

# Green Electronics Council

QUALITY AND SUSTAINABILITY OF PV SYSTEMS  
CONFERENCE

May 2018

# WHO IS THE GREEN ELECTRONICS COUNCIL?

- The Green Electronics Council (GEC) is a mission driven non-profit founded in 2006
- Our vision is a world in which only sustainable IT products are designed, manufactured, and purchased
- Our flagship program is EPEAT, the leading ecolabel for IT Products [Computers & Displays, Imaging Equipment, Televisions, Mobile Phones, Servers]

**Institutional  
Purchasers**

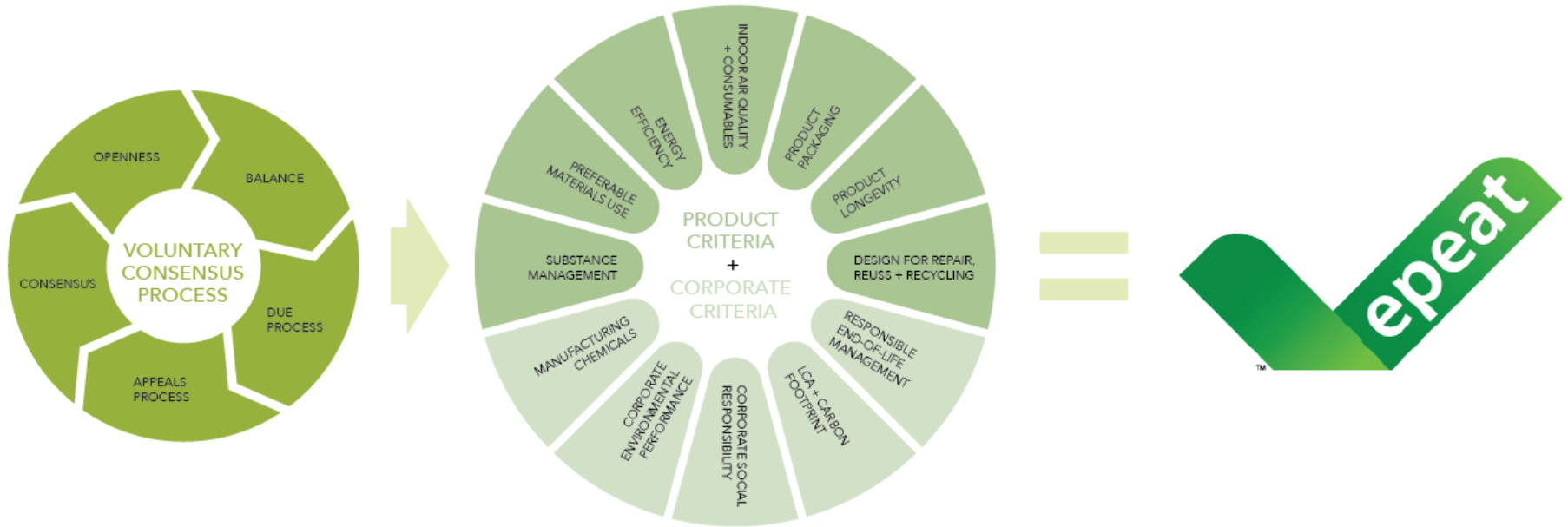
**IT Brands**



European Technology & Innovation  
Platform May 2018



# HOW ARE EPEAT CRITERIA DEVELOPED?



**Balanced Voluntary Consensus Process**

**Lifecycle of Product**

# HOW PRODUCTS ARE RATED BY EPEAT?

- Products must meet all required criteria for inclusion
  - Simply being registered in EPEAT indicates high environmental performance
- Products are rated bronze, silver or gold based on the number of optional criteria they meet

