

**Hong Kong Green Label Scheme**  
**Product Environmental Criteria for**  
**Personal Computers (Excluding Monitor) (GL-006-001)**



## **BACKGROUND**

The Hong Kong Green Label Scheme (HKGLS) is an independent and voluntary scheme, which aims to identify products that are, based on life cycle analysis consideration, more environmentally preferable than other similar products with the same function. The Scheme is organized by the Green Council (GC) with contributions from the HKGLS Advisory Committee and a number of supporting organizations.

The prime objectives of HKGLS are:

- For Consumers: assist in making purchases of products that are less harmful to the environment;
- For Industry: stimulate development and production of environmentally preferable alternatives.

This specification sets out the requirements that personal computers will be required to meet in order to be licensed to use the HKGLS label. The requirements include environmental criteria and product characteristics. The specification also defines the testing and other means to be used to verify conformance with the criteria and product characteristics.

## **POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS**

Personal computers impact the environment throughout the entire product life cycle stages, including the consumption of natural resources, the production of raw materials, the production of electronic and other components, the assembly into a finished product, the use of products, the transport and maintenance services, and finally the waste disposal. The packaging of the computer products also contributes to solid waste generation.

## **LABEL OBJECTIVE**

The aim of the environmental criteria developed for personal computers is to:

- Reduce the material types and the use of the environmentally harmful substances;
- Reduce energy consumption and promote energy-saving computers;
- Promote improved durability and recyclability of computers; and
- Minimize waste production by reducing the amount of primary packaging and promotion its reusability and/or recyclability.

## **PRODUCT DEFINITION**

This document and all product environmental criteria therein apply to the main system units of both stationary and portable personal computers. Separate system components such as monitor, mouse, modem, memories and other accessories located outside the system units are not included in this product category.

The product criteria do not apply to printers, for which there are separate criteria (GL-006-003).

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**PRODUCT ENVIRONMENTAL CRITERIA**

The table below sets out the product environmental criteria for personal computers (GL-006-001) under the HKGLS.

| Criteria  | Verification Method                                      |
|---|--|
| <p>1. For different maximum power supply ratings (MPSR), the maximum power consumption (MPC) during energy-saving mode of the control unit and the default activation period (DEP) for energy-saving mode shall be as follows:</p> <p>(a) For MPSR #200W, MPC #30W and DEP # 30 minutes</p> <p>(b) For MPSR &gt; 200W, MPC # 15% of MPSR and DEP # 60 minutes</p> <p>Documented user instructions on how to use this mode shall be included</p>   | <p>A (USEPA Energy Star Office Equipment Program), C</p> |
| <p>2. The off-mode power consumption of control unit shall not exceed 5W.</p>   | <p>A (USEPA Energy Star Office Equipment Program), C</p> |
| <p>3. The control unit shall have a modular design allowing components to be easily accessible without any special tools. Documented user instructions on such modular design features shall be included.</p>   | <p>B,C</p>   |
| <p>4. The upgradeability of the personal computer shall be ensured for at least the processor, the graphics card, the random access memory, the hard disk and if available, the CD-ROM drive. The personal computer shall provide for at least one empty slot. Documented user instructions on such upgradeability features shall be included.</p>  | <p>B,C</p>   |
| <p>5. The manufacturer shall offer a minimum of three-year guarantee on the personal computer.</p>  | <p>C</p>   |
| <p>6. The following design-for recycling features shall be incorporated into the casing and chassis of personal computer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plastic parts weighing over 25g and with an even surface of over 200mm, excluding extruded plastic materials, shall be marked for identification according to the ISO11469 Standard.</li> <li>• At least 90% of plastic materials by weight shall be recyclable;</li> <li>• Plastic parts and metal parts shall be separable;</li> <li>• Plastic parts made of recyclable and non-recyclable materials shall be separable; and</li> <li>• Labels, if any, shall be detachable</li> </ul> | <p>B,C</p>   |

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| Criteria  | Verification Method |
|---|---------------------|
| 7. Plastic parts shall have no lead or cadmium added by the manufacturer and plastic parts weighing over 25g shall not contain flame retardants containing organically bounded bromine or chlorine.   | C,D                 |
| 8. When button cell batteries are used, the mercury content shall not exceed 1 ppm. When round cell batteries are used, both mercury and cadmium contents shall not exceed 1ppm. When rechargeable batteries are used, the mercury, cadmium contents shall not exceed 5ppm, and the lead contents shall not exceed 15ppm. | C,D                 |
| 9. Packaging requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Packaging materials shall not contain chlorine-based plastics;</li><li>• General packaging requirements (refer to criteria for packaging materials: GL-Packaging).</li></ul>   | B,C,D               |

**Legend :**

A – Laboratory testing of product samples in accordance with the method reference as indicated inside bracket.

B - Inspection of product samples

C – Review of supporting information as required by the GC

D – Interviews with relevant personnel and/or site visits to relevant facilities