



# ENERGY STAR® Program Requirements Product Specification for Data Center Storage

## Eligibility Criteria Draft 2, Version 2.0

1 Following is the Draft 2, Version 2.0 ENERGY STAR Product Specification for Data Center Storage. A  
2 product shall meet all of the identified criteria if it is to earn the ENERGY STAR.

### 3 **1 DEFINITIONS**

#### 4 A. Product Types:

- 5 1) Storage Product: A fully-functional storage system that supplies data storage services to  
6 clients and devices attached directly or through a network. Components and subsystems that  
7 are an integral part of the storage product architecture (e.g., to provide internal  
8 communications between controllers and disks) are considered to be part of the storage  
9 product. In contrast, components that are normally associated with a storage environment at  
10 the data center level (e.g., devices required for operation of an external SAN) are not  
11 considered to be part of the storage product. A storage product may be composed of  
12 integrated storage controllers, storage devices, embedded network elements, software, and  
13 other devices. For purposes of this specification, a storage product is a unique configuration  
14 of one or more SKUs, sold and marketed to the end user as a Storage Product.
- 15 2) Storage Device: A collective term for disk drives (HDDs), solid state drives (SSDs), tapes  
16 cartridges, and any other mechanisms providing non-volatile data storage. This definition is  
17 specifically intended to exclude aggregating storage elements such as RAID array  
18 subsystems, robotic tape libraries, filers, and file servers. Also excluded are storage devices  
19 which are not directly accessible by end-user application programs, and are instead  
20 employed as a form of internal cache.
- 21 3) Storage Controller: A device for handling storage request via a processor or sequencer  
22 programmed to autonomously process a substantial portion of I/O requests directed to  
23 storage devices (e.g., RAID controllers, filers).

#### 24 B. Storage Product Connectivity:

- 25 1) Direct-attached Storage (DAS): One or more dedicated storage devices that are physically  
26 connected to one or more servers.
- 27 2) Network Attached Storage (NAS): One or more dedicated storage devices that connect to a  
28 network and provide file access services (File I/O) to remote computer systems.
- 29 3) Storage Area Network (SAN): A network whose primary purpose is the transfer of data  
30 between computer systems and storage products. A SAN consists of a communication  
31 infrastructure, which provides physical connections, and a management layer, which  
32 organizes the connections, storage controllers / devices, and computer systems so that data  
33 transfer is secure and robust. The term SAN is usually (but not necessarily) identified with  
34 block I/O services rather than file access services.

35

- 36 C. Capacity Optimizing Methods (COMs)<sup>1</sup>: The reduction of actual data stored on storage devices  
37 through a combination of hardware and / or software. Common COMs include:
- 38 1) Thin Provisioning: A technology that allocates the physical capacity of a volume or file system  
39 as applications write data, rather than allocating all the physical capacity at the time of  
40 provisioning.
- 41 2) Data Deduplication: The replacement of multiple copies of data – at variable levels of  
42 granularity – with references to a shared copy in order to save storage space and/or  
43 bandwidth.
- 44 3) Compression: The process of encoding data to reduce its size. For the purpose of this  
45 specification, only lossless compression (i.e., compression using a technique that preserves  
46 the entire content of the original data, and from which the original data can be reconstructed  
47 exactly) is recognized.
- 48 4) Delta Snapshots: A type of point-in-time copy that preserves the state of data at an instant in  
49 time by storing only those blocks that are different from an already existing full copy of the  
50 data.
- 51 D. Storage Taxonomy<sup>1</sup>: A categorization scheme for use in segmenting the data center storage  
52 market by end-use application and key product characteristics. The major categories of the  
53 taxonomy that are referenced in this document are as follows:
- 54 1) Disk Set Online Storage: Storage products that are intended to service a mixture of Random  
55 and Sequential I/O requests with a short response time. All data stored in Disk Set Online  
56 storage must be accessible MaxTTFD ≤ 80 ms, unless the storage product is in a Deep Idle  
57 state. Disk set Online storage is typically comprised of one or more HDDs and a storage  
58 controller, and provides primary data storage to supplement a Computer Server’s internal  
59 memory.
- 60 2) Disk Set Near-online Storage: Storage products that are intended to service a mixture of  
61 Random and Sequential I/O requests with a short to moderate response time. Disk Set Near-  
62 online storage products offer an asymmetrical response; a portion of data may be accessible  
63 MaxTTFD ≤ 80 milliseconds, while other data may be accessible MaxTTFD > 80  
64 milliseconds.
- 65 3) Removable and Virtual Media Library (RVML) Set Virtual Media Library: Storage products  
66 that are intended to service primarily Sequential I/O, with a short response time. The media in  
67 a Virtual Media Library (e.g., HDD, optical disk) is not designed to be physically removed from  
68 the system. All data stored in the Virtual Media Library must be assessable MaxTTFD ≤ 80  
69 ms, unless the storage product is in a Deep Idle state. Virtual Medial Libraries are intended  
70 primarily for moderate and long-term data storage.
- 71 4) RVML Set Removable Media Library: Storage products that are intended to service primarily  
72 Sequential I/O, with a moderate to long response time. The media (e.g., tape cartridge,  
73 optical disk) in a Removable Media Library is designed to be physically removed from the  
74 storage product. Removable Media Libraries are intended primarily for long term data  
75 archiving

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<sup>1</sup> The ENERGY STAR storage taxonomy and COM references in this document are consistent with the terminology developed by the Storage Networking Industry Association Green Storage Initiative as defined in “SNIA Emerald™ Power Efficiency Measurement Specification” Version 4.0. Further detail may be found at [www.snia.org/green](http://www.snia.org/green).

