



Upcoming 2015 Verification Testing CB Webinar

ENERGY STAR® Program Integrity

December 10, 2014





Overview

- **Completing 2014 Verification Testing**
 - Reporting Unresponsive or Uncooperative Partners
 - Updated CB Resources
- **Reporting July-December 2014 VT Results**
 - Common Data Quality Issues
 - Filling out the VT Summary Report Template
 - Lifetime Testing for Lighting Products
- **2015 Verification Testing Planning**
 - Verification Testing Requirements by Product Category
 - Lamps
 - Procurement Planning for Specification' Effective Dates
- **Submitting Certified Product Information to EPA**
 - Updates to QPX Technical Documentation
 - Use of ENERGY STAR Model Identifiers



Completing 2014 Verification Testing

- Testing requirements established at beginning of year must be met by December 31, 2014
- Notify EPA of any circumstances that make procurement difficult
 - Unresponsive or uncooperative partners
 - Per Directive #2014-06: Responsibilities for Maintaining Product Certifications:
 - “CBs are required to report to EPA within five (5) business days of making the determination any partner is unresponsive to or uncooperative with CB requests for information or action.”
 - Notify EPA of any request to withdraw certification for reasons other than model not available
- Model availability
 - Maintain accurate client contacts for brand owner and/or OEM, if applicable
 - CBs must confirm product availability in the U.S. with the brand owner of all certified products at minimum on an annual basis; partners are expected to update CBs on model availability throughout the year



2014 Verification Testing Cont'd

- Resources for CBs
 - Verification Testing Responsibilities page
 - List of testing requirements by product category
 - Updates to Directive #2011-06
 - Updated list of product types eligible for off-the-line testing.
 - Note: off-the-line procurement for product types not listed in Directive 2011-06 require EPA approval
 - Verification Testing FAQs
- Using verification testing for recertification purposes
 - If a new specification recently went into effect or is available for early certification, CBs may count a verification test towards a recertification or new certification test
 - Product must be procured as it would be for verification testing (e.g. off-the-shelf)



Reporting July-December 2014 VT Results

- July-December 2014 VT Summary Report is due Friday, January 16, 2015
- Common data quality issues
 - **ESUM_IDs** not aligning with certified model number and partner name
 - **Incorrect method of selection** (i.e. model indicated as EPA nomination, but there is no record of the model having been nominated)
 - **Duplicate model number** (within a tab or across tabs)
 - **Missing data** (e.g. procurement information, date(s) testing was completed)
 - **Reporting date testing was initiated** instead of date(s) testing was completed
 - Testing completion date should fall within the 6-month reporting period (e.g. Jul 1- Dec 31, 2014)
 - **Not listing replacements for models not tested** or not providing a reason
 - **Not reporting failures** to Enforcement@energystar.gov within 2 days



Reporting July-December 2014 VT Results Cont'd

- VT Summary Report Template
 - Conditional formatting can be overwritten by other formatting
 - If pasting data from elsewhere, use paste-values →
 - Formatting meant to aid CBs in identifying missing data
 - Adding procurement status
 - Meant to showcase progress towards annual requirement; use intuitive terminology
 - Lighting products requiring lifetime testing
 - Initial testing completion will count towards CBs' annual requirement
 - These models will be reported on at least 2 VT summary reports due to length of testing duration

Name of CB:

This tab is intended for models that have completed testing during the July 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014 period. Please note: all cells highlighted in yellow MUST be filled out OR provide a reason.

Submission Number	Product Specification	ENERGY STAR Manufacturing Partner	Certification
1			
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Walkthrough of Jul-Dec 2014 VT Report Template



2015 Verification Testing

- Unique counts by product category are due to EPA by **Friday, January 2, 2015**
 - EPA will distribute nominations within two weeks of receiving unique counts
 - EPA will contact CBs for unique counts for **clothes dryers, set-top boxes, and clothes washers** nominations in March 2015
- Verification testing will commence for a product category when (whichever comes first):
 - The CB has **certified 10 or more unique products OR \geq 1 year since initial certification**
- Per the Verification Testing Requirements by Product Category document:
 - 20% of CFLs will be tested
 - 5% of CE/IT product categories will be tested
 - Audio/video, computers, displays, enterprise servers, imaging equipment, set-top boxes, telephony, televisions, and uninterruptible power supplies
 - No more than 10% per product category per partner for commercial food service products will be tested



2015 Verification Testing Cont'd and Recommendations

- Review upcoming specification effective dates and plan testing accordingly
 - Per Directive #2011-06, both selection and procurement must occur when the same version of the specification is in effect
 - www.energystar.gov/revisedspecs
- Lamps VT guidance
- Recommendations and best practices
 - Begin selection as soon as you receive EPA nominations
 - Centralize VT tracking
 - Ex: designate point person who can easily access testing status information
 - Record testing in the VT summary as it is completed
 - Notify EPA of any delays in procurement as soon as possible



Reporting Certified Product Data to EPA

- Updates to QPX XML Technical Documentation
- Certification ID (Cert_ID)
 - Denotes family groupings
 - Should align with CB unique counts for VT
 - **Can be revised** via modification submission
- ENERGY STAR Model ID (ESUM_ID)
 - Unique to each certified model across a model's lifetime
 - **Cannot be revised** via modification submission
- Transferring products between partners (e.g. brand owner issues)
 - Modify existing submissions with updated ENERGY STAR partner information
 - ESUM_ID must be maintained



Upcoming 2015 VT Dates

- **January 2, 2015** – Deadline to submit unique counts to EPA for all categories with the exception of clothes washers, clothes dryers, and set-top boxes
- **January 16, 2015** – Deadline to submit Jul-Dec 2014 verification testing summary reports
- **March 2015** – EPA will request unique counts for clothes washers, clothes dryers and set-top boxes
- **December 31, 2015** – Deadline to complete all 2015 verification testing
- **July 2015 and January 2016** – Verification testing summary reports due



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Questions?