



## Green Electronics Council

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# OUTCOMES REPORT

## EPEAT VERIFICATION ROUND TV-2016-01

### 1. Overview of Verification Round

Eleven Level 1 investigations were performed in Verification Round TV-2016-01 on criteria that had not been verified previously. Of the criteria investigated, seven were Required and four were Optional. These criteria were chosen randomly from a list of all IEEE 1680.3 products in the EPEAT Registry. No Participating Manufacturer was subject to more than six investigations. Round TV-2016-01 touched the following areas of the EPEAT Registry:

- 2 Manufacturers were investigated in the Round.
- Products were chosen from one country (United States).
- 11 criteria which had never been verified before out of 53 criteria in IEEE 1680.3-2012 were verified.

### 2. Summary of Outcomes

Highlights from this Verification Round:

- 11 investigations completed
- 9 decisions of Conformance
- 2 decisions of Non-Conformance

Figure 1:

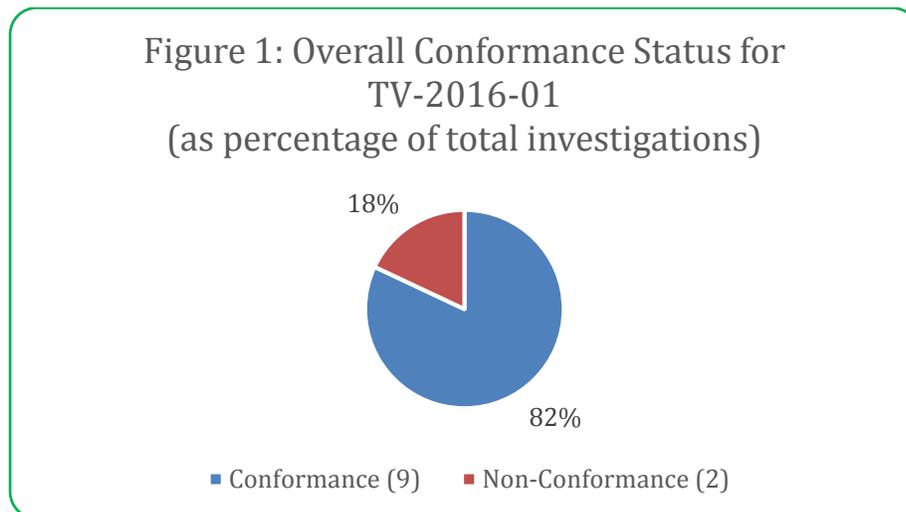


Figure 2:



Table 1 below summarizes the number of investigations completed and which investigations were Non-Conformances.

TABLE 1: Summary of Non-Conformance Findings				
Criterion	Required or Optional	Description	Investigations	Non-Conformances
4.2.1.1	Required	Declaration of postconsumer recycled plastic content	1	0
4.2.2.1	Required	Declaration of biobased plastic materials content	1	0
4.2.3.1	Required	Declaration of product weight	1	0
4.3.2.1	Optional	One recyclable plastic type per rigid plastic part >25 g	1	0
4.4.2.1	Required	Service information readily available	1	0
4.4.3.1	Required	Early failure process	1	0
4.5.1.1	Required	Compliance with current ENERGY STAR specification	1	1
4.5.1.2	Optional	Additional On Mode performance exceeding ENERGY STAR	1	1
4.5.2.3	Optional	Automatic switch to sleep mode	1	0
4.7.1.2	Optional	Third-party certified environmental management system for design and manufacturing organizations	1	0
4.8.1.2	Required	Elimination of elemental chlorine as a bleaching agent in packaging material	1	0
Total			11	2

### 3. Key Lessons

#### ***Changes to ENERGY STAR Specifications:***

Meeting the current version of ENERGY STAR is a requirement of EPEAT. When a new version of ENERGY STAR goes into effect, all products on the EPEAT Registry should be reviewed to see if they meet the new specifications. If they do not, those products should be Archived immediately. Failure to do so could result in a Non-Conformance.

### 4. General Message to Manufacturers

#### ***Products “Active” on the EPEAT Registry:***

All Active products on the EPEAT Registry are subject to Verification. When products reach their end of life, Manufacturers should remove the products from the EPEAT Registry. If a product which is Active on the EPEAT Registry has gone end of life and a Manufacturer cannot obtain required evidence due to the age of the product, it would still be considered a Non-Conformance.

#### ***Initial response to Auditors:***

When contacted regarding participation in a Verification Round, Manufacturers should respond to the Auditor 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 Auditor know that the e-mail address is valid.

#### ***Conformance of products that may share similar traits and/or supply chains:***

If a Non-Conformance is found for a particular criterion and product, Manufacturers should be prepared to determine if other products on the EPEAT Registry are similarly impacted due to use of similar materials and/or supply chains, and develop corrective action plans to address the future conformance of these other products.

### 5. Looking Forward

#### ***Plans for Future Verification Activities:***

All 2016 Verification Rounds for Televisions have been completed. Planning for 2017 Verification Rounds has not yet begun.

## 6. Investigations Table

TABLE 2: Specific Non-Conformance Findings and Corrective Action Taken								
Participating Manufacturer	Product	Country	Product Type	Criterion	Required or Optional	Criterion Description	NC Finding Description	Corrective Action Taken
Samsung Electronics	UN48H4005AF	United States	TV	4.5.1.1	Required	Compliance with current ENERGY STAR specification	No information provided besides Manufacturer declaration.	Product archived by Manufacturer.
Samsung Electronics	UN40HU6950F	United States	TV	4.5.1.2	Optional	Additional On Mode performance exceeding ENERGY STAR	No information provided besides Manufacturer declaration.	Product archived by Manufacturer.

## 7. Background

To assure the credibility of the EPEAT Registry, verification of the claims by Participating Manufacturers are rigorous, independent and transparent. Verification is conducted according to policies and procedures described in documents provided on [www.epeat.net](http://www.epeat.net). Manufacturers are given no forewarning that their products will be verified, and verification is performed based on the declarations as they are in the Registry at the time the Verification Round begins.

Investigations are performed by expert technical contractors called Auditors working for a Conformity Assurance Body approved by the Green Electronics Council (GEC). Auditors 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 Conformity Decision Panel) who are also contractors free of conflicts of interest. Decisions of conformity by the Conformity Decision Panel are made blind to the identity of the products and companies they are judging, based only on evidence collected and analyzed by Auditors. 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.

- In a Level 0 investigation, an Auditor assesses Conformance to a criterion by examining publicly available information only – no products are obtained for inspection or testing, and the Manufacturer is not asked to submit documentation. If the publicly available information is inconclusive (i.e. was not available, could not be found from public sources, or did not provide enough details to determine conformance), the Auditor may be instructed to proceed with a Level 1 investigation.
- In a Level 1 investigation, an Auditor assess Conformance to a criterion by examining information submitted by a Manufacturer. The Manufacturer is required to provide detailed and accurate information in a timely manner.
- In Level 2 investigations, the Conformity Assurance Body obtains a product without the Manufacturer's knowledge or involvement, and has the product disassembled and inspected to assess conformance with one or more criteria.
- In Level 3 investigations, the Conformity Assurance Body obtains a product without the Manufacturer's knowledge or involvement, and has the product analytically tested to assess conformance with one or more criteria.

Manufacturers 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. The Green Electronics Council also requires that Manufacturers examine other registered products to determine if their declarations should be corrected as well. If a Manufacturer 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.