



For Immediate Release
Weds, December 10, 2008

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EPEAT™ Rating System Passes 1000-product Milestone

Green Electronics Registry Continues Expanding to Meet Purchaser Demand

Portland, OR: The EPEAT™ green computer rating system (www.epeat.net) registered its 1000th environmentally preferable computer product last week – the EPEAT Gold Sony VGN-SR290PDB notebook. This is the latest remarkable milestone in the EPEAT system's explosive growth from its launch in July 2006 to its status as today's most expansive and influential green IT product rating system.

"We are excited to see the continual growth in EPEAT adoption by purchasers, manufacturers, and the marketplace at large," said Jeff Omelchuck, EPEAT Executive Director. "The EPEAT rating system provides a simple, credible way to measure "green" when it comes to electronic products, and that has enabled thousands of purchasers to significantly reduce the environmental impact of their computing."

From its beginning with 3 participating manufacturers and a roster of 60 registered products, the EPEAT system has grown to include over thirty manufacturer participants registering more than 1000 environmentally preferable desktops, laptops and monitors in the system. Widely known and broadly used, EPEAT helps manufacturers gain market recognition for their environmental efforts

"The EPEAT system offers Sony a clear and impartial way to assess and communicate the success of our environmental design initiatives," said Mark Small, Vice President Environmental Health and Safety at Sony. "Sony is proud to be part of this landmark 1000th product registration, and look forward to registering additional qualified products in the future."

The EPEAT system evaluates electronic products according to three tiers of environmental performance: Bronze, Silver and Gold, based on a total of 51 environmental criteria. Key benchmarks include elimination of toxic materials, design for recycling, extended product longevity, increased energy efficiency, and availability of takeback and recycling services.

EPEAT is a purchasing requirement for all US Federal Agencies, and is integrated into hundreds of government, education, health care and enterprise IT contracts worldwide. In addition EPEAT is becoming an integral part of the IT channel, with leading distributors and resellers joining EPEAT Partner programs to support their green purchasing initiatives. Global demand for EPEAT is increasing, and expansion to additional geographies and product sets is in the works.

Key purchaser profiles, the participating manufacturer list, EPEAT criteria and environmental benefits may be found at www.epeat.net .

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About EPEAT The EPEAT (Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool) program evaluates computer desktops, laptops, and monitors based on 51 environmental criteria developed through an extensive stakeholder consensus process supported by US EPA. EPEAT is based on the ANSI approved IEEE 1680 standard. All EPEAT registered products must meet 23 mandatory environmental criteria. An additional 28 optional criteria are used to determine whether products earn EPEAT Bronze, Silver, or Gold recognition. The EPEAT system is managed by the Green Electronics Council, a nonprofit organization headquartered in Portland, OR.

Compared to traditional computer equipment, all EPEAT-registered computers have reduced levels of cadmium, lead, and mercury to better protect human health and the environment. They are more energy efficient, which reduces emissions of climate changing greenhouse gases. They are also easier to upgrade and recycle. In fact, manufacturers must offer environmentally responsible recycling options for all EPEAT-registered products. For more on EPEAT criteria and qualified products, see www.epeat.net