

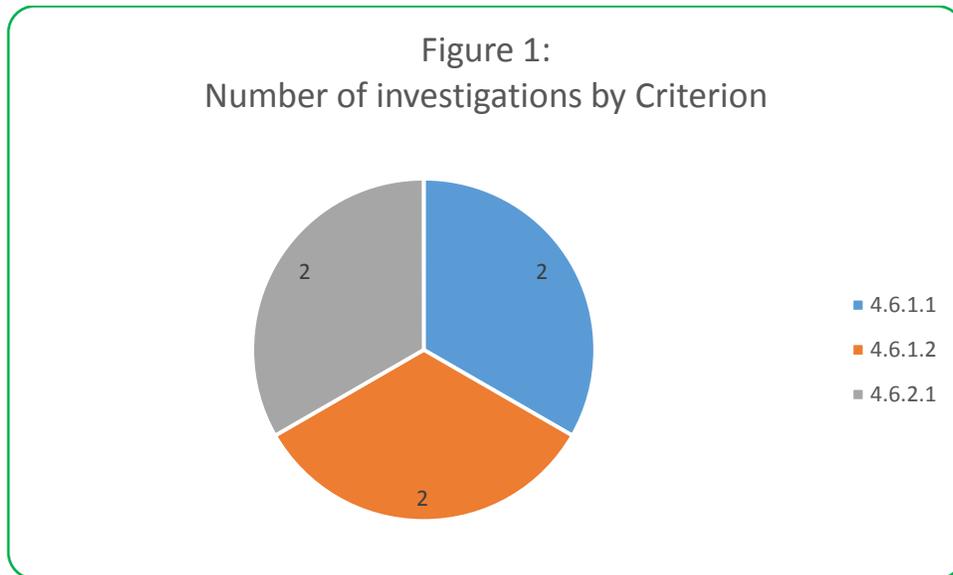


OUTCOMES REPORT EPEAT VERIFICATION ROUND TV-2013-02

1. Overview of Verification Round

This report provides the detailed results of EPEAT Verification Round TV-2013-02. This Round focused on criteria that have been the subject of questions / inquiries from Subscribers and consisted of a total of 6 investigations (all Level 1) for the IEEE 1680.3™ criteria listed below:

- 4.6.1.1 – Required – Provision of product take-back service
- 4.6.1.2 – Optional – Provision of take-back service for broader scope of products
- 4.6.2.1 – Required – End-of-life processing requirements



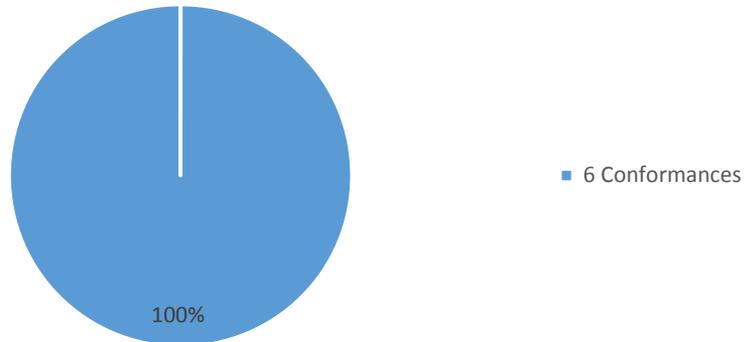
Verification Round TV-2013-02 consisted of 6 investigations for Annual Corporate Declaration Criteria. All Subscribers active at the beginning of the Verification Round were eligible for inclusion in this Round. All Subscribers were investigated for both required criteria and, if applicable, the optional criterion. All geographies and Subscribers were eligible for inclusion. The Verification Round was performed using Level 1 investigations (i.e. review of Subscriber submissions). Additionally, all applicable Product Registration Entities (PREs) were represented in this Verification Round.

2. Summary of Outcomes

Highlights from this Verification Round are:

- 6 Investigations Planned
- 6 Investigations Completed
- 6 Decisions of Conformance
- No changes to the EPEAT Registry

Figure 2: Overall Conformance Status for IE-2013-02 (as percentage of total investigations)



This Verification Round is the second for televisions on the EPEAT Registry. Following current EPEAT practice, if Non-Conformances had been found, Subscribers would be named in this Outcomes Report.

No Non-Conformances were found in this round as shown in Table 1 of Section 6. Therefore, no corrective actions were required and there were no changes to the EPEAT Registry.

3. Key Lesson

1680.3: 4.6.1.2: This optional criterion requires that Subscribers declaring to this criterion have a take-back service for more products than those included in the scope of the standard. It applies to consumer electronics as defined in the criterion. The criterion contains requirements to report volumes of products collected for recycling including mandated programs and voluntary programs. “Local or federally mandated” collection programs include state mandated programs for all applicable consumer electronics where the Subscriber is responsible for collection.

4. General Message to Subscribers

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.

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: One additional Verification Round is currently underway for televisions for a total of 3 Verification Rounds in 2013. The third investigation round is focused on Level 2 and/or Level 3 investigations but may include Level 1 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 1: Summary of Non-Conformance Findings					
Criterion	Required or Optional	Description	Total Investigations	Completed Investigations	Non-Conformances
4.6.1.1	Required	Provision of product take-back service.	2	2	0
4.6.1.2	Optional	Provision of take-back service for broader scope of products	2	2	0
4.6.2.1	Required	End-of-life processing requirements	2	2	0
		Totals	6	6	0

Normally, there would be an additional table (2) in this section showing Non-Conformances but no Non-Conformances were found in this Verification Round.

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 strictly according to policies and procedures described in the IEEE 1680 Standard and 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, such as supply chain management records, in a timely manner to demonstrate their conformance to each criterion. 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 who 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. Verification activities conducted by the Product Verification Committee are done blind to the identity of the products and companies they are judging. The Committee makes a Conformance/Non-Conformance decision on each investigation, based 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 recommends that Subscribers also 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 rating tier. If it is a required criterion, they must archive the product. If it is a required corporate criterion, all their products must be archived.