



OUTCOMES REPORT EPEAT VERIFICATION ROUND PC-2018-02

1. Overview of Verification Round

PC-2018-02 included 61 Level 1 investigations on 9 criteria which either had not been recently verified or for which questionable declarations had been identified on the EPEAT registry. All geographies and manufacturers with products active on the EPEAT Registry were eligible for inclusion in this Round. Most products were randomly selected, however some targeted verifications were also included. Criteria which were investigated during this Round include:

- 4.1.5.1- Optional- Elimination of intentionally added hexavalent chromium
- 4.2.1.2- Optional- Minimum content of postconsumer recycled plastic
- 4.2.2.1- Required- Declaration of renewable/biobased plastic materials content
- 4.3.1.5- Required- Identification and removal of components containing hazardous materials
- 4.3.1.7- Optional- Molded/glued in metal eliminated or removable
- 4.4.3.1- Optional- Availability of replacement parts
- 4.6.1.2- Optional- Auditing of recycling vendors
- 4.6.2.1- Required- Provision of a rechargeable battery take-back service
- 4.7.2.2- Optional- Third-party certified environmental management system for design and manufacturing organizations

All criteria were investigated via level 1 investigation. In a level 1 investigation, an auditor assesses 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. No more than 5 investigations were assigned for any single manufacturer. Some manufacturers were investigated for the same criterion on more than one product.

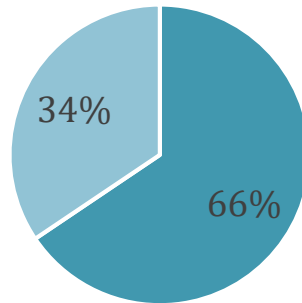
2. Summary of Outcomes

61 investigations completed

40 decisions of conformance

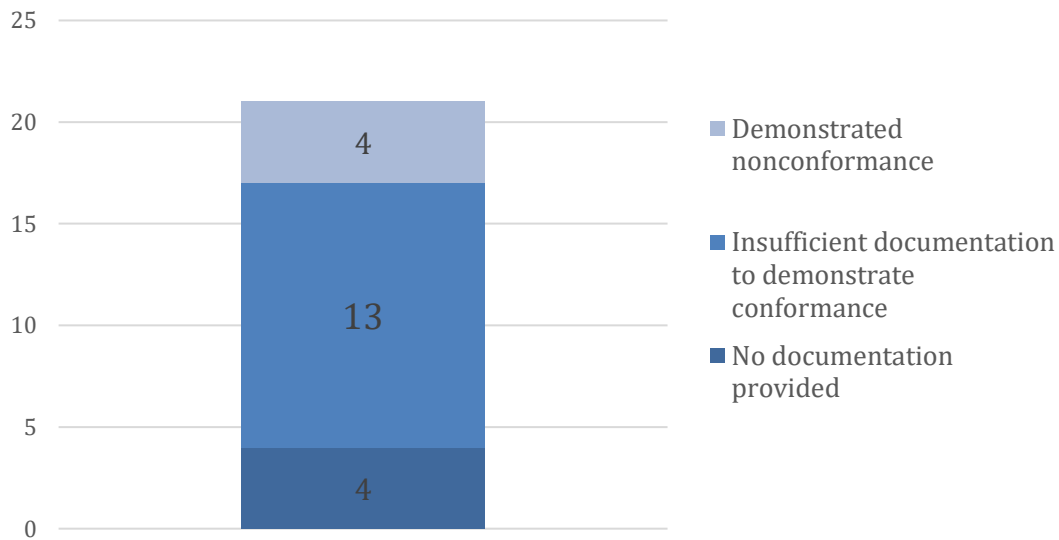
21 decisions of nonconformance

Chart 1. Overall Conformance status for PC-2018-02
(as a percentage of overall investigations)



■ Conformance ■ Nonconformance

Chart 2. Reasons for Nonconformance



3. Key Lessons

Criterion 4.3.1.5 Identification and removal of components containing hazardous materials

This criterion requires the manufacturer to identify any hazardous materials in the product, as described in Annex VII of the European Union WEEE Directive. External cables and LCDs are components which are commonly overlooked when providing evidence for this criterion.

Criterion 4.6.2.1 Provision of a rechargeable battery take-back service

Manufacturer is required to provide a rechargeable battery service which is equivalent to or better than that offered by the Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (RBRC). One of the verification requirements of this criterion is evidence of notification to the user of the battery take back service.

Information provided to purchasers regarding the recycling of the product may be submitted for conformance with this criterion as long as the recycling of rechargeable batteries is specifically discussed.

Criterion 4.6.1.2 Auditing of recycling vendors

This criterion requires an annual audit to be conducted for all first, second and third tier recycling vendors. Audit records must be up-to-date, and are required for all tiers of recycling vendors.

4. General Message to Manufacturers

Understanding documentation requirements for Verification Rounds:

You can find more guidance and examples of conformance documents in the Conformity Sample Packets located in “Key Documents” under My Account. Go to epeat.net to log in.

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 Similarly Affected Products:

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 remaining 2018 verification rounds in the PCs and Displays category are underway. In 2019, EPEAT will begin verification rounds on the 2018 version of IEEE’s 1680.1 standard.

Conformity Sample Packets:

This and all future Verification Rounds have and will be conducted according to the guidance provided in the Conformity Sample Packets posted on www.epeat.net under “Key Documents” in My Account.

