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GREEN ELECTRONICS COUNCIL ANNOUNCES NEW ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS CALCULATOR

PORTLAND, OR – March 21, 2018 - The Green Electronics Council (GEC) is funding the development of a new environmental benefits calculator that will allow purchasers to measure the environmental benefits gained from purchasing sustainable IT products that meet the stringent sustainability criteria of the Green Electronics Council's EPEAT ecolabel. This new environmental benefits calculator will be available to compute the environmental benefits of EPEAT mobile phones, servers, laptop computers, and computer displays, beginning in the Fall 2018.

By purchasing and using EPEAT-labeled IT products, organizations lessen their impact on the environment, including reducing greenhouse gas emissions, energy use, and generation of toxic substances and solid waste. GEC's calculator will enable purchaser to quantify these and other environmental benefits associated with their purchase of sustainable IT products.

“The ability to measure the benefits of purchasing sustainable IT products is highly valued by institutional purchasers,” said Nancy Gillis, Chief Executive Officer, GEC. “Purchasers are increasingly having to report and defend the environmental consequences of their procurement decisions. The GEC environmental benefits calculator is an important tool to help purchasers track and report the sustainability benefits of their procurement decisions to internal and external stakeholders.”

Until recently, GEC relied on an environmental benefits calculator developed and maintained by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). GEC has committed to develop a next generation web-based environmental benefits calculator and make it available to the public. GEC selected Eastern Research Group (ERG), based in Lexington, Massachusetts, to develop the benefits calculator tool. ERG previously developed and maintained the US EPA calculator. “Measuring environmental results is a key contributor for motivating staff and demonstrating results to stakeholders,” says ERG President, David Meyers. “ERG is thrilled to contribute to this next generation tool to help purchasers document and expand green procurement efforts.”

The Green Electronics Council (GEC) is a mission-driven 501c(4) non-profit that supports institutional purchasers to achieve a world in which only sustainable IT products are designed, manufactured, and purchased. GEC founded and manages EPEAT, the leading global ecolabel for IT products. The EPEAT Registry, available on the Green Electronics Council website, is a free and trusted resource which identifies the cost-effective, innovative, sustainable IT products that meet the EPEAT ecolabel criteria. Using the EPEAT Registry makes it easy for purchasers to select high-performance IT products that meet their IT requirements and sustainability goals. The GEC environmental benefits calculator will allow purchasers to then quantify the environmental benefits of those procurement decisions.

ERG is a multidisciplinary consulting firm whose environmental engineers, market, and policy analysts foster energy efficiency and sustainability throughout the world. From voluntary partnership programs and government policies to individual facility management decisions, ERG provides the information, expertise, and marketing strategies to promote environmentally and economically beneficial choices. ERG's Web site is www.erg.com.

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