- 76 5) Non-volatile Solid State (NVSS) Set Disk Access Storage: Storage products that are intended  
77 to service a mixture of Random and Sequential I/O requests with a short response time. All  
78 data stored in NVSS Set Disk Access Online storage must be accessible  $\text{MaxTTFD} \leq 80$  ms,  
79 unless the storage product is in a Deep Idle state. NVSS Set Disk Access Online storage is  
80 typically comprised of one or more SSDs and a storage controller, and provides primary data  
81 storage to supplement a Computer Server's internal memory.
- 82 6) NVSS Set Memory Access Storage: Storage products that are intended to service a mixture  
83 of Random and Sequential I/O requests with a short response time. All data stored in NVSS  
84 Set Memory Access Online storage must be accessible  $\text{MaxTTFD} \leq 80$  ms, unless the  
85 storage product is in a Deep Idle state. NVSS Set Memory Access Online storage is typically  
86 comprised of one or more banks of Solid State Storage devices and a storage controller, and  
87 provides primary data storage to supplement a Computer Server's internal memory.

88 **Note:** EPA is proposing to adopt the revised SNIA storage taxonomy definitions recently finalized through  
89 the SNIA Emerald Version 4.0 specification development process. Maintaining alignment with these  
90 definitions ensures industry and purchasers continue to define these products in the same way based on  
91 clear technical characteristics.

92 E. Other Data Center Equipment:

- 93 1) Computer Server: A computer that provides services and manages networked resources for  
94 client devices (e.g., desktop computers, notebook computers, thin clients, wireless devices,  
95 PDAs, IP telephones, other computer servers and other network devices). A computer server  
96 is sold through enterprise channels for use in data centers and office/corporate environments.  
97 A computer server is primarily accessed via network connections, versus directly-connected  
98 user input devices such as a keyboard or mouse. For purposes of this specification, a product  
99 must meet all of the following criteria to be considered a computer server:
- 100 i) is marketed and sold as a Computer Server;
  - 101 ii) is designed for and listed as supporting computer server operating systems (OS) and/or  
102 hypervisors;
  - 103 iii) is targeted to run user-installed applications typically, but not exclusively, enterprise in  
104 nature;
  - 105 iv) provides support for error-correcting code (ECC) and/or buffered memory (including both  
106 buffered DIMMs and buffered on board (BOB) configurations)
  - 107 v) is packaged and sold with one or more ac-dc or dc-dc power supplies; and
  - 108 vi) is designed such that all processors have access to shared system memory and are  
109 visible to a single OS or hypervisor.
- 110 2) Network Equipment: A device whose primary function is to provide data connectivity among  
111 an arbitrary combination of devices connected to its several ports. Data connectivity is  
112 achieved via the routing of data packets encapsulated according to Internet Protocol, Fibre  
113 Channel, InfiniBand or other standard protocol. Examples of network equipment commonly  
114 found in data centers are routers and switches.
- 115 3) Blade Storage: A storage product that is designed for use in a blade chassis. A blade storage  
116 product is dependent upon shared blade chassis resources (e.g., power supplies, cooling) for  
117 operation.
- 118 4) Cache: Temporary storage used to transparently store transitory data and which is not  
119 directly addressable by end-user applications. Primarily used for expediting access to or from  
120 (typically) slower devices.

- 121 F. Capacity: Capacity is reported in units of either binary bytes (1 MiB = 1,048,576 Byte) or decimal  
122 bytes (1 MB = 1,000,000 Byte).

- 123 1) Assigned Capacity: The amount of space on a system or data container which has been  
124 allotted to be written by an end user or application. (Note: For thin provisioning systems, an  
125 assigned capacity number represents a promise that that amount of space will be provided on  
126 demand; usable capacity is allocated as the container is written too. For fully-provisioned  
127 systems, usable capacity must be committed at the same time the container is allocated.)
- 128 2) Effective Capacity: The amount of data stored on a storage product, plus the amount of  
129 unused formatted capacity in the system.
- 130 3) Formatted (Usable) Capacity: The total amount of bytes available to be written after a storage  
131 product or storage device has been formatted for use (e.g., by an object store, file system or  
132 block services manager). Formatted capacity is less than or equal to raw capacity. It does not  
133 include areas set aside for system use, spares, RAID parity areas, checksum space, host- or  
134 file system-level remapping, "right sizing" of disks, disk labeling and so on. However,  
135 formatted capacity may include areas that are normally reserved – such as snapshot set-  
136 asides – if these areas may be configured for ordinary data storage.
- 137 4) Free Space: The amount of unused, formatted capacity as reported by the storage product.
- 138 5) Raw (Addressable) Capacity: The sum total amount of addressable capacity of the storage  
139 devices in a storage product. The raw capacity of a storage device is commonly understood  
140 to be the number of bytes available to be written via SCSI or equivalent protocol. It does not  
141 include unaddressable space, ECC (error correcting code) data, remap areas, inter-sector  
142 gaps, etc.

