

EPEAT Program

Continuous Monitoring Outcomes Report



Servers
SV-2022-02
June 15, 2022

1.0 Background

EPEAT® is a comprehensive voluntary sustainability Type 1 ecolabel that helps purchasers identify sustainable technology products and services. Central to EPEAT are conformity assurance activities that meet the technical rigor and credibility needs of the institutional purchasers who rely upon EPEAT. The EPEAT Program ensures the ongoing conformance of EPEAT-registered products through an ongoing surveillance process known as Continuous Monitoring. Continuous Monitoring activities occur throughout the year and test the ability of Participating Manufacturers to prove conformance with EPEAT Criteria on an ongoing basis.

Some Continuous Monitoring activities require that Investigations be conducted in discrete timeframes called Rounds. The EPEAT Program develops an individual plan for each Continuous Monitoring Round, which specifies the EPEAT Criteria to be investigated, the method of investigation that GEC-approved Conformity Assurance Bodies (CABs) must use and the specific dates when the Investigation activities must be completed. The EPEAT Program also selects the Participating Manufacturers and EPEAT-registered products and assigns Investigations to CABs, which must fully participate in and are responsible for implementing Continuous Monitoring Round activities with their Participating Manufacturer clients. Participating Manufacturers are required to cooperate fully with their GEC-approved CAB during Round activities.

To maintain the level of transparency relied on by purchasers, the EPEAT Program publishes an Outcomes Report at the conclusion of each Round to summarize the activities conducted and to identify the products and Participating Manufacturers that received major nonconformances and the actions taken to restore accuracy of the EPEAT Registry.

This document summarizes the activities and results of Continuous Monitoring Round SV-2022-02 conducted for the Servers category.

2.0 Overview of Continuous Monitoring Round SV-2022-02

2.1 Investigation Activities

As per the published [Round Plan](#), Continuous Monitoring Round SV-2022-02 used Level 1 Investigations (documentation review activities to determine Participating Manufacturers' conformance with specific EPEAT Criteria). Participating Manufacturers had a discrete time period to provide their CABs with evidence supporting conformance with the selected EPEAT Criteria. GEC-approved CABs reviewed the documentation, made recommendations on conformity based solely on the evidence provided by Participating Manufacturers, and sent Investigation Reports to the EPEAT Program. The EPEAT Program made the final decisions on conformity for the Investigations.

2.2 Criteria Investigated

Continuous Monitoring Round SV-2022-02 focused on climate change. Climate change is creating irreversible damage to the planet and threatening conditions for all life on earth—extreme temperatures and weather conditions, rising sea levels, melting ice caps, and loss of biodiversity have already been documented as a result of climate change. The primary contributor to climate change is the release of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere from the use of fossil fuels for electricity generation and other energy needs. The majority of greenhouse gas emissions from the electronics industry are often attributed to the supply chain, which includes raw materials mining, manufacture, and assembly of electronic components, as well as transportation of the finished product. Additionally, the electricity consumed to power electronic products contributes significantly to climate change as well. As a result, GEC selected criteria which address these issues for investigation in this Round.

Participating Manufacturers were assigned one investigation per criteria. Since two of the selected criteria were required and one was optional, Participating Manufacturers received up to three investigations. Products were selected randomly using a random number generator.

Criteria Number	Criterion Title
5.1.1	ENERGY STAR
5.2.1	Allowable temperature and humidity specifications
5.2.2	Liquid cooled server or air-cooled servers operable at ASHRAE Class A3/A4 Temperature Ranges

3.0 Summary of Investigations and Final Decisions on Conformity for SV-2022-02

Highlights from this Continuous Monitoring Round are:

- **12** investigations completed
- **12** decisions of Conformance

4.0 Further Details on Nonconformances for SV-2022-02

All nonconformances must be categorized as either major or minor. Minor Nonconformances are non-critical or clerical in nature and do not materially affect the validity of conformance with EPEAT Criteria. All nonconformances that do not meet the definition of minor are categorized as major.

There were no nonconformances of any kind identified in Continuous Monitoring Round SV-2022-02.

5.0 Actions to Restore Conformance

Where the final conformity decision is nonconformance (whether major or minor), Participating Manufacturers must make corrections to restore the accuracy of the EPEAT Registry during the Corrective Action Phase. These activities may include providing additional evidence to demonstrate conformance with the criterion or unselecting the criteria in the EPEAT Registry. Where the product was found nonconformant and is no longer available in the marketplace, the product must be archived.

During the Corrective Action Phase, Participating Manufacturers must also develop Corrective Action Plans for other EPEAT-registered products that may be affected by the same underlying issue causing the nonconformance but were not the subject of investigation (called “similarly affected products”).

Since no nonconformances were identified in this Round, no corrective actions were taken.

6.0 Key Findings

6.1 5.1.1 Energy Star

Participating Manufacturers are reminded that if demonstrating conformance with Criterion 5.1.1 ENERGY STAR in the United States, Canada or international partner countries where products must be Energy Star certified, they should provide the URL to the Energy Star listing alongside their certification certificate or report, to demonstrate current conformance to Energy Star. If demonstrating conformance in Locations of Use where Energy Star certification is not required, the test results must come from an Energy Star accredited lab, and Participating Manufacturers must provide evidence of this (e.g., a URL to Energy Star’s list of accredited labs).

6.2 5.2.1 Allowable temperature and humidity specifications

Participating Manufacturers are reminded to ensure evidence provided addresses all ASHRAE Class A2 allowable conditions and the estimated number of hours per a specified time period that the server can operate in the allowable range without materially affecting the server.

<i>Document Control and Change History</i>						
<i>Issue</i>	<i>Revision</i>	<i>Owner</i>	<i>Approver</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Approval Date</i>	<i>Effective Date</i>
1	0	EPEAT Conformity Assurance Manager	Director, EPEAT Program	Initial release		
1	1	EPEAT Conformity Assurance Manager	Director, EPEAT Program		2018 Dec 11	2018 Dec 11
2	0	Senior Manager, Ecolabels and Resources	Senior Director, Ecolabels and Manufacturer Resources	Reformatting of document. Addition of standardized text.	2021 Mar 25	2021 Mar 30