



ENERGY STAR® Program Requirements for Audio/Video

Partner Commitments

Following are the terms of the ENERGY STAR Partnership Agreement as it pertains to the manufacture and labeling of ENERGY STAR qualified products. The ENERGY STAR Partner must adhere to the following partner commitments:

Qualifying Products

1. **Comply with current ENERGY STAR Eligibility Criteria**, which define performance requirements and test procedures for Audio/Video equipment. A list of eligible products and their corresponding Eligibility Criteria can be found at www.energystar.gov/specifications.
2. **Prior to associating the ENERGY STAR name or mark with any product**, obtain written certification of ENERGY STAR qualification from a Certification Body recognized by EPA for Audio/Video equipment. As part of this certification process, products must be tested in a laboratory recognized by EPA to perform Audio/Video equipment testing. A list of EPA-recognized laboratories and certification bodies can be found at www.energystar.gov/testingandverification.
3. **Ensure that any model associated with the ENERGY STAR name or mark** meets the following standards:
 - The generally accepted material restriction of hazardous substances (RoHS) regulations including exemptions in force at the date of product manufacture: where the maximum concentration values tolerated by weight in homogeneous materials are: lead (0.1%), mercury (0.1%), cadmium (0.01%), hexavalent chromium (0.1%), polybrominated biphenyls (PBB) (0.1%), or polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDE) (0.1%). Batteries are exempt.

Notes:

- The explicit intention is to harmonize with EU RoHS.
- For purposes of ENERGY STAR third-party certification, these requirements shall not be reviewed when products are initially qualified nor during subsequent verification testing. Rather, EPA reserves the right to request supporting documentation at any time.

Note: While energy efficiency remains the basis upon which top performers are selected, EPA addresses attributes related to other aspects of product performance in ENERGY STAR specifications as applicable to ensure that overall product performance is maintained relative to a non-qualifying product. By including additional attributes, the ENERGY STAR program seeks to avoid associating the label with models of poor quality or models with features that are not compatible with broadly held consumer or societal interests, thereby preserving the influence of the label in the market. In response to stakeholder concern that placement of toxicity requirements in the product eligibility criteria could hinder international harmonization, EPA is proposing that these criteria reside instead in the ENERGY STAR Partner Commitments document, which is unique to the US market. As such, EPA has removed the Toxicity requirements from the eligibility criteria. Further, in response to feedback, EPA notes in the Partner Commitments document that it is the Agency's intention to harmonize with the EU RoHS Directive and that the toxicity requirements are not subject to third-party certification.

Using the ENERGY STAR Name and Marks

4. Comply with current ENERGY STAR Identity Guidelines, which define how the ENERGY STAR name and marks may be used. Partner is responsible for adhering to these guidelines and ensuring that its

authorized representatives, such as advertising agencies, dealers, and distributors, are also in compliance. The ENERGY STAR Identity Guidelines are available at www.energystar.gov/logouse.

5. Use the ENERGY STAR name and marks only in association with qualified products. Partner may not refer to itself as an ENERGY STAR Partner unless at least one product is qualified and offered for sale in the U.S and/or ENERGY STAR partner countries.
6. Provide clear and consistent labeling of ENERGY STAR qualified Audio/Video equipment.
 - 6.1. Partner must use the ENERGY STAR mark in all of the following ways:
 - 6.1.1. Via permanent or temporary label on the product. All temporary labeling must be affixed to the top/front of the product with an adhesive or cling-type application. Partner must comply with guidance for certification marks provided in the ENERGY STAR Identity Guidelines, which can be found at www.energystar.gov/marks;
 - 6.1.2. Either in product literature (e.g., user manuals, specification sheets, etc.) or in a separate box insert that provides educational language about the Product's ENERGY STAR settings; and
 - 6.1.3. On product packaging/boxes for products sold at retail.
 - 6.2. If additional information about the ENERGY STAR program(s) or other products provided by the Partner on its Web site, Partner must comply with the *ENERGY STAR Web Linking Policy*, which can be found at www.energystar.gov/partners.

Verifying Ongoing Product Qualification

7. Participate in third-party verification testing through a Certification Body recognized by EPA for Audio/Video equipment, providing full cooperation and timely responses, EPA/DOE may also, at its discretion, conduct tests on products that are referred to as ENERGY STAR qualified. These products may be obtained on the open market, or voluntarily supplied by Partner at the government's request.