143 G. Operational States:

- 144 1) Active State: The state in which a storage product is processing external I/O requests.
- 145 2) Idle State: An operational state in which the storage product is capable of completing I/O  
146 transactions, but no active I/Os are requested or pending. The system may, however, be  
147 servicing self-initiated I/Os from background data protection and cleansing, and other  
148 operations not initiated by the user.
- 149 i) Ready Idle: The state in which a storage product is able to respond to arbitrary I/O  
150 requests within the MaxTTFD limits for its taxonomy category, but is not receiving  
151 external I/O requests. The storage product may perform routine housekeeping tasks  
152 during Ready Idle, provided such operations do not compromise the product's ability to  
153 meet MaxTTFD requirements.
- 154 ii) Deep Idle: A state in which one or more storage product components or subsystems have  
155 been placed into a low-power state for purpose of conserving energy. A storage product  
156 in Deep Idle may not be able to respond to I/O requests within the MaxTTFD limits for its  
157 taxonomy category, and may need to perform a managed 'wake-up' function in order to  
158 return to a Ready Idle or Active State. Deep Idle capability must be a user-selected,  
159 optional feature of the storage product.

160 H. Power Supply Unit (PSU): A device that converts ac or dc input power to one or more dc power  
161 outputs for the purpose of powering a storage product. A storage PSU must be self-contained  
162 and physically separable from the system and must connect to the system via a removable or  
163 hard-wired electrical connection. Note: Storage PSUs may be Field Replaceable Units (FRUs),  
164 but in some cases may be further integrated with the storage product.

- 165 1) Ac-dc Power Supply: A PSU that converts line-voltage ac input power into one or more dc  
166 power outputs.
- 167 2) Dc-dc Power Supply: A PSU that converts line-voltage dc input power to one or more dc  
168 power outputs. For purposes of this specification, a dc-dc converter (also known as a voltage  
169 regulator) that is internal to a storage product and is used to convert a low voltage dc (e.g., 12  
170 V dc) into other dc power outputs for use by storage product components is not considered a  
171 dc-dc power supply.

172 3) Single-output Power Supply: A PSU that is designed to deliver the majority of its rated output  
173 power to one primary dc output. Single-output PSUs may offer one or more standby outputs  
174 that remain active whenever connected to an input power source. For purposes of this  
175 specification, the total rated power output from all additional PSU outputs that are not primary  
176 or standby outputs shall be less than or equal to 20 watts. PSUs that offer multiple outputs at  
177 the same voltage as the primary output are considered single-output PSUs unless those  
178 outputs (1) are generated from separate converters or have separate output rectification  
179 stages, or (2) have independent current limits.

180 4) Multi-output Power Supply: A PSU that is designed to deliver the majority of its rated output  
181 power to more than one primary dc output for the purpose of powering a storage product.  
182 Multi-output PSUs may offer one or more standby outputs that remain active whenever  
183 connected to an input power source. For purposes of this specification, the total rated power  
184 output from all additional PSU outputs that are not primary and standby outputs must be  
185 greater than or equal to 20 watts.

186 5) Redundant Power Supplies: Two or more PSUs that are configured to maintain uninterrupted  
187 output load in the event of failure of one PSU.

188 I. Product Family: A group of models/configurations that share a set of common attributes that are  
189 variations on a basic design.

190 1) Common Product Family Attributes: A set of features common to all models/configurations  
191 within a product family that constitute a common basic design. All models/configurations  
192 within a product family must share the following:

- 193 i) made by the same manufacturer;
- 194 ii) be from the same model line or machine type;
- 195 iii) utilize the same model of storage controller;
- 196 iv) fall under the same taxonomy category; and
- 197 v) contain equal or greater amount of cache than the corresponding certified configuration.

198 2) Optimal Configuration: A product configuration which is representative of a product's  
199 maximum peak energy efficiency performance (performance/watt) for a given workload type.  
200 This configuration represents all products certified within the family under the associated  
201 workload type specified. This configuration is provided by the manufacturer and may be  
202 optimized for the following workload types:

- 203 i) Transaction (Block I/O products only): A workload optimized for random I/O usage  
204 measured in I/O per second per watt;
- 205 ii) Streaming (Block I/O products only): A workload optimized primarily for sequential I/O  
206 usage, measured in MiB per second per watt;
- 207 iii) Composite (File I/O products only): A workload optimized for mixed I/O usage, measured  
208 in MiB per second per watt.

209 J. Other Definitions:

210 1) Scale-Up Storage: A storage product comprised of a discreet storage controller (with or  
211 without redundancy), which has a full view of all the storage devices in the storage product.  
212 Incremental storage capacity is added by the addition of storage devices under the control  
213 of the existing storage controller.

