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# **ENERGY STAR®**

## **Appliance Testing and Verification**

2010 ENERGY STAR Products Partner Meeting  
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Katharine Kaplan, US EPA  
kaplan.katharine@epa.gov





# Background and Purpose

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- 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

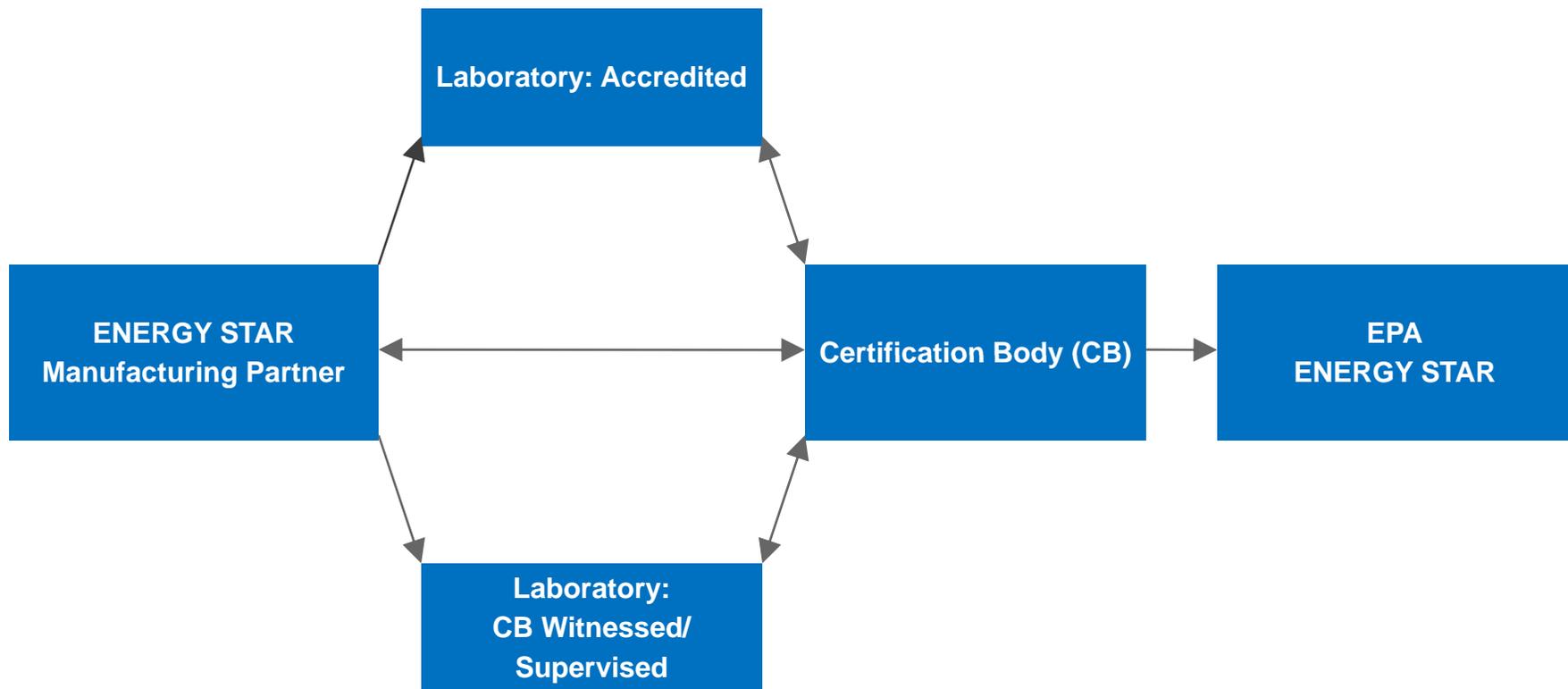
# New Approach to ENERGY STAR Qualification and Verification Testing

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- 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

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- **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

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- 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

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- 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 3<sup>rd</sup> party personnel select unit(s)
- EPA-recognized 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

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- 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

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- 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

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- 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

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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

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- [www.energystar.gov/testingandverification](http://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)