



ENERGY STAR®

Appliance Testing and Verification

2010 ENERGY STAR Products Partner Meeting
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Background and Purpose

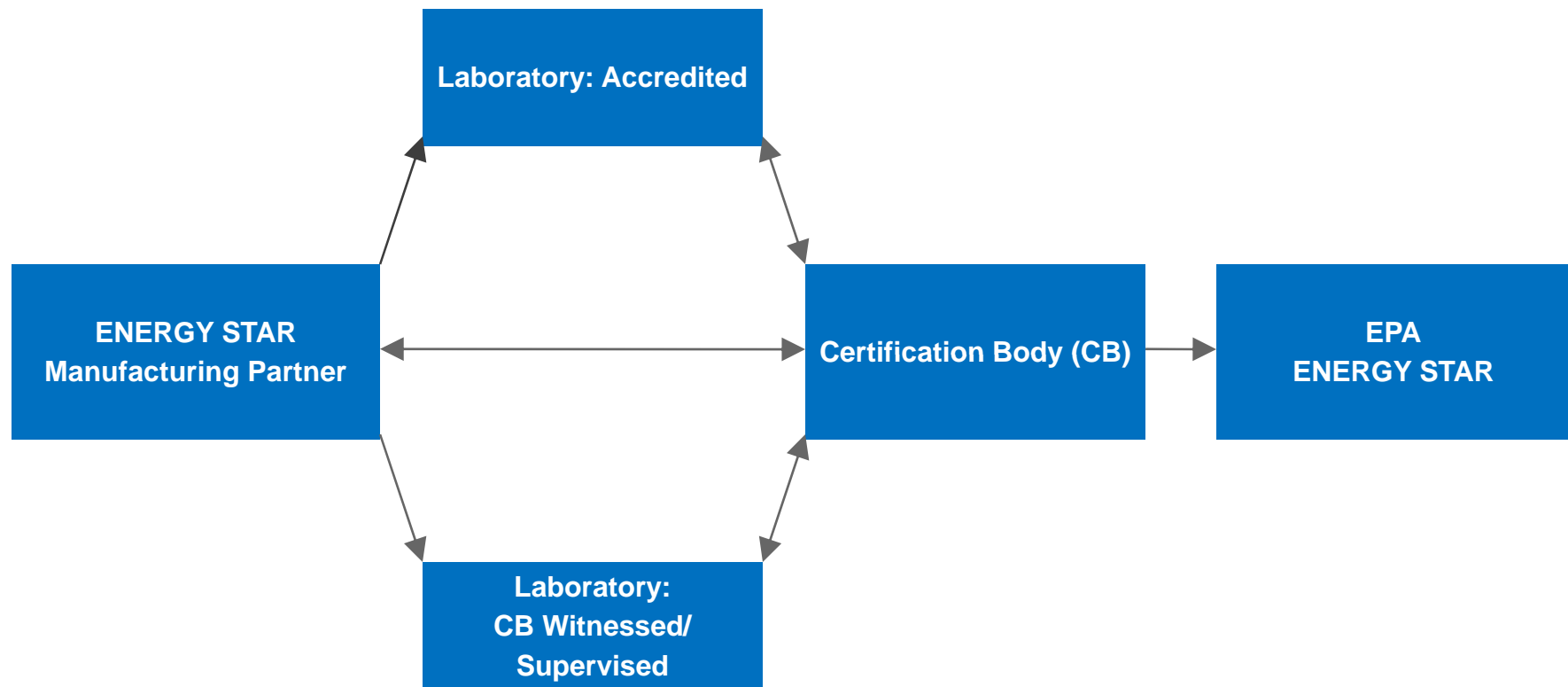
- Through over 15 years of shared effort, EPA and partners have built something of real value – the ENERGY STAR brand
- Maintaining the value of this brand requires ensuring products labeled with the ENERGY STAR deliver on their promise to the consumer
- Recent developments: Increased scrutiny of voluntary programs
 - Inspector General Reports at EPA and DOE
 - Government Accountability Office ENERGY STAR Investigation

New Approach to ENERGY STAR Qualification and Verification Testing



- Third-party certification of test data prior to qualification and labeling
 - EPA-recognized certification bodies, laboratories, and accreditation bodies
- Verification testing after qualification
 - Verify that products continue to meet the ENERGY STAR requirements regardless of changes in the production process

Qualification Flowchart



Participation



- **ABs**
 - Recognized: **18**
 - **13** different countries including China, Japan, Taiwan, UK
- **Laboratories**
 - Applications under review: **43** accredited labs
- **CBs**
 - Applications under review: **5**

CB Role #1: Product Qualification Through Performance Certification



- CB will be responsible for operating a product certification program compliant with ISO/IEC Guide 65. CB will fulfill this role by:
 - Verifying that the test data originated from an EPA-recognized laboratory
 - Comparing test data to relevant product specifications
- After certification process is completed, CB will notify partners of qualification or rejection, or request additional information
- If CB determines the product is qualified, it will provide EPA with appropriate data so the product may be added to the Qualified Product List

Re-evaluation in the Event of Significant Changes



- CB to re-evaluate product performance in the event of changes that could affect the ENERGY STAR qualification status of a product the CB has certified
 - Partner must inform the CB about any such changes
 - CB evaluates results of retesting



CB Role #2: Verification Testing

- CBs to administer testing
- Approximately 10% of ENERGY STAR qualified models to be tested per year, taking product families into account
- Combination of random and pre-selected models
- Unit procurement: Off-the-shelf where feasible; other channels possible as long as 3rd party personnel select unit(s)
- EPA-recognized 3rd party laboratory must be used. (For product categories where this is not feasible, testing must be witnessed by CB personnel.)
- CB reports results to EPA; failing products disqualified

CB Role #3: Challenge Testing



- CB to have in place a challenge testing procedure
- Conditions of initiation:
 - Challengee has been notified
 - Model number has been clearly identified
 - Sound basis has been established
- CB reports results to EPA; failing products disqualified

Witnessed or Supervised Manufacturers' Test Laboratories



- CB may operate a program to accept test data from a **first-party** lab operating under witness or supervision, i.e., a witnessed or supervised manufacturer's test lab (WMTL/SMTL)
- Lab must still operate in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025, and test products per relevant ENERGY STAR test methods
- CB assesses lab to these requirements
- If lab is recognized by application, CB shall enroll it only as an SMTL, not a WMTL, since EPA recognition removes the need to establish confidence in the laboratory via witnessing every test

Implementation



- EPA proposed edits to Program Requirements to reflect enhanced testing and verification
 - Partner Commitments
 - Eligibility Criteria
 - Test Methods
- Partners will be invited to [recommit to new Partner Commitments via MESA in mid/late October](#).
- New Program Requirements [effective December 31, 2010](#).
- In discussion with [International Partners](#) regarding their testing/verification plans.

Implementation



Beginning January 1, 2011

- **New Products:** All new products seeking qualification will have to be **tested in an EPA-recognized lab**, and their test reports will have to be reviewed and certified as meeting ENERGY STAR requirements by an EPA-recognized CB.
- **Currently qualified** products:
 - Will **NOT need to be retested**.
 - As specifications are revised, products will need to be tested per the new requirements.

Resources



- www.energystar.gov/testingandverification
 - Final requirements for accreditation bodies, labs, and certification bodies
 - Updated program requirements for all products (partner commitments, eligibility requirements, and test methods)