Providing Information to EPA

8. Provide unit shipment data or other market indicators to EPA annually to assist with creation of ENERGY STAR market penetration estimates, as follows:
 - 8.1. Partner must submit the total number of ENERGY STAR qualified Audio/Video equipment shipped in the calendar year or an equivalent measurement as agreed to in advance by EPA and Partner. Partner shall exclude shipments to organizations that rebrand and resell the shipments (unaffiliated private labelers).
 - 8.2. Partner must provide unit shipment data segmented by meaningful product characteristics (e.g., type, capacity, presence of additional functions) as prescribed by EPA.
 - 8.3. Partner must submit unit shipment data for each calendar year to EPA or an EPA-authorized third party, preferably in electronic format, no later than March 1 of the following year.

Submitted unit shipment data will be used by EPA only for program evaluation purposes and will be closely controlled. If requested under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), EPA will argue that the data is exempt. Any information used will be masked by EPA so as to protect the confidentiality of the Partner.
9. Report to EPA any attempts by recognized laboratories or Certification Bodies (CBs) to influence testing or certification results or to engage in discriminatory practices.
10. Notify EPA of a change in the designated responsible party or contacts within 30 days using the My ENERGY STAR Account tool (MESA) available at www.energystar.gov/mesa.

Performance for Special Distinction

In order to receive additional recognition and/or support from EPA for its efforts within the Partnership, the ENERGY STAR Partner may consider the following voluntary measures, and should keep EPA informed on the progress of these efforts:

- Provide quarterly, written updates to EPA as to the efforts undertaken by Partner to increase availability of ENERGY STAR qualified products, and to promote awareness of ENERGY STAR and its message.
- Consider energy efficiency improvements in company facilities and pursue benchmarking buildings through the ENERGY STAR Buildings program.
- Purchase ENERGY STAR qualified products. Revise the company purchasing or procurement specifications to include ENERGY STAR. Provide procurement officials' contact information to EPA for periodic updates and coordination. Circulate general ENERGY STAR qualified product information to employees for use when purchasing products for their homes.
- Feature the ENERGY STAR mark(s) on Partner website and other promotional materials. If information concerning ENERGY STAR is provided on the Partner website as specified by the ENERGY STAR Web Linking Policy (available in the Partner Resources section of the ENERGY STAR website), EPA may provide links where appropriate to the Partner website.
- Ensure the power management feature is enabled on all ENERGY STAR qualified displays and computers in use in company facilities, particularly upon installation and after service is performed.
- Provide general information about the ENERGY STAR program to employees whose jobs are relevant to the development, marketing, sales, and service of current ENERGY STAR qualified products.
- Provide a simple plan to EPA outlining specific measures Partner plans to undertake beyond the program requirements listed above. By doing so, EPA may be able to coordinate, and communicate Partner's activities, provide an EPA representative, or include news about the event in the ENERGY STAR newsletter, on the ENERGY STAR website, etc. The plan may be as simple as providing a list of planned activities or milestones of which Partner would like EPA to be aware. For example, activities may include: (1) increasing the availability of ENERGY STAR qualified products by converting the entire product line within two years to meet ENERGY STAR guidelines; (2) demonstrating the economic and environmental benefits of energy efficiency through special in-store displays twice a year; (3) providing information to users (via the website and user's manual) about energy-saving features and operating characteristics of ENERGY STAR qualified products; and (4) building awareness of the ENERGY STAR Partnership and brand identity by collaborating with EPA on one print advertorial and one live press event.
- Join EPA's SmartWay Transport Partnership to improve the environmental performance of the company's shipping operations. The SmartWay Transport Partnership works with freight carriers, shippers, and other stakeholders in the goods movement industry to reduce fuel consumption, greenhouse gases, and air pollution. For more information on SmartWay, visit www.epa.gov/smartway.
- Join EPA's Green Power Partnership. EPA's Green Power Partnership encourages organizations to buy green power as a way to reduce the environmental impacts associated with traditional fossil fuel-based electricity use. The partnership includes a diverse set of organizations including Fortune 500 companies, small and medium businesses, government institutions as well as a growing number of colleges and universities. For more information on Green Power, visit www.epa.gov/greenpower.