EPEAT Program
Continuous Monitoring Outcomes Report

Mobile Phones
MP-2022-02
December 16, 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 nonconformances and the actions taken to restore accuracy of the EPEAT Registry.

This document summarizes the activities and results of Continuous Monitoring Round MP-2022-02 conducted for the Mobile Phones category.

2.0 Overview of Continuous Monitoring Round MP-2022-02

2.1 Investigation Activities

As per the published Round Plan, Continuous Monitoring Round MP-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 MP-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. Products were selected randomly using a random number generator.

Table 1: Criteria Investigated in Round MP-2022-02

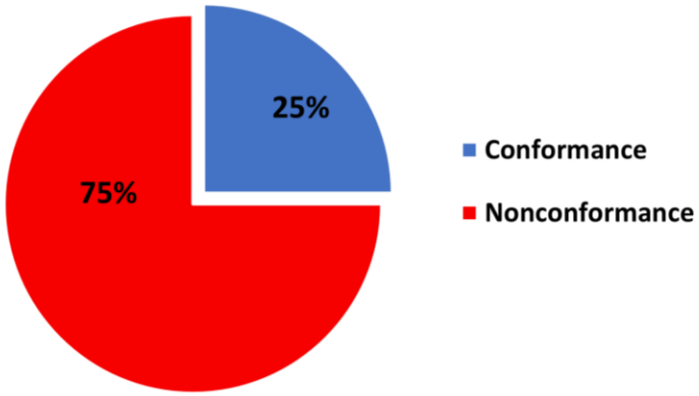
Criteria Number	Criterion Title
10.1.1	Battery charger systems
10.1.3	External power supply energy efficiency

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

Highlights from this Continuous Monitoring Round are:

- **8** investigations completed
- **2** decisions of Conformance
- **6** decisions of Nonconformance *Further details provided in Section 4.* ***All Nonconformances were due to CAB failure to submit an Investigation Report.***

Figure 1: Final Conformity Decisions for MP-2022-02
(shown as percentage of total investigations)



4.0 Further Details on Nonconformances for MP-2022-02

Note: All nonconformances in Continuous Monitoring Round MP-2022-02 were due to CAB failure to submit an Investigation Report.

Table 2: Breakdown of Nonconformances by Criterion for MP-2022-02

Criteria Number	Criterion Title	Total Nonconformances
10.1.1	Required – Battery charger systems	3
10.1.3	External power supply energy efficiency	3

4.1 Minor Errors Versus Nonconformances

All nonconformances must be categorized as either a minor error or nonconformance. Minor errors 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 errors are categorized as nonconformances.

4.2 Minor Errors

For Level 1 Investigations, nonconformances may be categorized as minor errors for the following reasons:

- Minor human error in data entry (e.g., value cited for EPEAT-product registration is insignificantly above or below the actual value).
- Minor administrative errors (e.g., broken URLs, reports/certificates marginally outdated).
- No documentation provided by a Participating Manufacturer where the Participating Manufacturer indicated the product has reached end-of-life and is no longer available on the market.

There were no minor errors in Round MP-2022-02.

4.3 Nonconformances

All six nonconformances in Continuous Monitoring Round MP-2022-02 were due to CAB failure to submit the Investigation Report and classified as nonconformances.

5.0 Actions to Restore Conformance

Where the final conformity decision is nonconformance (including minor errors), 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”).

The following actions were taken to restore accuracy to the EPEAT Registry as a result of Continuous Monitoring Round MP-2022-02:

- **6** investigations CAB reviewed evidence originally submitted by Participating Manufacturers, which demonstrated conformance.

Table 3 in Section 7 identifies the Participating Manufacturers and products that received nonconformances due to CAB inaction in Continuous Monitoring Round MP-2022-02.

6.0 Key Findings

6.1 Test Requirements

Participating Manufacturers and CABs are reminded that test reports used as evidence to demonstrate conformance must include all necessary information to meet criterion requirements and all necessary information identified in EPEAT Conformity Assurance Implementation Manual (P66) to ensure integrity of the test report.

7.0 Identification of Nonconformances and Corrections Made by Participating Manufacturers

In the interest of transparency, the EPEAT Program identifies the Participating Manufacturers and products that received nonconformances and the actions taken to restore accuracy of the EPEAT Registry. Minor errors are generally clerical in nature and do not materially affect the validity of products in the EPEAT Registry. As such, these are not identified in the table below.

Table 3: Summary of Nonconformances and Corrections Made by Participating Manufacturers

Participating Manufacturer	Product	Product Type	Country	Criterion Number	Criterion Title	Required or Optional	Underlying Reason for Nonconformance	Corrective Action Taken
Apple	Apple iPhone 12 Pro Max	Mobile Phone	Canada	10.1.3	External power supply energy efficiency	Required	CAB failure to submit Investigation Report.	CAB reviewed information originally submitted by Participating Manufacturer, which demonstrated conformance.
Apple	Apple iPhone 13 Pro Max	Mobile Phone	United States	10.1.1	Required – Battery charger systems	Required	CAB failure to submit Investigation Report.	CAB reviewed information originally submitted by Participating Manufacturer, which demonstrated conformance.
Google	Google Pixel 4a (5G)	Mobile Phone	United States	10.1.1	Required – Battery charger systems	Required	CAB failure to submit Investigation Report.	CAB reviewed information originally submitted by Participating Manufacturer, which demonstrated conformance.
Google	Google Pixel 5a with 5G	Mobile Phone	United States	10.1.3	External power supply energy efficiency	Required	CAB failure to submit Investigation Report.	CAB reviewed information originally submitted by Participating Manufacturer, which demonstrated conformance.
Samsung	Galaxy Note20 Ultra 5G (SM-N986U Verizon/T-Mobile/Sprint)	Mobile Phone	United States	10.1.3	External power supply energy efficiency	Required	CAB failure to submit Investigation Report.	CAB reviewed information originally submitted by Participating Manufacturer, which demonstrated conformance.
Samsung	Galaxy S21+ 5G	Mobile Phone	United States	10.1.1	Required – Battery charger systems	Required	CAB failure to submit Investigation Report.	CAB reviewed information originally submitted by Participating Manufacturer, which demonstrated conformance.

Document Control and Change History						
Issue	***Revision***	***Owner***	***Approver***	***Description***	***Approval Date***	***Effective Date***
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*
2	*1*	*Senior Manager, Ecolabels and Resources*	*Vice President, Ecolabels and Manufacturer Resources*	*Updated terminology for nonconformances to include "nonconformances" and "minor errors", in alignment with revisions to P66.*	*2022 Sep 15*	*2022 Sep 30*