- 214 2) Scale-Out Storage: A storage product capable of being comprised of two or more discreet  
215 storage controllers (with or without redundancy), combined with an overall integration or  
216 aggregation function resulting in a single storage product view for attached servers. Each  
217 discreet storage controller often has a partial view to a partition of the overall system's  
218 storage devices, but this is not a fixed requirement. Incremental storage capacity is added  
219 by the addition of storage devices under the control of the existing storage controller(s)  
220 and/or addition of additional storage devices along with additional controller(s).
- 221 3) Field-replaceable Unit (FRU): A unit, or component of a system that is designed to be  
222 replaced "in the field;" i.e., without returning the system to a factory or repair depot. Field  
223 replaceable units may either be customer-replaceable, or their replacement may require  
224 trained service personnel.
- 225 4) High-availability (HA): The ability of a system to perform its function continuously (without  
226 interruption) for a significantly longer period of time than the reliabilities of its individual  
227 components would suggest. High availability is most often achieved through failure  
228 tolerance.
- 229 5) Maximum Time to First Data (MaxTTFD): The maximum time required to start receiving  
230 data from a storage product to satisfy a read request for arbitrary data.
- 231 6) RAS Features: An acronym for reliability, availability, and serviceability features. RAS is  
232 sometimes also expanded to RASM, which adds "Manageability" criteria. The three primary  
233 components of RAS as related to storage products are defined as follows:
- 234 i) Reliability Features: Features supporting a storage product's ability to perform its  
235 intended function without interruption due to component failures. Technologies applied to  
236 increase reliability include: component selection (MTBF), redundancy (both at a micro  
237 and macro levels), temperature and/or voltage de-rating, error detection and correction  
238 technologies.
- 239 ii) Availability Features: Features that support a storage product's ability to maximize normal  
240 operating time and minimize planned and unplanned down time.
- 241 iii) Serviceability Features: Features that support a storage product's ability to be serviced  
242 (e.g., hot-plugging).
- 243 iv) Advanced Data Recovery Capability: A collective term used in this specification to refer to  
244 error detection and correction features such as RAID, mirroring / grid technology, or other  
245 comparable advanced error detection and recovery systems
- 246 v) Non-disruptive Serviceability: Support for continued availability of data and response  
247 times during all FRU and service operations; including break/fix, code patches,  
248 software/firmware upgrades, configuration changes, data migrations, and system  
249 expansion.
- 250 7) Block I/O Loads:
- 251 i) Random Read: Any I/O load in which consecutively issued read requests do not specify  
252 adjacently addressed data. The term random I/O is commonly used to denote any I/O  
253 load that is not sequential, whether or not the distribution of data locations is indeed  
254 random.
- 255 ii) Random Write: Any I/O load whose consecutively issued write requests do not specify  
256 adjacently addressed data. The term random I/O is commonly used to denote any I/O  
257 load that is not sequential, whether or not the distribution of data locations is indeed  
258 random.
- 259 iii) Sequential Read: An I/O load consisting of consecutively issued read requests to  
260 adjacently addressed data.

- 261 iv) Sequential Write: An I/O load consisting of consecutively issued write requests to  
262 adjacently addressed data.
- 263 v) Hot Band: An I/O load consisting of a collection of read and write requests that models  
264 areas of higher frequency I/O activity over the addressed data.
- 265 8) File I/O Loads:
- 266 i) DATABASE: An I/O load that simulates an OLTP database Table and Log file scenario.
- 267 ii) Software (SW) Build: An I/O load that simulates a large software project compilation or  
268 build phase of an EDA workflow.
- 269 iii) Video Data Acquisition (VDA): An I/O load that simulates acquisition of data from a  
270 temporarily volatile source such as surveillance or big data ingestion.
- 271 iv) Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI): An I/O load that simulates the workload generated by  
272 a hypervisor to support a heavy steady-state knowledge worker workload.
- 273 9) Response Time: The time required for the UUT to complete an I/O request.
- 274 10) Unit Under Test (UUT): The storage product being tested.

## 275 **2 CERTIFYING PRODUCTS**

### 276 **2.1 Included Products**

- 277 2.1.1 Products that meet all of the following conditions are eligible for ENERGY STAR certification,  
278 with the exception of products listed in Section 2.2:
- 279 i. meet the definition of a Storage Product provided in Section 1 of this document;
- 280 ii. are comprised of one or more SKUs and be able to be purchased in a single order from a  
281 storage product vendor;
- 282 iii. are characterized within the Disk Set Online categories 2, 3, or 4 and NVSS Set Disk Access  
283 categories Online 2, 4 or 4 with the following additional criteria;
- 284 a) contain a controller with advanced data recovery capability
- 285 b) support Block I/O and/or File I/O storage functions; and
- 286 c) implement scale-up or scale-out storage.

