



OUTCOMES REPORT

EPEAT VERIFICATION ROUND PC-2018-04

1. Overview of Verification Round

PC-2018-04 investigated randomly chosen criteria from IEEE 1680.1: 2009 and randomly chosen products. Sixty-three Level 1 investigations were planned for this round. In Level 1 investigations, 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 60-day period.

The products and criteria were selected as follows:

- All products that active on the Registry at the time of product selection were eligible for inclusion and were chosen through a random selection process.
- Criteria were chosen randomly for each selected product.
- The following criteria were removed from the pool of eligible criteria for this round due to the fact that they will no longer be relevant for EPEAT registration for companies intending to register products under IEEE 1680.1 2018: 4.1.3.1, 4.1.3.2, 4.1.4.1, 4.1.5.1, 4.1.6.2, 4.2.1.1, 4.2.3.1, 4.3.1.8, 4.3.1.9, 4.4.1.1, 4.4.2.1, 4.4.2.2, 4.5.1.2, 4.5.2.1, 4.5.2.2, 4.6.1.2, 4.7.3.1, 4.7.3.2, 4.8.3.1, 4.8.4.1, 4.8.5.1.
- All geographies and Manufacturers were eligible for inclusion.
- Exception was as follows: If a criterion was randomly selected for a product and that product had been investigated against that criterion in the last six months, a new criterion was randomly selected for the product.

2. • No Manufacturer was subject to more than 7 investigations during this Round.

Summary of Outcomes

Highlights from this Verification Round:

- 63 total investigations assigned
- 52 decisions of Conformance
- 10 decisions of Non-Conformance
- 1 investigation Cancelled



Figure 1: Overall Conformance Status (as % of total investigations)

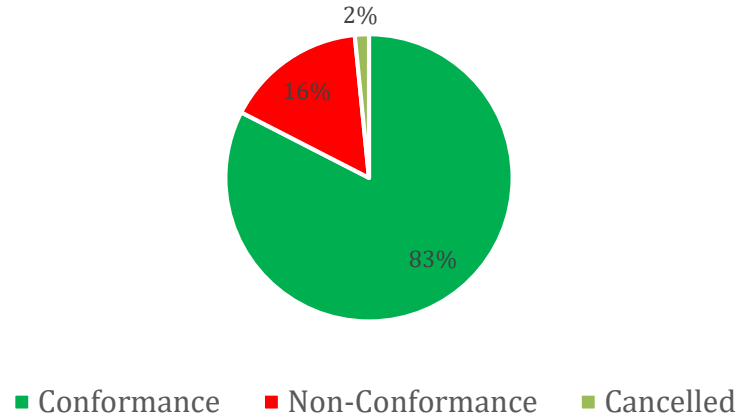
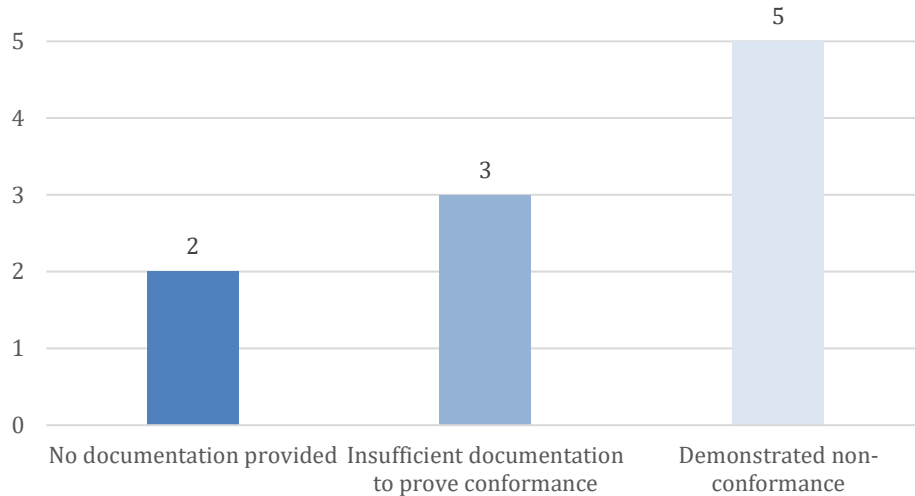


Figure 2: Reason for Non-Conformance



3. Key Lessons

Manufacturers should be sure that their products meet all the Verification Requirements of each criterion prior to making a declaration on the EPEAT Registry.

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 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:

Information about 2019 Verification Activities can be found [here](#).



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	Mustang W670SR	United States	Notebooks	4.1.1.1	Required	Compliance with provisions of European Union RoHS Directive	Insufficient documentation to prove conformance	Product archived by Manufacturer.
CIARA-TECH	CIARA-VIBE-CTU-TAB11	United States	Tablets/Slates	4.1.2.1	Optional	Elimination of intentionally added cadmium	No documentation provided	Other: The product has already been archived prior to this finding.
Corporativo Lanix, S.A. de C.V	CORP 4250E	Mexico	Desktops	4.3.1.1	Required	Identification of materials with special handling needs	Demonstrated non-conformance	Other: The product has already been archived prior to this finding.
digital computer	All products	All countries	All product types	4.6.2.1	Required	Provision of a rechargeable battery take-back service	No documentation provided	Other: The Manufacturer is inactive in the EPEAT Registry.
digital computer	Ascent Desktop - D-XXXX	Brazil	Desktops	4.3.1.1	Required	Identification of materials with special handling needs	No documentation provided	Other: The Manufacturer is inactive in the EPEAT Registry.
Durabook Americas Inc.	SA14	United States	Notebooks	4.3.1.1	Required	Identification of materials with special handling needs	Demonstrated non-conformance	If NC due to demonstrated non-conformance, Manufacturer provided evidence of changes made resulting in conformance.
TH ALPLAST	All products	All countries	All product types	4.6.1.1	Required	Provision of product take-back service	No documentation provided	Other: All the Manufacturer's products were archived already due to a non-conformance in the previous round PC-2018-03
TH ALPLAST	G29	Poland	Workstations	4.8.3.2	Optional	Minimum postconsumer content guidelines	No documentation provided	Other: All the Manufacturer's products were archived already due to a non-conformance in the previous round PC-2018-03
Toshiba	TECRA A50-E PT593A	Australia	Notebooks	4.8.1.1	Required	Reduction/elimination of intentionally added toxics in packaging	Insufficient documentation to prove conformance	Product archived by Manufacturer.



Green Electronics Council

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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
Toshiba	Tecra Z50-C PS57HA	New Zealand	Notebooks	4.3.1.2	Required	Elimination of paints or coatings that are not compatible with recycling or reuse	Insufficient documentation to prove conformance	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 the Conformity Assurance staff of GEC. Decisions of conformity 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 Major 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.