



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF AIR AND RADIATION

December 20, 2013

Dear Telephony Manufacturer or Other Interested Party:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to inform you that the ENERGY STAR[®] Version 3.0 Telephony specification has been finalized. Your valuable feedback and participation throughout the specification development process was integral to updating the specification so that it captures top performing products in today's market. This letter highlights the new requirements and outlines the transition process. The new Version 3.0 specification will take effect on October 1, 2014.

If all cordless and corded, analog and Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) phones were to meet the Version 3.0 specification, the energy cost savings would grow to nearly \$200 million each year and 2.6 billion pounds of annual greenhouse gas emissions would be prevented, equivalent to the emissions from more than 245,000 vehicles. With this specification, ENERGY STAR will recognize products that are, on average, 43% more efficient than conventional products.

The Version 3.0 specification establishes new Partial On Mode (formerly Standby) power consumption requirements for all products and, for the first time, includes VoIP phones, incorporating a power-saving Off Mode intended for low usage periods in business environments. The Version 3.0 specification further encourages the adoption of energy efficiency technologies including Energy Efficient Ethernet to save power in periods of low data throughput and External Proxy Capability to enable end point devices such as computers to maintain network connectivity while in low power modes. The specification references a new ENERGY STAR test method published on November 19, 2013, which introduced new methods for measuring Power-Over-Ethernet, the common means of powering desktop VoIP telephones in business environments.

EPA received limited feedback on the Final Draft specification, which resulted in only minor editorial changes. In particular, EPA has clarified when incentives for Energy Efficient Ethernet and External Proxy Capability can be applied, what certification requirements apply for base stations and handsets, and how to mark the external power supply, should markings for higher levels of efficiency become available in the future.

A complete Telephony Program Requirements document, including the Final Version 3.0 Eligibility Criteria and existing Partner Commitments, is attached for your reference. All stakeholder comments, draft versions of the specification, and related materials are available on the ENERGY STAR website at www.energystar.gov/RevisedSpecs under the link for "Telephony."

Transition Timeline and Next Steps

EPA shares partners' desire for a smooth transition from one ENERGY STAR specification to the next, with the objective of meeting consumer expectations that ENERGY STAR labeled products

meet the latest requirements upon their effective date. With this in mind, EPA has established the following timeline:

- Effective today manufacturers may elect to have their EPA-recognized certification body (CB) certify their eligible products, including newly eligible VoIP telephones, to the Version 3.0 requirements.
- After May 15, 2014 CBs will be instructed to stop certifying new product submittals to the Version 2.2 specification. Note, however, that existing certifications will remain valid for purposes of ENERGY STAR qualification until October 1, 2014.
- Any eligible product manufactured as of October 1, 2014 will have to meet the Version 3.0 requirements to bear the ENERGY STAR mark. All certifications of products to the Version 2.2 specification will be invalid for purposes of ENERGY STAR qualification, and CBs will be permitted to submit to EPA for qualification only those models they have certified to Version 3.0.

As a reminder, all new products must be certified by an EPA-recognized CB before being labeled and marketed as ENERGY STAR qualified. Upon satisfactory completion of all certification requirements, a CB will notify the partner that the product is ENERGY STAR qualified and will submit qualified product data to EPA for listing on the ENERGY STAR website. For more information on the Third-party Certification program, please visit www.energystar.gov/3rdPartyCert.

Manufacturers new to the ENERGY STAR program may submit a Partnership Agreement to join@energystar.gov to initiate the application process for the Telephony program. Existing partners need only send an email expressing their intention to certify products to this new specification to join@energystar.gov. For information about this process, please visit www.energystar.gov/join.

Please note that ENERGY STAR partnership as a manufacturer is limited to organizations that own and/or license a brand name under which they sell eligible products in the United States and/or Canada. Partnership is not available to original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) that do not sell directly to consumers or end users. OEMs may certify products on behalf of the ENERGY STAR brand owners/licensees; however the brand owner must be the ENERGY STAR partner associated directly with the certified product models, since only partners are authorized to use the ENERGY STAR certification mark.

EPA thanks stakeholders who provided feedback during the specification revision process and looks forward to working with you as you qualify and market your energy-efficient telephony products. If you have any questions or concerns about the specification or partnership process, please feel free to contact me at (202) 343-9845 or Radulovic.Verena@epa.gov. For any questions related to the test method, please contact Bryan Berringer, DOE, at (202) 586-0371 or Bryan.Berringer@ee.doe.gov.

Thank you for your continued support of ENERGY STAR.

Best Regards,



Verena Radulovic, Product Manager
ENERGY STAR for Consumer Electronics

Enclosure:
Final Version 3.0 ENERGY STAR Program Requirements for Telephony