### 287 **2.2 Excluded Products**

- 288 2.2.1 Products that are covered under other ENERGY STAR product specifications are not eligible  
289 for certification under the ENERGY STAR Data Center Storage specification. The full list of  
290 specifications currently in effect can be found at [www.energystar.gov/specifications](http://www.energystar.gov/specifications).
- 291 2.2.2 The following products are specifically excluded from certification under this specification:
- 292 i. Personal / Portable Data Storage Products;
- 293 ii. Computer Servers;
- 294 iii. Blade Storage Products;
- 295 iv. Direct Attached Storage Products
- 296 v. Storage Products capable of only object based storage;

- vi. Storage devices in the following categories of the taxonomy: Disk Set Near-Online, RVML Set Removable Media Library, RNML Set Virtual Media Library and NVSS Set Memory Access.

**Note:** EPA has updated Section 2.1.1.iii and Section 2.2.2.vi to harmonize with the updated SNIA taxonomy terminology. The effective scope of Draft 2 remains the same as proposed in Draft 1.

### 3 CERTIFICATION CRITERIA

#### 3.1 Significant Digits and Rounding

- 3.1.1 All calculations shall be carried out with directly measured (unrounded) values.
- 3.1.2 Unless otherwise specified, compliance with specification limits shall be evaluated using directly measured or calculated values without any benefit from rounding.
- 3.1.3 Directly measured or calculated values that are submitted for reporting on the ENERGY STAR website shall be rounded to the nearest significant digit as expressed in the corresponding specification limit.

#### 3.2 Power Supply Requirements

- 3.2.1 Power Supply Units (PSUs): PSUs used in storage products eligible under this specification shall meet the following requirements when tested using the *EPRI Generalized Internal Power Supply Efficiency Test Protocol, Rev. 6.7.1* (available at [https://www.plugloadsolutions.com/docs/collatrl/print/Generalized\\_Internal\\_Power\\_Supply\\_Efficiency\\_Test\\_Protocol\\_R6.7.1.pdf](https://www.plugloadsolutions.com/docs/collatrl/print/Generalized_Internal_Power_Supply_Efficiency_Test_Protocol_R6.7.1.pdf)).
- 3.2.2 Efficiency and Power Factor in Primary Embedded Equipment: Embedded PSUs that power primary components of the storage product, including controllers and drawers, must meet the requirements in Table 1 and Table 2.
  - i. Efficiency: A storage product PSU shall meet efficiency requirements as specified in **Error! Reference source not found.**

**Table 1: Efficiency Requirements for PSUs**

Power Supply Type	Rated Output Power	20% Load	50% Load	100% Load
Multi-output (Ac-Dc)	All Output Levels	88%	92%	88%
Single-output (Ac-Dc)	All Output Levels	90%	94%	91%

**Note:** Stakeholders commented that the relevant 80Plus equivalent level for 230V redundant power supplies should apply to each single and multi-output power supplies. In Draft 1, the multi-output requirement references the 80Plus Gold 230V non-redundant equivalent level.

EPA has confirmed the frequency of multi-output IPSs with redundancy features in the storage market and therefore supports maintaining consistency between the two types of IPS output. As a result, the multi-output requirements in Table 1 have been revised to align with the 80Plus equivalent 230V redundant requirements.

- 330 ii. Power Factor: A storage product PSU shall meet power factor requirements as specified in  
331 Table 2.

332 **Table 2: Power Factor Requirements for PSUs**

PSU Type	Rated Output Power	20% Load	50% Load	100% Load
Redundant and Non-Redundant Capable PSU	All Output Levels	0.80	0.90	0.95

- 333 iii. Embedded PSUs that do not power primary components of the storage product are not  
334 subject to PSU requirements.

### 335 3.3 Power Modeling Requirements

336 **Note:** EPA has engaged in further discussion with stakeholders about the relevancy of power modeling  
337 tools that generate energy use estimates based on real world usage rather than maximum power draw.  
338 The group determined that it is not appropriate to require real world energy modeling at this time , as  
339 modeling is still being refined and most do not have full confidence in the results yet. As such, EPA is  
340 proposing to remove the power modeling requirements in Draft 2. However, the Agency would like to  
341 continue engaging with stakeholders regarding other potential uses for power modeling tools at the  
342 datacenter level and how the ENERGY STAR program and manufacturers can help educate customers  
343 on how to use these tools to save energy.

### 344 3.4 Energy Efficiency Active State Requirements for Block I/O Systems

- 345 3.4.1 To certify for ENERGY STAR, each Optimal Configuration point submitted for a block I/O  
346 storage product or storage product family must meet the following applicable active state  
347 requirements in Table 3 for each workload type for which it is certified.  
348

349 **Table 3: Active State Requirements for Block I/O Storage Products**

Workload Type	Specific Workload Test	Minimum Performance/Watt Ratio	Applicable Units of Ratio
Transaction	Hot Band	28.0	IOPS/watt
Streaming	Sequential Read	2.3	MiBS/watt
Streaming	Sequential Write	1.5	MiBS/watt

- 350  
351 3.4.2 An Optimal Configuration point submitted for a streaming workload must meet either the  
352 sequential read or sequential write requirement in Table 3 above, but is not required to meet  
353 that value for both workload tests. Both test values will be reported and displayed publicly  
354 regardless of whether they meet the criteria in Table 3.

355 **Note:** EPA received stakeholder feedback on both the proposed transaction and streaming requirements  
356 in Draft 1.