Meets <50%  
Optional Criteria



Meets 50 – 75%  
Optional Criteria



Meets > 75%  
Optional Criteria



# WHO USES EPEAT?

Thousands of **public jurisdictions**, dozens of **national governments**, 300+ **colleges and universities** and hundreds of **private sector** organizations in Hospitality, Finance, Healthcare and other sectors specify EPEAT

EPEAT highlighted in countless laws, directives, policies, best-practices, and guidance documents

Widespread adoption and repeated endorsement for over a decade based on:

- ✓ Trust
- ✓ Credibility
- ✓ Ease of use in procurements
- ✓ Product availability - broad range of brands available via EPEAT

Global  
EPEAT-registered  
IT shipments  
surpassed  
**One BILLION units**  
in 2016

# NSF/ANSI 457: SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP STANDARD FOR PHOTOVOLTAIC MODULES

## In Scope

- **PV modules** for installation on, or integral with buildings, or
- primarily used as components of free-standing power-generation systems, including but not necessarily limited to:
  - photovoltaic cells that generate electric power using solar energy
  - interconnects (materials that conduct electricity between cells)
  - encapsulant (insulating material enclosing the cells and cell interconnects)
  - superstrate (material forming primary light-facing outer surface) and substrate (material forming back outer surface) (e.g., glass, plastic films)
  - wires used to interconnect photovoltaic modules and connect junction boxes to the balance of system equipment
  - frame or integrated mounting mechanism, if present

# NSF/ANSI 457: SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP STANDARD FOR PHOTOVOLTAIC MODULES

## Not in Scope

- Balance of **system equipment**, such as cabling and mounting structures, equipment intended to accept the electrical output from the array
- **Inverters**

# NSF/ANSI 457: SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP STANDARD FOR PHOTOVOLTAIC MODULES

## Sustainability Performance Categories

- Substance Management
- Manufacturing Chemicals
- Preferable Materials
- Design for Recycling
- Product Packaging
- Responsible End of Life Management
- Water Use
- Energy Management
- Life Cycle Assessment
- Corporate Environmental Performance
- Corporate Social Performance
- Conflict Mineral Sourcing



## **Management of substances**

Required - List of declarable substances

Required – List of declarable substances used in manufacturing

Required - Disclosure of substances on the European Union REACH Regulation Candidate List of Substances of Very High Concern

Required - Avoidance or reduction of high global warming potential (GWP) gas emissions resulting from photovoltaic module manufacturing

## **Preferable materials use**

Required - Declaration of recycled content in product

## **Life cycle assessment**

Required - Conducting life cycle assessment

## **Energy efficiency & water use**

Required – Water inventory

## **End of life management & design for recycling**

Required – Product take-back service and processing requirements (corporate)

## **Product packaging**

Required - Elimination of substances of concern in product packaging

Required - Elimination of chlorine in processing packaging materials

Required - Enhancing recyclability of packaging materials

## **Corporate responsibility**

Required - Environmental management system (EMS) certification (corporate)

Required - Manufacturer conformance with occupational health and safety performance (corporate)

Required - Reporting on Key Performance Indicators (corporate)

Required - Commitment to Environmental and Social Responsibility (corporate)

Required - Public disclosure of use of conflict minerals in products (corporate)

**NSF/ANSI 457**

**REQUIRED  
CRITERIA**

# NSF/ANSI 457: SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP STANDARD FOR PHOTOVOLTAIC MODULES

## PV Module Timeline

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<b>November 2015</b> Launch Joint Committee [photovoltaic manufacturers, installers, purchasers, suppliers, government representatives, academics, environmental NGOs, certification organizations]	<b>January 2017</b> Go to Ballot/ANSI public comment	<b>December 2017</b> Publication of NSF 457 Standard	26 Months
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## Adding Inverters Timeline

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<b>July 2018</b> Expand existing Joint Committee [inverter manufacturers]	<b>December 2018</b> Go to Ballot/ANSI public comment	<b>March 2019</b> Publication of NSF 457 Standard Revision that includes Inverters	8 Months
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# THANK YOU

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