

This Webinar is
Being Recorded



Promoting Registration of Inverters and Modules with Ecolabel (PRIME) Prize

Informational Webinar

October 30, 2024

Agenda

- 1 Welcome, Agenda, and Housekeeping
- 2 Background and Context of the PRIME Prize
- 3 Overview of PRIME Prize
- 4 Eligibility Criteria
- 5 Phase 1 Submission Requirements and Winner Selection
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Housekeeping

- This webinar is **being recorded** and will be made publicly available (on HeroX) following today's webinar, along with a **PDF of the slide deck**.
- We will have time for **Q&A at the end of today's webinar**.
 - Please submit your questions via the **Q&A Tool and not via chat**.
 - We may not be able to get to all questions today; however, we will **post written responses to all questions** (whether answered live or not) to the **HeroX FAQ** following today's presentation.



Background and Context



Background

- EPEAT is an ecolabel for certain electronic products operated by the Global Electronics Council (GEC).
 - Most EPEAT-registered products are consumer electronics – monitors, printers, modems, etc. – with high manufacturer engagement.
 - The EPEAT registry for solar modules and inverters was introduced in 2021, with additional updates in 2023 to calculate product carbon footprint.
 - Solar modules and inverters must adhere to certain criteria set in [NSF/ANSI 457 – 2019](#) and [EPEAT-ULCS-2023](#) to receive a bronze, silver, or gold EPEAT rating on the EPEAT product registry.



EPEAT Background

- Currently, there are only four PV modules for US use on the EPEAT Registry.
- There are ZERO inverter products currently listed on the Registry.



Overview of PRIME Prize

Goals, Timeline, and Summary

AMERICAN
MADE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Promoting Registration of Inverters and Modules with Ecolabel (PRIME) Prize

Incentivize the registration of solar photovoltaic (PV) module and inverter products through the Global Electronics Council's (GEC) EPEAT ecolabel for sustainable electronic technology products

- \$2.7 million in prize awards
- Two Phases
- Increasing the list of registered PV modules and inverters will:
 - Support federal procurement initiatives and government sustainability goals
 - Signal to customers, manufacturers, and the market at large the value of EPEAT ecolabel registration



PRIME Prize Phases

6 Months

Phase 1: Apply

- Demonstrate **intent to participate** in EPEAT and register PV module or inverter product(s) on the EPEAT Registry.
- Submission includes competitor info and info about products intended for listing on the EPEAT Registry
 - Proof of EPEAT participation (confirmation letter from GEC)
 - Datasheets for up to four (4) products intended for listing on the EPEAT Registry

Up to 2 Years

Phase 2 : Certify

- Demonstrate **completion of manufacturer verification** of PV module and/or inverter products by a GEC-approved Conformity Assurance Body and listing on the EPEAT Registry.
- Submission includes competitor information and proof of listing on the public EPEAT registry for each product
 - Notice(s) from GEC of successful product registration
 - Affidavit of product validation from selected eligible Conformity Assurance Body
 - Datasheets for the up to four (4) products receiving EPEAT listing

Cash Prizes

Prize Phase	Duration	Dollar Amount	# Awards
Phase 1: Apply	6 Months	\$50,000	1 per winner*
Phase 2: Certify	Up to 2 Years	\$100,000 per product	Up to 4 awarded products per winner

Up to \$450,000 total per entity

*Competitors may submit up to four products. Phase 1 award is \$50,000 regardless of number of products submitted.

PRIME PRIZE KEY DATES

Phase 1 (October 2024–April 2025)

October 15, 2024	Open for Phase 1 Submissions
April 17, 2025, 5 p.m. ET	Phase 1 Submission Deadline
April/May 2025	Phase 1 Winner Announcement

Phase 2 (May 2026 – March 2027)

May 2026	Phase 2A Submission Deadline
June 2026	Phase 2A Winners Announced
August 2026	Phase 2B Submission Deadline
September 2026	Phase 2B Winners Announced
November 2026	Phase 2C Submission Deadline
December 2026	Phase 2C Winners Announced
February 2027	Phase 2D Submission Deadline
March 2027	Phase 2D Winners Announced

Eligibility Criteria



Eligibility to Compete in PRIME Prize

Competition is open to:

- Only for-profit business entities, such as corporations or other organizations that are formed in and maintain a place of business in the United States
- Must be U.S.-based manufacturers of solar PV module and/or solar PV inverter products that are eligible for listing on the EPEAT Registry.
 - Manufacturers must not have any products listed on the EPEAT Registry of Photovoltaic Modules and Inverters as of the close of Phase 1 Submissions designated in HeroX
 - Must be for-profit business entities, such as a corporation or other organization that are formed in and maintain a place of business in the United States.