357 A first concern was that the Draft 1 transaction requirements did not provide a path to certification for  
358 transaction optimized products that use a mixture of HDD and SSD technology unless there was a 7.2k  
359 HDD variation of the product that met the criteria. This is problematic as for transaction workloads,  
360 combined products with 10k and 15k HDDs and SDDs are an attractive choice for efficiency and cost.

361 EPA reviewed the data set and agrees with the concern expressed by stakeholders. As a result, EPA has  
 362 proposed in Section 3.5.3.ii below that configurations may be tested with a mixture of HDD and SDD  
 363 storage devices, often referred to as hybrid storage products. By allowing hybrid storage products to  
 364 certify as ENERGY STAR, EPA's analysis shows that the data now supports a more challenging  
 365 transaction requirement of 28 IOPS/watt which still allows a small portion of lower cost 10k HDD only  
 366 transaction products to continue to earn the ENERGY STAR under Version 2.0 but the majority of  
 367 certified products will be more efficiently designed hybrid SSD/HDD and all SSD based products.. This  
 368 aligns with EPA's desire to highlight for purchasers higher efficiency SSDs while allowing the continued  
 369 use of lower cost HDDs in configurations that are still relatively efficient for transaction workloads,  
 370 typically through a hybrid approach.

371 A second concern was that Draft 1 streaming requirements do not allow 7.2k HDD based products to  
 372 meet the requirements because 10k and 15k HDD data in the data set artificially raised the Draft 1 level

373 EPA has reviewed the data and proposed revised streaming requirements that specifically target the 7.2k  
 374 HDD product offerings. EPA acknowledges that the 10k and 15k HDD data in the data set appears to  
 375 have been submitted as superfluous data that was part of transaction optimized products, and that these  
 376 data points do not represent real world steaming optimized products. EPA anticipates that the revised  
 377 levels will allow roughly 31% of 7.2k HDD based products to meet the requirements.

### 378 3.5 Energy Efficiency Feature Requirements

379 3.5.1 To certify for ENERGY STAR, a storage product must contain the following feature,  
 380 implemented as specified:

- 381 i. *Adaptive Active Cooling*: Primary components of a storage product must utilize adaptive  
 382 cooling technologies that reduce the energy consumed by the cooling technology in  
 383 proportion to the current cooling needs to the storage product. (e.g., reduction of variable  
 384 speed fan or blower speeds at lower ambient air temperature). This requirement is not  
 385 applicable to devices that employ passive cooling.

386 3.5.2 A storage product shall make available to the end user configurable / selectable features listed  
 387 in Table 4 in quantities greater than or equal to those listed in Table 5.  
 388

389 **Table 4: Recognized COM Features**

Feature	Verification Requirement
COM: Thin Provisioning	SNIA verification test
COM: Data Deduplication	SNIA verification test
COM: Compression	SNIA verification test
COM: Delta Snapshots	SNIA verification test

390  
 391  
 392 **Table 5: COM Requirements for Disk Set and NVSS Disk Set Access Online 2, 3 and 4 Systems**

Storage Product Category	Minimum number of COMs required to be made available
Online 2	1
Online 3	2
Online 4	3

**Note:** EPA has revised the title of Table 5 to cover both Disk Set and NVSS Disk Set Access storage products.

### 3.6 Information Reporting Requirements

3.6.1 Active and Idle State Efficiency Disclosure: To certify for ENERGY STAR, all active and idle state test results based on workload tests listed in Table 6 or Table 7 shall be reported:

**Table 6: Required Workload Tests for all Block I/O Configurations**

Workload Test
Hot Band
Random Read
Random Write
Sequential Read
Sequential Write
Ready Idle <sup>2</sup>

**Table 7: Required Workload Tests for all File I/O Configurations**

Workload Test
DATABASE
SW Build
VDA
VDI
Ready Idle <sup>3</sup>

3.6.2 Workload Weighting Requirements: The weighted percentages shown in Table 8 or Table 9 shall be used to calculate the appropriate Optimal Configuration point for a given storage product.

**Table 8: Workload Weighting Requirements for all Block I/O Systems**

Workload Test	Transaction Optimization	Streaming Optimization	Capacity Optimization
Hot Band	100%	0%	0%
Sequential Read	0%	50%	0%
Sequential Write	0%	50%	0%
Ready Idle	0%	0%	100%

**Example:** To optimize for a streaming workload, manufacturers should identify a system configuration and storage device count where the weighted sum (per Table 7) of the Sequential Read and Sequential Write results are maximized. The resulting storage device count should be used as the streaming optimization point for ENERGY STAR testing and certification. The same weighting of the sums should also be used for subsequent certification measurements (e.g. determining optional flexible or mixed certification ranges).

<sup>2</sup> SNIA defined workload tests in Table 6, Table 7, and through the rest of this document can be found in the “SNIA Emerald™ Power Efficiency Measurement Specification” Version 4.0. Further detail may be found at [www.snia.org/green](http://www.snia.org/green).

