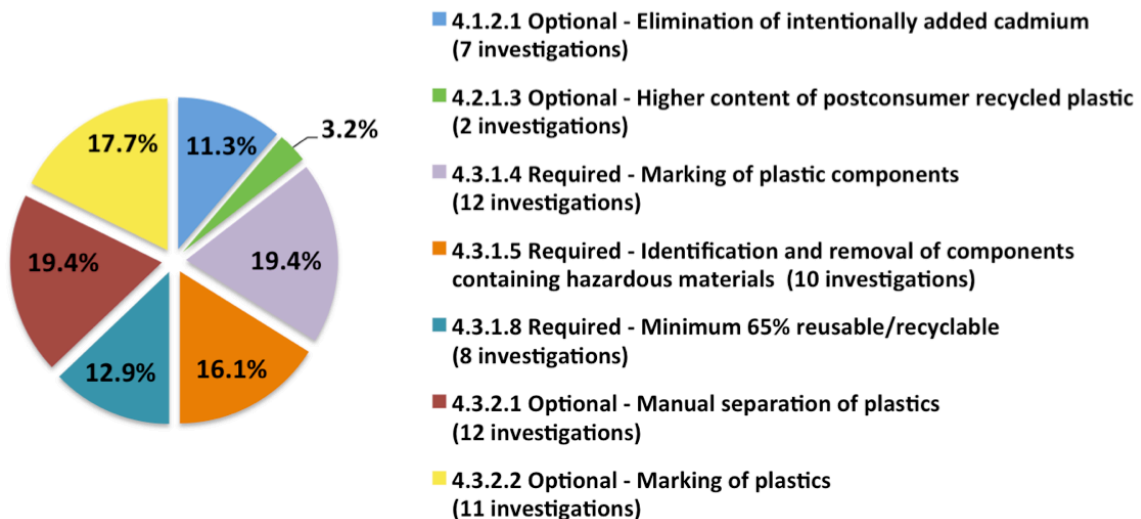


OUTCOMES REPORT EPEAT VERIFICATION ROUND PC-2013-03

1. Overview of Verification Round

This report provides the detailed results of EPEAT Verification Round PC-2013-03. This Round focused on seven criteria from IEEE 1680.1-2009™ for which Non-Conformances and/or other questions were found during Verification Round PC-2012-06. The Round consisted of a total of 62 investigations (all Level 1), of which 48% were for required criteria and 52% for optional criteria (see Figure 1).

FIGURE 1: Criteria Investigated in PC-2013-03
(as percentages of total investigations completed)



Prior to the beginning of this Round, EPEAT staff examined the number of investigations performed against these criteria in the six months prior to the start of the Round, and the number of Subscribers declaring the optional criteria. Subscribers investigated in Verification Round PC-2013-02 were excluded from Round PC-2013-03. Additionally, a product was not investigated against a particular criterion if that same criterion was verified within the last six months. All remaining Subscribers and product-criterion combinations were considered for inclusion, with consideration of the following:

- All products were included in the selection process for required criteria 4.3.1.4, 4.3.1.5 and 4.3.1.8.
- Only products declaring optional criteria 4.1.2.1, 4.2.1.3, 4.3.2.1 and/or 4.3.2.2 were included in the selection for 4.1.2.1, 4.2.1.3, 4.3.2.1 and/or 4.3.2.2.
- Products selected for criterion 4.3.2.2 did not have an investigation of 4.3.1.4, and *vice versa*.

- For any single criterion, a Subscriber had only one investigation performed. The total number of investigations performed for each Subscriber was relative to the number of products they have on the EPEAT Registry, with no more than four performed for each Subscriber.

2. Summary of Outcomes

Highlights from this Verification Round are:

- **63** Investigations Planned
- **62** Investigations Completed
(one investigation not launched due to change in declaration on Registry after Verification Round Plan was approved)
- **37** Decisions of Conformance
- **25** Decisions of Non-Conformance
(reasons identified in Figure 2)

FIGURE 2: Overall Conformance Status for PC-2013-03
(as percentages of total investigations completed)