Phase 2 Eligibility:

- Only winners of Phase 1 are eligible to compete in Phase 2.
- Only products submitted and awarded during Phase 1 are eligible for submission and award in Phase 2.

Product Eligibility

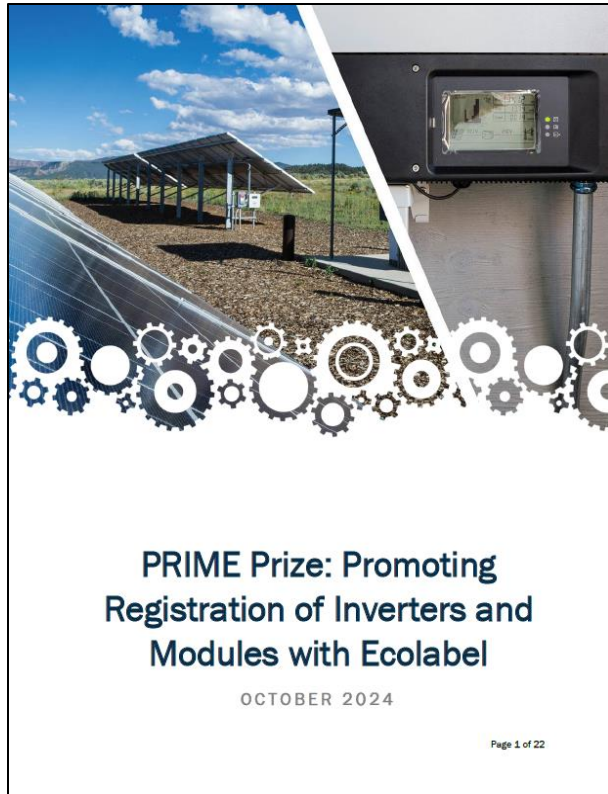
- Products submitted by competing entities are subject to the following eligibility requirements:
 - A “product” is defined for the purposes of this prize as a discrete offered model or family of models sharing a set of identifying characteristics, including but not limited to production identification numbers and data sheets.
 - Products **must complete final assembly** in the United States.
 - For module products, this means all operations involved in the transformation of individual solar cells and all other module components into a fully functional encapsulated module, including deposition of electrically active PV absorber material.
 - For inverter products, this means that the product’s last substantial transformation must take place in the United States, including population of the printed circuit board or fabrication of the inverter housing. “Screwdriver” assembly of foreign components or firmware loading, programming, or flashing do not qualify.
 - Products **must be available for sale in the United States** as of the submission date for Phase 2 designated in HeroX, including maintaining all required safety certifications for the United States market.

See Section 1.3 of the Official Rules (Eligibility and Competitors) for all eligibility requirements

Phase 1 Submission Requirements



Read the Rules



Official Rules of the
American-Made PRIME Prize are
available online on HeroX:
<https://www.herox.com/PRIMEPrize/resource/2011>

Prize Steps

1. **Submission** – Competitors compile and submit documentation for **products intended for listing on the EPEAT registry** online before the submission deadline.
2. **Evaluation** – The prize administrator screens submissions for eligibility and completion and assigns subject-matter-expert reviewers to independently score the content of each submission.
3. **Announcement** – After the winners are publicly announced, the prize administrator notifies them and requests the necessary information to distribute cash prizes.



What to Submit: Phase 1

- **Competitor Information** (required; select elements will be made public)
- **Proof of EPEAT participation in the form of a confirmation letter from GEC** (required; will not be made public)
- **Datasheets for the up to four (4) products intended for listing on the EPEAT Registry** (required; will not be made public)

Submission Form Preview

Section 1: Introduction


Title *
Give your submission a catchy title that describes the idea and gets people interested.

0/50

Short description
Provide a brief description of your idea. Be clear and concise.

0/140

Image
Supported File Types: PNG, JPG

 An image boosts your message by illustrating your solution. Ensure your image is at least 650 pixels wide by 300 pixels tall for clarity.

How did you hear about this challenge?

0/100

Section 2: Eligibility Acknowledgement

I confirm that I am submitting as: *

Please confirm that your submission meets the eligibility requirements stated in the official rules.

A U.S.-based manufacturer of solar PV module and/or solar PV inverter products that are eligible for listing on the EPEAT Registry as defined in NSF/ANSI 457-2019, "Sustainability Leadership Standard for Photovoltaic Modules and Photovoltaic Inverters" Section 1.2. Competing entities must not have any products listed on the EPEAT Registry of Photovoltaic Modules and Inverters as of the close of Phase 1 Submissions designated in HeroX.