411 **Table 9: Workload Weighting Requirements for all File I/O Systems**

Workload Test	Transaction Optimization	Streaming Optimization	Composite Optimization
DATABASE	50%	0%	0%
SW Build	0%	0%	100%
VDA	0%	100%	0%
VDI	50%	0%	0%

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413 3.6.3 Testing Data Requirements for all Scale-up Storage Products:: The following test data is  
414 required for each configuration submitted for certification as ENERGY STAR:

- 415 i. The manufacturer must choose a workload type for testing from 1.1.2.
- 416 ii. The manufacturer must choose a single type of or combination of hard disk storage devices  
417 and solid state storage devices which result in the highest work/watt for that workload type.  
418 The amount of solid state storage devices in the tested configuration in a hybrid disk/solid  
419 state configuration cannot exceed 30% of the addressable storage being represented by solid  
420 state unless the product is testing with only solid state devices in which all devices in the  
421 configuration shall be solid state devices.
- 422 iii. For the chosen workload type, physical data for all measurements listed in Table 6 or Table 7  
423 shall be submitted for a manufacturer determined Optimal Configuration point Additionally:
- 424 iv. To certify additional workload types, repeat the above starting at 3.5.3.i for a different  
425 workload.
- 426 v. The following rules apply to all testing above:
- 427 (a) Verification testing of COM features (Table 4) specified by the storage product shall be  
428 executed at least once using storage devices of the vender's choice. Once verified there  
429 is no requirement to re-execute the COM verification testing procedure with different  
430 storage devices.

431 **Note:** EPA is proposing the following changes to the Test Data Requirement section above:

432 Specified in Section 3.5.3.ii that optimal configurations may contain a mixture of hard disk storage devices  
433 only, solid state storage devices only or a combination of hard disk storage and solid state storage  
434 devices where the maximum percentage of addressable space provided by solid state devices cannot  
435 exceed 30% of the product's total addressable space. This allows manufacturers to test hybrid HDD/SSD  
436 products which are efficient and prevalent on the market now while ensuring that the SSD portion of the  
437 product does not dominate the test results of the optimal configuration. In recent discussions with  
438 manufacturers, a 30% cap on SSD capacity in hybrid systems was agreed to be a reasonable proxy for  
439 commonly sold hybrid HDD/SSD configurations in the market today. Setting this cap will also enable EPA  
440 and stakeholders to create a dataset of comparable products that will support future evaluation of  
441 efficiency too. EPA welcomes stakeholder feedback on this approach as well as any supporting data that  
442 shows that a percentage different than 30% is more appropriate as a cap for the amount of SSD capacity  
443 permitted in a hybrid HDD/SSD optimal test point configuration.

444 In addition, EPA removed Section 3.5.3.v.b) as it pertained to products optimized to the capacity  
445 configuration which was removed in Draft 1

446 3.6.4 Testing Data Requirements for all Scale-out Storage Products: The following test data is  
447 required for each configuration submitted for certification as ENERGY STAR:

- 448 i. All testing and data requirements of Sections 3.5.3 shall be followed.
- 449 ii. When testing, the smallest marketed quantity of storage controllers / nodes shall be tested.

- 450           iii. Additional systems with a larger quantity of storage controllers may be optionally submitted.
- 451   3.6.5   Data for display on the ENERGY STAR website shall be submitted for each ENERGY STAR  
452           certified storage product or storage product family.
- 453           i. Whenever possible, Partners should also provide a hyperlink to a more detailed power  
454           calculator on their website that purchasers can use to understand power and performance  
455           data for specific configurations within the product family.
- 456   3.6.6   The following information will be displayed on the ENERGY STAR website:
- 457           i. Product model name, model number, and SKU or other configuration identification number;
- 458           ii. A list of important product characteristics, including;
- 459                 (a) System configuration and tested I/O type;
- 460                 (b) Storage controller details (e.g. model name and number);
- 461                 (c) Software configuration and transfer protocols used in testing;
- 462                 (d) Storage controller power supply information;
- 463                 (e) Storage device drawer power supply information;
- 464                 (f) Storage devices used per optimization points;
- 465                 (g) Input power and environmental characteristics during testing;
- 466                 (h) System power optimization capabilities;
- 467                 (i) Inlet air temperature and power consumption reporting capabilities.
- 468           iii. A list of optimal configurations of certified product families; and disclosure of the time period  
469           used for data averaging.
- 470           iv. A list of power management and other power saving features available and enabled by  
471           default;
- 472           v. Specified thermal measurements conducted during testing;
- 473           vi. For product families, a list of certified storage products within the family; and
- 474           vii. Energy Efficiency Performance data (performance/watt) for required active and idle state test  
475           reporting specified in Table 10 or Table 11 below:

476           **Table 10: Active and Idle State Efficiency Block I/O Test Results Displayed**

Workload Test	Transaction Optimization	Streaming Optimization	Capacity Optimization
Hot Band	Yes	No	No
Random Read	Yes	No	No
Random Write	Yes	No	No
Sequential Read	No	Yes	No
Sequential Write	No	Yes	No
Ready Idle	Yes	Yes	Yes

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**Table 11: Active and Idle State Efficiency File I/O Test Results Displayed**

Workload Test	Transaction Optimization	Streaming Optimization	Composite Optimization
DATABASE	Yes	No	No
SW Build	No	No	Yes
VDA	No	Yes	No
VDI	Yes	No	No
Ready Idle	Yes	Yes	Yes