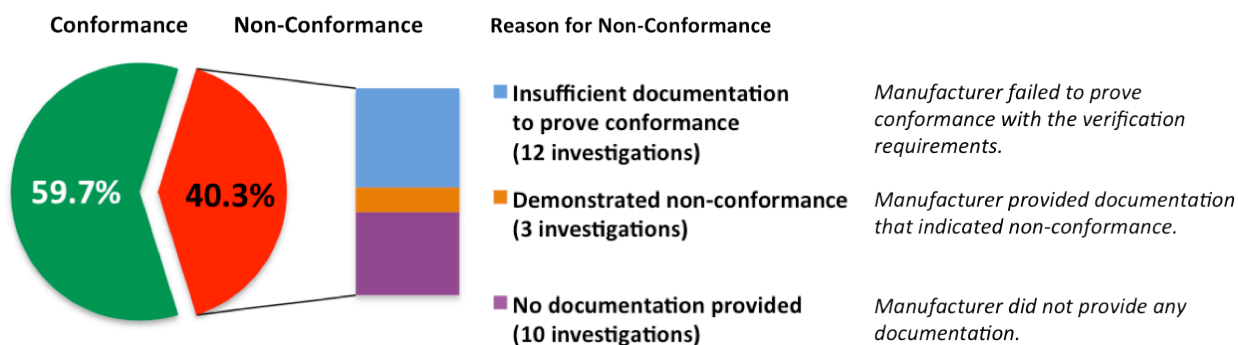


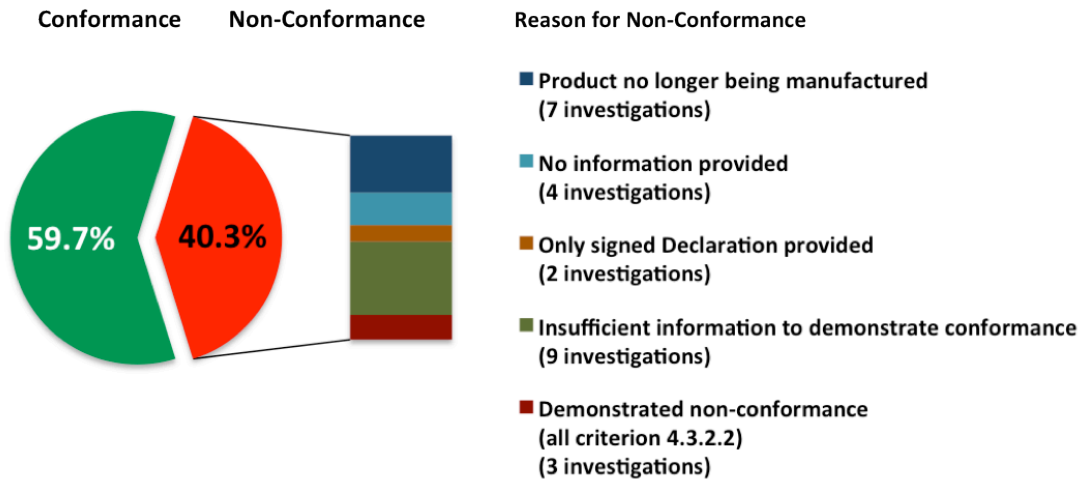
Table 1 illustrates the Non-Conformances by criterion. Of particular note is the higher non-conformance rate for criterion 4.3.2.2, which may indicate a misunderstanding of the criterion itself or the criterion’s verification requirements.

TABLE 1: Summary of Non-Conformance Findings					
Criterion	Required or Optional	Description	Total Completed Investigations	Non-Conformances	Non-Conformance Rate by Criterion
4.1.2.1	Optional	Elimination of intentionally added cadmium	7	2	28.6%
4.2.1.3	Optional	Higher content of postconsumer recycled plastic	2	1	50.0%
4.3.1.4	Required	Marking of plastic components	12	5	41.7%
4.3.1.5	Required	Identification and removal of components containing hazardous materials	10	3	30.0%
4.3.1.8	Required	Minimum 65% reusable/recyclable	8	3	37.5%
4.3.2.1	Optional	Manual separation of plastics	12	3	25.0%
4.3.2.2	Optional	Marking of plastics	11	8	72.7%

Looking at the Non-Conformances through a different lens reveals several trends (see Figure 3).

- Seven of the 25 Non-Conformances found in this Verification Round (representing 28% of the Non-Conformances) were due to the product no longer being manufactured, and the Subscriber either not providing the required information or not having access to it.
- Six of the Non-Conformances (representing 24% of the Non-Conformances) were due to the Subscriber either not responding to the request for information or only providing a signed Declaration form.
- All demonstrated Non-conformances were for criterion 4.3.2.2, which requires material marking codes in accordance with ISO 11469 on all plastic parts greater than 25 grams.
- Nine Non-Conformances (representing 36% of the Non-Conformances, or approximately 15% of all investigations) were due to the Subscriber providing insufficient information to prove conformance.

FIGURE 3: Further Breakdown of Non-Conformances for PC-2013-03
(as percentages of total investigations completed)



In Section 6, Table 2 presents further details on Non-Conformances including the identification of Subscribers and products.

Following the investigation phase, corrective actions were taken to resolve all identified Non-Conformances and restore the accuracy of the EPEAT Registry. The impacts of these corrective actions on the Registry were:

- **5 products** Archived by EPEAT.
- **10 products** Archived by Subscribers (four of which were archived prior to the end of the Verification Round).
- **6 products** Subscribers became inactive on Registry (prior to EPEAT archiving the product).
- **1 product** Subscriber undeclared the non-conformant criterion.
- **3 products** Additional data were provided by Subscribers, bringing the products into Conformance with the criterion as originally declared.