6. Investigations Table

TABLE 1: 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
Ace Computers	LogiCAD 45525	United States	Workstations	4.6.2.1	Required	Provision of a rechargeable battery take-back service	Demonstrated non-conformance	If NC due to demonstrated non-conformance, Manufacturer provided evidence of changes made resulting in conformance.
Atrust Computer Corp.	t63	Australia	Thin Clients	4.2.2.1	Optional	Declaration of renewable/biobased plastic materials content	Demonstrated non-conformance	Manufacturer corrected registry declaration
CEZAR Cezary Machnio i Piotr Gebka Sp. z o.o.	1150	Poland	Desktops	4.6.2.1	Required	Provision of a rechargeable battery take-back service	Insufficient documentation to prove conformance	Manufacturer corrected registry declaration
CIARA-TECH	ASUS VC65	United States	Desktops	4.6.2.1	Required	Provision of a rechargeable battery take-back service	Insufficient documentation to prove conformance	Criterion undeclared by manufacturer
CIARA-TECH	Astro SN-170T	United States	Desktops	4.3.1.5	Required	Identification and removal of components containing hazardous materials	Insufficient documentation to prove conformance	Manufacturer did not take corrective action and CAB archived the product.
CTL Corporation	NL6	United States	Notebooks	4.3.1.5	Required	Identification and removal of components containing hazardous materials	Insufficient documentation to prove conformance	If NC due to insufficient evidence, Manufacturer provided additional evidence to demonstrate conformance.
Dell, Inc.	SE2417HGR	Mexico	Monitors	4.6.2.1	Required	Provision of a rechargeable battery take-back service	Demonstrated non-conformance	If NC due to demonstrated non-conformance, Manufacturer provided evidence of changes made resulting in conformance.
Dell, Inc.	Latitude7285	France	Tablets/Slates	4.2.2.1	Optional	Declaration of renewable/biobased plastic materials content	Demonstrated non-conformance	If NC due to demonstrated non-conformance, Manufacturer provided evidence of changes made resulting in conformance.
digital computer	Ascent Desktop - D-XXXX	Brazil	Desktops	4.3.1.5	Required	Identification and removal of components containing hazardous materials	No documentation provided	If NC due to insufficient evidence, Manufacturer provided additional evidence to demonstrate conformance.
Gammatech Computer Corporation	S15AB	United States	Notebooks	4.3.1.5	Required	Identification and removal of components containing hazardous materials	Insufficient documentation to prove conformance	If NC due to insufficient evidence, Manufacturer provided additional evidence to demonstrate conformance.
Howard Technology Solutions, A Division of Howard	1782	United States	Notebooks	4.6.2.1	Required	Provision of a rechargeable battery take-back service	Insufficient documentation to prove conformance	If NC due to insufficient evidence, Manufacturer provided additional evidence to demonstrate conformance.

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Inforlandia S. A.	Pro.B	Portugal	Desktops	4.3.1.5	Required	Identification and removal of components containing hazardous materials	Insufficient documentation to prove conformance	If NC due to insufficient evidence, Manufacturer provided additional evidence to demonstrate conformance.
NTT System S.A.	NTT Business W 960G	Poland	Desktops	4.3.1.5	Required	Identification and removal of components containing hazardous materials	Insufficient documentation to prove conformance	Manufacturer did not take corrective action and CAB archived the product.
Samsung Electronics	S24E650PL	Sweden	Monitors	4.6.1.2	Optional	Auditing of recycling vendors	Insufficient documentation to prove conformance	If NC due to insufficient evidence, Manufacturer provided additional evidence to demonstrate conformance.
TEKNOSERVICE, S.L.	PORTATIL	Spain	Notebooks	4.3.1.5	Required	Identification and removal of components containing hazardous materials	Insufficient documentation to prove conformance	If NC due to insufficient evidence, Manufacturer provided additional evidence to demonstrate conformance.
TH ALPLAST	S26	Poland	Desktops	4.3.1.5	Required	Identification and removal of components containing hazardous materials	No documentation provided	Manufacturer did not take corrective action and CAB archived the product.
Toshiba	Satellite Pro A40-C PS463C	Canada	Notebooks	4.3.1.5	Required	Identification and removal of components containing hazardous materials	Insufficient documentation to prove conformance	If NC due to insufficient evidence, Manufacturer provided additional evidence to demonstrate conformance.
Toshiba	Tecra Z50-C PT577E	Germany	Notebooks	4.6.1.2	Optional	Auditing of recycling vendors	No documentation provided	Criterion undeclared by Manufacturer.
TPV Technology Limited	226V4L	United Kingdom	Monitors	4.3.1.5	Required	Identification and removal of components containing hazardous materials	Insufficient documentation to prove conformance	CAB archived product
Transource	MIR-Q900S	United States	Desktops	4.6.2.1	Required	Provision of a rechargeable battery take-back service	Insufficient documentation to prove conformance	If NC due to insufficient evidence, Manufacturer provided additional evidence to demonstrate conformance.
Cybertron International, Inc.	CPDI5	United States	Desktops	4.6.2.1	Required	Provision of a rechargeable battery take-back service	No documentation provided	If NC due to insufficient evidence, Manufacturer provided additional evidence to demonstrate conformance.

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. 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 four-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.