

IEEE Standard for Environmental Assessment of Electronic Products

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1. Overview

1.1 Scope

The IEEE 1680™ family of standards defines environmental performance criteria for electronic products. The scope of this document is to provide guidelines and implementation procedures for the standards included in the IEEE 1680 family of standards. Each standard in the IEEE 1680 family of standards shall address criteria for a specific product or group of products in at least the following eight categories of environmental performance: reduction or elimination of environmentally sensitive materials, materials selection, design for end-of-life, life cycle extension, energy conservation, end-of-life management, corporate performance, and packaging.

1.2 Purpose

This standard provides guidelines and implementation procedures for this IEEE 1680 family of standards. The standards within the family will provide clear and consistent performance criteria for the design of electronic products, thereby providing an opportunity to secure market recognition for efforts to reduce the environmental impact of electronic products. This family of standards is intended to provide a tool for government, institutional, and corporate purchasers. Product manufacturers may also use this tool to earn recognition in the consumer market, recognizing that certain criteria may not be applicable to all types of purchasers. Applicability will be specified in each individual standard.

The environmental performance criteria of the IEEE 1680 family of standards are intended to define a measure of environmental leadership in: the design and manufacture of electronic products; the delivery of specified services that are associated with the sale of the product; and in associated corporate performance characteristics.

This family of standards is defined with the intention that the criteria are technically feasible to achieve, but that only products demonstrating the leading environmental performance currently available in the marketplace would meet them at the time of their adoption. As the environmental performance of products that are available in the marketplace improves, it is intended that the criteria will be updated and revised to set a higher performance standard for leadership products.

This standard is intended to serve as a baseline for further environmental standards for additional electronic products to be developed in the future. References to IEEE Std 1680 likewise reference, unless otherwise specified, the individual product standards in the IEEE 1680 family of standards.

1.3 Application

The environmental performance criteria are contained in the standards that are members of this IEEE 1680 family of standards. The principles and procedures identified in Clause 1 apply to electronic products and will apply to future standards developed for additional electronic products.

Different configurations of a product, as defined in the standards in this family, may include options for processors, memory, hard disks, etc. A product, for the purpose of this family of standards, is every configuration that could be offered in a specific marketing model and chassis type. If specific configurations do not meet the criteria as declared, then the manufacturer shall clearly report to the Product Registration Entity which configurations do not meet the criteria as declared.

A product includes an electronic product and all the peripherals that are integral to its operation. For example, the desktop computer together with the keyboard, the mouse, and the power cord would be a product.

1.4 Conformance with the IEEE 1680 family of standards

A manufacturer may designate one or more specific geographic regions, or countries, for which a product declaration is applicable. In order to be conformant in a designated region or country, each unit of the product that is sold in the region or country must satisfy all of the applicable requirements provided in Clause 4 contained in the product standards in the IEEE 1680 family. The Market Surveillance Entity (MSE) will determine the regions or countries that are in the geographic scope of this family of standards to which subscribers may then declare product conformance. Those regions or countries shall be listed on the MSE's Registry.¹ The criteria in a product declaration shall consist of two types: 1) criteria that are independent of a region or country and therefore shall be declared as meeting the criteria per Clause 4 wherever sold; and 2) criteria that are dependent on a region or country, a subscriber shall declare conformance by country for each of these criteria. Clause 4 of the standard shall designate the independence or dependence of regional or country level designation as listed on the MSE's Registry. All required criteria per Clause 4 must be met in any region or country for a product declaration to be valid in that region or country.

¹ At the time of this publication, the EPEAT[®] Registry (<http://www.epeat.net>) was an example of an MSE's Registry. EPEAT is a registered trademark of EPEAT, Inc. This information is given for the convenience of users of this standard and does not constitute an endorsement by the IEEE of these products or services. Equivalent products or services may be used if they can be shown to lead to the same results.