In particular, by entering, I represent and warrant that: The competitor is the sole, original author and copyright owner of the submission or that the applicant has acquired sufficient

Competitor Information

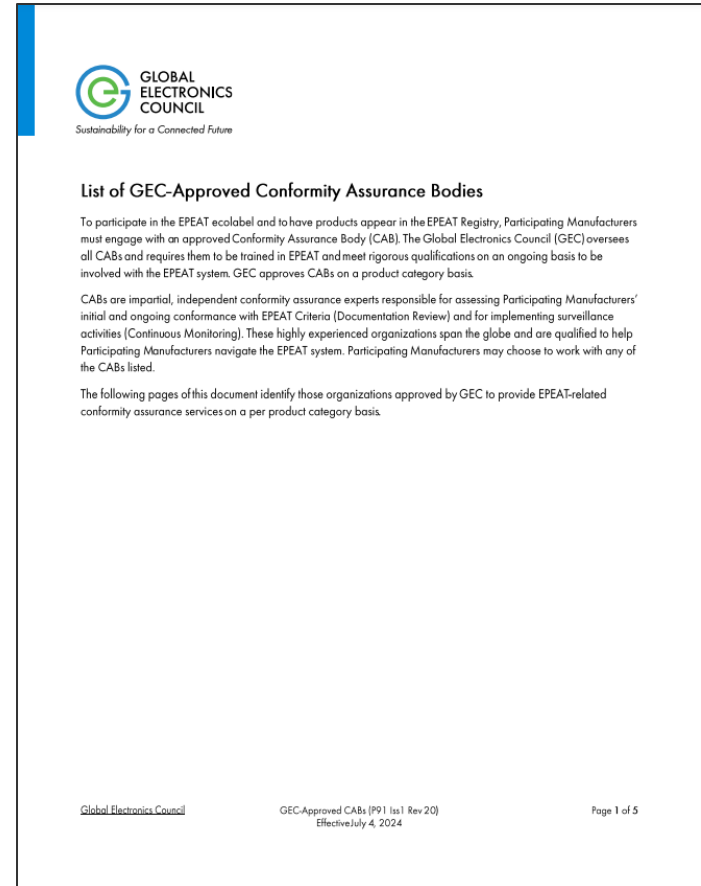
- Competitor Organization Name*
 - Organization address (street, city, state, and nine-digit zip code)
 - Organization URL*
 - Key project members (names, email addresses, phone numbers)
 - Declaration of eligibility as a U.S.-based manufacturer of solar PV modules and/or inverter
 - Number of products intended for listing on the EPEAT Registry
- List of product names intended for listing on the EPEAT Registry
 - Declaration of eligibility for each listed product completing final assembly in the United States
 - Intended EPEAT registration date of each listed product
 - Intended EPEAT tier of each product (Bronze, Silver, or Gold)
 - For PV modules, intended embodied carbon level (Low Carbon Solar or Ultra Low Carbon Solar)

****Will be made public***

Proof of EPEAT Participation

- Must submit a confirmation letter from Global Electronics Council
- Must identify an eligible Conformity Assurance Body (CAB) for the intended product review(s)
 - CAB must be headquartered in the U.S.
 - See the [EPEAT website](#) for more info on CABs

(required; will not be made public)



Datasheets

- Must submit datasheet for the up to four (4) products intended for listing on the EPEAT Registry
- Datasheets may be preliminary (pending safety certifications) or published for commercial sale



(required; will not be made public)

How We Determine and Award Winners

- The Prize Administrator screens all submissions and ensures that they are eligible and complete with all necessary materials.
- DOE will designate a federal employee as the judge to make the final determination of the winners.
- Complete and eligible submissions comprising **up to 21 total products** for certification will be designated as Phase 1 winners and awarded the Phase 1 prize.
- If complete and eligible submissions are received above this 21 total product amount, DOE may consider adding additional Prize funding to award additional winners, pending future appropriations.

See [official rules](#) – Section 3.7

Phase 2 Submission Requirements



Prize Steps

1. **Submission** – Competitors compile and submit documentation for products **successfully registered for listing** on the EPEAT registry online before the submission deadline.
2. **Evaluation** – The prize administrator screens submissions for eligibility and completion and assigns subject-matter-expert reviewers to independently score the content of each submission.
3. **Announcement** – After the winners are publicly announced, the prize administrator notifies them and requests the necessary information to distribute cash prizes.