3. Key Lessons

Archiving products that are no longer being manufactured:

All products active on the Registry are eligible for inclusion in a Verification Round at any time. If products are no longer being manufactured and the Subscriber is no longer actively working with suppliers on maintaining information related to conformance, Subscribers are encouraged to archive these products. Please note that archived products still appear in the Registry (listed under archived products for each Subscriber) should purchasers or other stakeholders want to access details regarding the product's previously active registration.

Conformance with criterion 4.3.2.2:

Criterion 4.3.2.2 requires the marking of plastic components greater than 25 grams in accordance with the provisions of ISO 11469. This is an optional criterion, and Subscribers are encouraged to work closely with their suppliers to determine if the verification requirements can be met. In particular, ISO 11469 requires reverse angled brackets (the marks ">" and "<") around the material marking code and designated abbreviations for specific polymers, copolymers and polymer blends. Additionally, Subscribers are encouraged to revisit the Conformity Assurance Protocols to fully understand the information needed for the PVC to determine conformance.

Provision of information for Verification Rounds:

The IEEE 1680 standard and the EPEAT subscriber agreements require that Subscribers provide the information identified in Verification Requirements to prove the accuracy of their declarations within 30 days of EPEAT's request. Failure to provide that information is inconsistent with the agreement and may result in termination of the Subscriber from EPEAT.

4. General Message to Subscribers

Initial response to Qualified Verifiers:

When contacted regarding participation in a Verification Round, EPEAT staff continue to request that Subscribers respond to the Qualified Verifier as soon as possible to let them know they are communicating with the correct person or to inform them of the correct contact. This also helps the Qualified Verifier know that s/he has a valid email address.

5. Looking Forward

Plans for Future Verification Activities:

There are six total Verification Rounds planned for 2013 for 1680.1 (Computers and Displays with an annual goal of 10% of unique product in the Registry as of January 1, 2013 (or 344 investigations). Future plans may include Level 1, Level 2 and/or Level 3 investigations.

Conformity Assessment Protocols:

This and all future Verification Rounds have and will be conducted according to the guidance provided in the Conformity Assessment Protocols posted on www.epeat.net.

6. Investigations Table

TABLE 2: Specific Non-Conformance Findings and Corrective Action Taken

Subscriber	Product	Country	Product Type	Criterion	Required or Optional	Criterion Description	NC Finding Description	Corrective Action Taken
Ace Computers	Vision 6A	United States	Desktops	4.3.1.8	Required	Minimum 65% reusable/recyclable	No documentation provided	Subscriber archived the product (prior to end of Round)
	Vision 6AT	United States	Desktops	4.3.1.4	Required	Marking of plastic components	No documentation provided	Subscriber archived the product (prior to end of Round)
CIARA-TECH	DISCOVERY P7Q57	Canada	Desktops	4.3.1.8	Required	Minimum 65% reusable/recyclable	Insufficient documentation to prove conformance	Subscriber archived the product
	ENTERPRISE DQ77CP	Canada	Desktops	4.3.1.4	Required	Marking of plastic components	Insufficient documentation to prove conformance	EPEAT archived the product
	ENTERPRISE Q87M-EG	Canada	Desktops	4.3.2.1	Optional	Manual separation of plastics	Insufficient documentation to prove conformance	Subscriber provided evidence demonstrating Conformance
	ENTERPRISE Q87M-XA	Canada	Desktops	4.3.2.2	Optional	Marking of plastics	Insufficient documentation to prove conformance	EPEAT archived the product
Daten Tecnologia Ltda	DC1E-T	Brazil	Desktops	4.3.2.2	Optional	Marking of plastics	Demonstrated non-conformance	Subscriber undeclared the non-conformant criterion
Gammatech Computer Corporation	D14RM	United States	Notebooks	4.3.2.2	Optional	Marking of plastics	Insufficient documentation to prove conformance	Subscriber archived the product
	RT10D	United States	Notebooks	4.3.2.1	Optional	Manual separation of plastics	No documentation provided	Subscriber archived the product (prior to end of Round)
Grace Global, Inc.	GDSU-10nB	United States	Notebooks	4.3.1.5	Required	Identification and removal of components containing hazardous materials	No documentation provided	Subscriber became inactive on the Registry (prior to EPEAT archiving the product)
	Grace Explorer Q2300	United States	Workstation Desktops	4.1.2.1	Optional	Elimination of intentionally added cadmium	Insufficient documentation to prove conformance	Subscriber became inactive on the Registry (prior to EPEAT archiving the product)

