



For Immediate Release—January 24, 2007

Contact: Scot Case
610-781-1684

President Bush Requires Federal Agencies to Buy EPEAT Registered Green Electronic Products

New Executive Order Mandates Executive Agencies to Buy EPEAT Registered Products

Portland, OR – President Bush issued an Executive Order today mandating that all federal agencies buy EPEAT registered green electronic products for at least 95 percent of their needs. EPEAT is a green computer standard that identifies more environmentally preferable desktops, laptops, and monitors.

“We’re thrilled that President Bush recognizes the tremendous environmental and economic benefits of the high performance EPEAT registered products,” beamed Jeff Omelchuck, EPEAT’s Executive Director. “This was a very nice surprise for us. It’s nice when hard work and a strong environmental performance standard are recognized at the highest levels.”

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 safe recycling options for EPEAT registered products.

EPEAT products are identified as EPEAT-Bronze, EPEAT-Silver, or EPEAT-Gold depending on the number of environmental features incorporated in the product.

A searchable list of the more than 300 EPEAT registered products and additional details are available online at <www.epeat.net>.

President Bush’s Executive Order

Executive Order 13423, *Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management*, requires that federal agencies “when acquiring an electronic product to meet [agency] requirements, meets at least 95 percent of those requirements with an Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT)-registered electronic product.” A copy of the complete text of the executive order is available on the White House website at <www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2007/01/20070124-2.html>.

Calculating the Environmental Benefits

Prior to the President’s Executive Order, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, using very conservative assumptions, estimated that over the next five years, purchases of EPEAT registered computers will result in reductions of:

- More than 13 million pounds of Hazardous Waste
- More than 3 million pounds of Non-hazardous Waste
- More than 600,000 MWh of Energy – enough to power 60,000 homes

The benefits are likely to increase because of President Bush’s new Executive Order and the overall size of the federal computer market.

About EPEAT and the EPEAT Standard

The Electronic Products Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) is an easy-to-use tool to rank computer desktops, laptops and monitors based on their environmental attributes. The three-tiered EPEAT rating system includes 23 required criteria and 28 optional criteria. The optional criteria are used to determine if the equipment receives EPEAT Bronze, Silver, or Gold recognition. Visit <www.epeat.net> for additional information.

About Green Electronics Council – The Green Electronics Council partners with environmental organizations, government agencies, manufacturers and other interested stakeholders to improve the environmental and social performance of electronic products. In January 2006, it received a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to promote and implement the EPEAT green computer standard. Visit <www.greenelectronicscouncil.org> for additional information.

#

***Contact: Scot Case, Green Electronics Council, 610-781-1684
scot.case@greenelectronicscouncil.org***