

New Generation TCO Certified - Summary Major Criteria Changes

Below is a sampling of proposed new and updated criteria in the draft new generation TCO Certified. This is a summary only and does not reflect all proposed changes. For complete criteria details, refer to the draft criteria document.

Environment	Rationale
Restrictions on non-halogenated substances – using the hazard assessment and decision logic framework GreenScreen™ for Safer Chemicals developed by the non-profit organization Clean Production Action.	Halogens have been largely phased out of IT products – but we need better information about alternative substances being used to replace them. Currently IT products may contain alternative substances that have not been tested or proven toxic. It is important to know more about the content of these substances and to make sure that non-halogenated flame retarding substances do not include other risks. The purpose of this mandate is to increase the knowledge of substances with regards to their human and environmental impacts and to drive a shift towards less hazardous alternatives.
Restrictions on phthalates (plasticizers)	These phthalates are highly hazardous, proven hormone disruptors and toxic to reproduction. They are likely to be banned by European law in the near future.
Declared sustainability information;	Important for helping measure and improve the sustainability impact of IT products
1. Recycled material content	Recycled plastic is more readily available and lowers environmental impact. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to 80% lower energy consumption in manufacturing compared to virgin plastics. • Less raw materials required. • Reduced carbon footprint. Every ton of recycled plastic produced can result in up to 1-3 tons of Co2 savings, compared to virgin plastics
2. Total product weight	Total product weight is an indication of the amount of potential E-waste resulting at end of life. By decreasing the total product weight it is possible to reduce E-waste.
3. Energy consumption	By knowing the energy consumption of a product it is possible to calculate the climate impact during the use phase.
Socially responsible manufacturing	Rationale
Enhanced control of the brand owner's structured work to implement their code of conduct in the supply chain. Measurement of Brand owner's proactive work to minimize non- conformities with the code of conduct.	Intended to improve brand owner's structured work to implement their code of conduct and their proactive work to minimize the risk of non conformities against the code of conduct in the supply chain. The criterion also covers the supply chain where brand owners must act to resolve any non-conformities they are made aware of.
Conflict Minerals	Rationale
Brand policy and proof of involvement in programs aimed at establishing a conflict-free supply chain of Tantalum, Tin, Tungsten and Gold (3T+G)	A continuing humanitarian crisis in conflict areas where 3T+G minerals are mined and where revenues are used to fund armed groups. Forced labor and human rights abuses are common among local populations involved in unregulated mining. TCO Development supports the underlying goal of the due diligence conflict minerals measures proposed by the EU and those contained in the Dodd Frank Act 1502, but believe it is also vital that brand owners declare their commitment to helping solve the problem. This includes supporting in-region responsible sourcing programs in order to help suppliers meet these due diligence requirements, maintain trade and develop a legitimate mining industry that directly benefits the people whose livelihoods depend on it.

For more information, visit:

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