

## Use of EPEAT in Sustainability Ratings and Reporting Protocols

Purchasing EPEAT registered products is valued by a number of prominent sustainability rating systems and disclosures platforms. Below is a list of programs where your purchase of EPEAT registered products is recognized. GEC has provided detail on how your decision to purchase EPEAT registered products can be used in these rating/disclosure programs.

### **The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE)**

AASHE is the leading association for the advancement of sustainability in higher education and empowers higher education faculty, administrators, staff and students to be effective change agents and drivers of sustainability innovation. AASHE offers a range of resources, including its Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS), which is a self-reporting framework for colleges and universities to measure their sustainability performance. Institutions of higher learning can earn up to 1 STARS credit through the Operations category ([OP-12 Electronics Purchasing](#)) of the STARS scoring matrix when they exclusively buy EPEAT registered products.

### **CDP**

CDP is a global disclosure system that enables companies, cities, states and regions to measure and manage their environmental impacts. Companies that report to CDP represent over \$100 trillion in assets, globally. Guidance developed in collaboration between GEC and CDP highlights how purchases of EPEAT registered products can support the disclosures of companies that report to CDP. Download the [EPEAT--CDP Guidance Document](#) to see how to account for your purchases of EPEAT registered products.

### **Chemical Footprint Project by the Clean Production Action (CPA)**

CPA's mission is to design and deliver strategic solutions for green chemicals, sustainable materials, and environmentally preferable products. The Chemical Footprint Project is a project of the CPA for measuring corporate progress to safer chemicals. It provides a metric for benchmarking companies as they select safer alternatives and reduce their use of chemicals of high concern. Download the Chemical Footprint Project [2018 Survey Guidance Document](#) to see how EPEAT aligns with and supports responses to the Chemical Footprint Project Survey.

### **Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)**

GRI is a global standard for sustainability reporting and helps businesses and governments worldwide understand and communicate their impact on climate change, human rights, governance and social well-being. GEC partnered with GRI so that purchases of EPEAT registered products are valued in several areas of the GRI standard. Please download the [EPEAT-GRI Guidance Document](#) to see how to account for your purchases of EPEAT registered products.

### **Sustainability Accounting Standards Board (SASB)**

SASB has developed industry-specific standards to enable businesses around the world to identify, manage and communicate financially-material sustainability information to their investors. EPEAT is referenced in the SASB [IT Hardware Standard](#) (TC-HW-410a.2) which asks respondents to disclose the percentage of eligible products, by revenue, meeting the requirements for EPEAT registration or

equivalent, as well as disclose the percentage of its products sold during the reporting period that meet EPEAT requirements.

### **The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs)**

The SDGs are a United Nations-shared blueprint for peace and prosperity globally. The Sustainable Development Goals is a set of 17 global goals, set by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015, with a target goal of 2030. The SDGs set forth strategies to improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur growth while tackling climate change. GEC is a signatory of the UN Global Compact and committed to supporting the SDGs. Purchasing EPEAT registered products is one way organizations can support the SDGs. [Click here to review the English](#) or [Spanish](#) overview of how purchasing EPEAT registered products assists you in meeting the SDGs.

### **U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC)**

USGBC is known for its Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program. LEED provides a rating system and third-party verification for the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of sustainable buildings, homes, and neighborhoods. LEED recognizes and awards points for the purchase of EPEAT registered products in [LEED V4 Guidance for the Operations and Maintenance Purchasing Policy Template](#). The guidance states that relevant IT equipment purchases must have a “Silver” EPEAT rating or better.