What to Submit: Phase 2

- **Competitor Information** (required; select elements will be made public)
- **Proof of listing on the public EPEAT Registry** for each of the up to four (4) designated products from Phase 1 **for listing on the EPEAT Registry** (required; will not be made public)
- **Datasheets for the up to four (4) products intended for listing on the EPEAT Registry** (required; will not be made public)

Submission Form Preview

Section 1: Introduction

Title *
Give your submission a catchy title that describes the idea and gets people interested.

0/50

Short description
Provide a brief description of your idea. Be clear and concise.

0/140

Image
An image boosts your message by illustrating your solution. Ensure your image is at least 650 pixels wide by 360 pixels tall for clarity.

Supported File Types: PNG, JPG

How did you hear about this challenge?

0/100

Section 2: Eligibility Acknowledgement

I confirm that I am submitting as: *

Please confirm that your submission meets the eligibility requirements stated in the official rules.

A U.S.-based manufacturer of solar PV module and/or solar PV inverter products that are eligible for listing on the EPEAT Registry as defined in NSF/ANSI 457-2019, "Sustainability Leadership Standard for Photovoltaic Modules and Photovoltaic Inverters" Section 1.2. Competing entities must not have any products listed on the EPEAT Registry of Photovoltaic Modules and Inverters as of the close of Phase 1 Submissions designated in HeroX.

In particular, by entering, I represent and warrant that: The competitor is the sole, original author and copyright owner of the submission or that the applicant has acquired sufficient

Competitor Information

Team Information (submitted via HeroX submission form)

- Competitor Organization Name*
 - Organization address (street, city, state, and nine-digit zip code)
 - Organization URL*
 - Key project members (names, email addresses, phone numbers)
 - Declaration of eligibility as a U.S.-based manufacturer of solar PV modules and/or inverters
 - List of product name(s) receiving EPEAT registration with current submission*
- Declaration of eligibility for each listed product completing final assembly in the United States
 - EPEAT registration date of each listed product*
 - EPEAT tier of each product (Bronze, Silver, or Gold)*
 - For PV modules, embodied carbon level (Low Carbon Solar or Ultra Low Carbon Solar)*
 - Link to relevant product details on the public [EPEAT Registry for Photovoltaic Modules and Inverters](#)*

****Will be made public***

Proof of EPEAT Listing

- **Notice(s) from GEC** of successful product registration
- **Affidavit of product validation** from selected eligible Conformity Assurance Body



(required; will not be made public)

Datasheets

- Must submit datasheet for the up to four (4) products intended for listing on the EPEAT Registry
- Datasheets may be preliminary (pending safety certifications) or published for commercial sale



(required; will not be made public)

How We Determine and Award Winners

- The Prize Administrator screens all submissions and ensures that they are eligible and complete with all necessary materials.
- DOE will designate a federal employee as the judge to make the final determination of the winners.
- All complete and eligible submissions will be designated as Phase 2 winners and awarded the Phase 2 prize.

See [official rules](#) – Section 4.7

HeroX Platform Demonstration

How to find resources and apply to the prize




PRIME HeroX Live Demo



Follow the Prize on HeroX!
herox.com/PRIMEPrize

American-Made Challenges

4,547 | Share | Follow (15)



Promoting Registration of Inverters and Modules with Ecolabel (PRIME) Prize

Incentivizing EPEAT registration of solar PV modules and inverters for easier identification of eco-friendly equipment.

Energy, Environment & Resources

Stage: Pre registration	Prize: \$2,700,000
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FOLLOW CHALLENGE

Summary | Timeline | Forum | Teams (15) | Entries | Resources | FAQ

Follow the Prize

Submission Form

Answers to your Questions

Rules

PRIME Prize Power Connector Support

A Power Connector from the American-Made Network will be conducting recruiting, offering office hours, application support, and more for the PRIME Prize.

More information on how to connect with the Power Connector will be posted to HeroX soon.

Follow the Prize on HeroX to be notified via email when more information about Power Connector support is announced!



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY



Follow the Prize on HeroX!
herox.com/PRIMEPrize

Sign Up Today!

Become a PRIME Competitor:

- Follow the Prize on [HeroX](#)– Get important updates about the prize
- Read the [Rules](#) – Everything you need to know about participating in the prize
- **Submit to Phase 1**– Submission Deadline April 17, 2025 at 5 p.m. ET



Follow the Prize on HeroX!
herox.com/PRIMEPrize

Questions?: PRIMEPrize@nrel.gov

