

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



OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

January 21, 2011

Dear ENERGY STAR[®] Set-top Box Manufacturer, Service Provider, or Other Interested Party:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to share with you the attached Final Version 3.0 and 4.0 ENERGY STAR Set-top Box (STB) Specifications, Test Method, and Service Provider Partner Commitments. EPA would like to acknowledge the many ENERGY STAR stakeholders who have invested substantial time and effort over the past several months to ensure the successful completion of this important body of work.

A series of minor edits have been incorporated into these final specification documents as a result of continued stakeholder feedback on the Final Draft specification and subsequent Deep Sleep discussion document, including:

- Eligibility Criteria
 - Modified the requirements for Maintenance Activities (Section 3.2.2) to permit maintenance during Deep Sleep.
 - Incorporated changes to Deep Sleep requirements (Section 3.2.4) and Primary TEC calculation (Section 3.3.2) as presented in the Deep Sleep discussion document from December 14, 2010.
 - Updated the IP Base Type TEC allowance to 50 kWh/year for Version 3.0.
 - Updated the Version 3.0 effective date to September 1, 2011.
 - Created two separate documents for Versions 3.0 and 4.0.
- Test Method
 - Added an explicit provision for use of alternative video content for devices unable to tune Reference Channels specified in Section 4.H.
 - Reduced test durations for Sleep Mode (Section 7.6), Automatic Power Down (Section 7.7), and Deep Sleep (Section 7.8) to 5 minutes.
- Service Provider Partner Commitments
 - Incorporated changes to Deep Sleep requirements (Section 3.1.4) as presented in the Deep Sleep discussion document from December 14, 2010.

EPA shares its Partners' desire for a smooth transition from one ENERGY STAR specification version to the next, with the objective of meeting consumer expectations that ENERGY STAR labeled products fully meet the latest requirements in effect upon their date of manufacture. With this in mind, EPA has established the following timeline:

- Effective immediately, manufacturers may elect to have their Certification Body (CB) certify their eligible products to the Version 3.0 requirements.
- After May 1, 2011, Certification Bodies will be instructed to stop certifying new product submittals to Version 2.1. Note, however, that existing certifications to Version 2.1 will remain valid for purposes of ENERGY STAR qualification until September 1, 2011.
- As of September 1, 2011 any product shipped with an ENERGY STAR label must meet Version 3.0 requirements. All certifications of products to the Version 2.1 specification will be invalid for purposes of ENERGY STAR qualification and CBs will only submit product models certified to Version 3.0 to EPA.

As a reminder, as of January 1, 2011 all new products must be certified by an EPA-recognized Certification Body (CB) before being labeled and marketed as ENERGY STAR. 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.

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 set-top boxes. If you have any questions or concerns about the specification or partnership process, please feel free to contact me at kaplan.katharine@epa.gov or Stephen Pantano, ICF International, at spantano@icfi.com.

Thank you for your continued support of ENERGY STAR.

Sincerely,



Katharine Kaplan
US Environmental Protection Agency
ENERGY STAR for Set-top Boxes