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Subscriber	Product	Country	Product Type	Criterion	Required or Optional	Criterion Description	NC Finding Description	Corrective Action Taken
	Grace Explorer VR-725	United States	Workstation Desktops	4.3.2.2	Optional	Marking of plastics	Insufficient documentation to prove conformance	Subscriber became inactive on the Registry (prior to EPEAT archiving the product)
LG Electronics Inc.	E2211PB	Hungary	Displays	4.3.2.2	Optional	Marking of plastics	Insufficient documentation to prove conformance	Subscriber provided evidence demonstrating Conformance
Login Informatica	Login SOHO	Brazil	Notebooks	4.3.2.2	Optional	Marking of plastics	Insufficient documentation to prove conformance	EPEAT archived the product
M&A Technology, Inc.	COMPANION TOUCH 2600	Canada	Notebooks	4.3.1.4	Required	Marking of plastic components	No documentation provided	Subscriber archived the product
	COMPANION TOUCH 2600	Canada	Notebooks	4.3.1.5	Required	Identification and removal of components containing hazardous materials	Insufficient documentation to prove conformance	Subscriber archived the product
NCS Technologies, Inc.	Gemini CM4-I393	United States	Desktops	4.3.1.8	Required	Minimum 65% reusable/recyclable	Insufficient documentation to prove conformance	Subscriber archived the product (prior to end of Round)
Semp Toshiba Informatica Ltda.	CS 5123	Brazil	Desktops	4.3.1.4	Required	Marking of plastic components	No documentation provided	Subscriber archived the product
	CS 5247	Brazil	Desktops	4.1.2.1	Optional	Elimination of intentionally added cadmium	No documentation provided	Subscriber archived the product
TEKNOSERVICE, S.L.	Teknopack	Spain	Desktops	4.3.2.2	Optional	Marking of plastics	Insufficient documentation to prove conformance	EPEAT archived the product
	TeknoSlim	Spain	Desktops	4.3.2.1	Optional	Manual separation of plastics	Insufficient documentation to prove conformance	EPEAT archived the product
TH ALPLAST	S22	Poland	Desktops	4.2.1.3	Optional	Higher content of postconsumer recycled plastic	No documentation provided	Subscriber became inactive on the Registry (prior to EPEAT archiving the product)
	S23	Poland	Desktops	4.3.1.4	Required	Marking of plastic components	No documentation provided	Subscriber became inactive on the Registry (prior to EPEAT archiving the product)

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Subscriber	Product	Country	Product Type	Criterion	Required or Optional	Criterion Description	NC Finding Description	Corrective Action Taken
	S24**	Poland	Desktops	4.3.2.2	Optional	Marking of plastics	No documentation provided	Subscriber became inactive on the Registry (prior to EPEAT archiving the product)
Xplore Technologies Corporation	iX104C5 DMSR	United States	Tablet Notebooks	4.3.1.5	Required	Identification and removal of components containing hazardous materials	Insufficient documentation to prove conformance	Subscriber provided evidence demonstrating Conformance

7. Background

To assure the credibility of the EPEAT Registry, verification of the claims by participating manufacturers (called “Subscribers”) are rigorous, independent and transparent. Verification is conducted according to policies and procedures described in documents provided on www.epeat.net. Subscribers are given no forewarning that their products will be verified and verification is performed based on the declarations as they are in the database at the time the round begins.

In Level 1 verification investigations, Subscribers are required to provide detailed and accurate information to demonstrate their conformance to each criterion of the standard in a timely manner that demonstrates Conformance, such as supply chain management records. In Levels 2 and 3 investigations, EPEAT buys or borrows products without the Subscriber’s knowledge, disassembles them, and conducts detailed analytical testing if needed.

Investigations are performed by expert technical contractors called “Qualified Verifiers” working for an EPEAT approved Product Verification Entity (PRE). Qualified Verifiers are free of conflicts of interest, and their recommended decisions are reviewed and finalized by a five-person panel of independent technical experts (called the Product Verification Committee) who are also contractors free of conflicts of interest. Decisions of conformity by the Product Verification Committee are made blind to the identity of the products and companies they are judging, based only on evidence collected and analyzed by Qualified Verifiers. A serious consequence of receiving a Non-Conformance is that it is published publicly in an Outcomes Report, for purchasers, competitors, and others to see.

Subscribers must correct Non-Conformances, either by bringing the product into Conformance, by un-declaring the criterion until Conformance is achieved, or by removing the product from the Registry. EPEAT also requires that Subscribers examine other products to determine if these declarations should be corrected as well. If a Subscriber corrects the Non-Conformance by un-declaring the criterion and the criterion is an optional criterion, they lose that point, and possibly the product drops a tier. If it is a required criterion, they must archive the product. If it is a required corporate criterion, they must archive all of their registered products.