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3.6.7 The following test information shall be submitted as part of the certification process, but will not be displayed on the ENERGY STAR website:

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- i. Discrete power and performance data for all tested configurations;

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**3.7 Standard Performance Data Measurement and Output Requirements**

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3.7.1 Data Elements: Disk Set and NVSS Disk Set Access Online 3 and Online 4 storage products shall be capable of measuring and reporting the following data elements at the storage product level:

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- i. Input Power, in watts. Input power measurements must be reported with accuracy within  $\pm 5\%$  of the actual value for measurements greater than 200 W, through the full range of operation. For measurements less than or equal to 200 W, the accuracy must be less than or equal to 10 W multiplied by the number of installed PSUs; and

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- ii. Inlet Air Temperature, in degrees Celsius, with accuracy of  $\pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ .

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3.7.2 Reporting Implementation:

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- i. Data shall be made available in a published or user-accessible format that is readable by third-party, non-proprietary management systems;

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- ii. Data shall be made available to end users and third-party management systems over a standard network connection;

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- iii. Data shall be made available via embedded components or add-in devices that are packaged with the storage product (e.g., a service processor, embedded power or thermal meter or other out-of-band technology, or pre-installed OS);

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- iv. When an open and universally available data collection and reporting standard becomes available, manufacturers should incorporate the universal standard into their products.

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- v. Inlet air temperature data shall be reported for the controller chassis only.

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3.7.3 Sampling Requirements:

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- i. *Input power*: Input power measurements must be sampled internally to the storage product at a rate of greater than or equal to 1 measurement per contiguous 10 second period.

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- ii. *Inlet air temperature*: Inlet air temperature measurements must be sampled internally to the storage product at a rate of greater than or equal to 1 measurement every 10 seconds.

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- iii. *Timestamping*: Systems that implement time stamping of environmental data shall sample internally to the storage product data at a rate of greater than or equal to 1 measurement every 30 seconds.

511 iv. *Management Software*: All sampled measurements shall be made available to external  
 512 management software either via an on-demand pull method, or via a coordinated push  
 513 method. In either case the system’s management software is responsible for establishing  
 514 the data delivery time scale while the storage product is responsible to assuring data  
 515 delivered meets the above sampling and currency requirements.

516 3.7.4 Documentation Requirements: The following information shall be included in the data submission:  
 517 i. Guaranteed accuracy levels for power and temperature measurements, and  
 518 ii. The time period used for data averaging (if present).

519 **Note:** EPA has proposed the following three changes in Section 3.8:  
 520 - Updated the Online 3 and Online 4 references to include both Disk Set and NVSS Disk Set Access  
 521 storage product types, aligning with the new taxonomy proposed above.  
 522 - Removed any remaining references to “optional” in criteria relating to inlet air temperature reporting.  
 523 - Clarified that reporting inlet air temperature at the controller chassis location(s) only.

524 **4 TESTING**

525 **4.1 Test Methods**

526 4.1.1 Test methods identified in Table 12 shall be used for purposes of evaluating active and idle  
 527 state storage product energy efficiency.

528 **Table 12: Test Methods for ENERGY STAR Certification**

Product Type	Test Method
All	ENERGY STAR Test Method for Data Center Storage Equipment, Rev. April 2019.

529 **Note:** EPA anticipates the full adoption of SNIA’s new Emerald V4 test and measurement specification  
 530 within an updated draft of the ENERGY STAR Test Method for Data Center Storage to be released with  
 531 the Final Draft of this specification.

532 **4.2 Number of Units Required for Testing**

533 4.2.1 Representative Models shall be selected for testing per the following requirements:  
 534 i. For certification of an individual product model, a product configuration equivalent to that  
 535 which is intended to be marketed and labeled as ENERGY STAR is considered the  
 536 Representative Model;  
 537 ii. For certification of a product family one or more Optimization Configurations shall be tested  
 538 and submitted. Within the family covered by one or more Optimal Configurations,  
 539 manufacturers continue to be held accountable for any efficiency claims made about their  
 540 products, including those not tested or for which data was not reported;

541 **5 EFFECTIVE DATE**

542 5.1.1 Effective Date: The Version 2.0 ENERGY STAR Data Center Storage specification shall take

543 effect on **TBD**. To certify for ENERGY STAR, a product model shall meet the ENERGY STAR  
544 specification in effect on its date of manufacture. The date of manufacture is specific to each  
545 unit and is the date on which a unit is considered to be completely assembled.

546 **Note:** EPA anticipates completing this specification development effort in the spring of 2020.

547 5.1.2 Future Specification Revisions: EPA reserves the right to change this specification should  
548 technological and/or market changes affect its usefulness to consumers, industry, or the  
549 environment. In keeping with current policy, revisions to the specification are arrived at through  
550 stakeholder discussions. In the event of a specification revision, please note that the ENERGY  
551 STAR certification is not automatically granted for the life of a product model.

## 552 **6 CONSIDERATIONS FOR FUTURE REVISIONS**

553 **TBD**

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