



# ENERGY STAR® Program Requirements Product Specification for Computer Servers

## Eligibility Criteria Draft 2, Version 3.0

1 Following is the Draft 2, Version 3.0 ENERGY STAR Product Specification for Computer Servers. A  
2 product shall meet all of the identified criteria if it is to earn the ENERGY STAR.

### 3 **1 DEFINITIONS**

#### 4 A) Product Types:

- 5 1) Computer Server: A computer that provides services and manages networked resources for  
6 client devices (e.g., desktop computers, notebook computers, thin clients, wireless devices,  
7 PDAs, IP telephones, other computer servers, or other network devices). A computer server  
8 is sold through enterprise channels for use in data centers and office/corporate environments.  
9 A computer server is primarily accessed via network connections, versus directly-connected  
10 user input devices such as a keyboard or mouse. For purposes of this specification, a  
11 computer server must meet **all** of the following criteria:
- 12 A. is marketed and sold as a Computer Server;
  - 13 B. is designed for and listed as supporting one or more computer server operating systems  
14 (OS) and/or hypervisors;
  - 15 C. is targeted to run user-installed applications typically, but not exclusively, enterprise in  
16 nature;
  - 17 D. provides support for error-correcting code (ECC) and/or buffered memory (including both  
18 buffered dual in-line memory modules (DIMMs) and buffered on board (BOB)  
19 configurations).
  - 20 E. is packaged and sold with one or more ac-dc or dc-dc power supplies; and
  - 21 F. is designed such that all processors have access to shared system memory and are  
22 visible to a single OS or hypervisor.

23 **Note:** EPA received feedback in response to Draft 1 that there are no longer any unmanaged servers on  
24 the certified product list or in the market. Therefore, the managed server definition is obsolete and has  
25 been removed.

- 26 2) Blade System: A system comprised of a blade chassis and one or more removable blade  
27 servers and/or other units (e.g., blade storage, blade network equipment). Blade systems  
28 provide a scalable means for combining multiple blade server or storage units in a single  
29 enclosure, and are designed to allow service technicians to easily add or replace (hot-swap)  
30 blades in the field.
- 31 A. Blade Server: A computer server that is designed for use in a blade chassis. A blade  
32 server is a high-density device that functions as an independent computer server and  
33 includes at least one processor and system memory, but is dependent upon shared blade  
34 chassis resources (e.g., power supplies, cooling) for operation. A processor or memory  
35 module that is intended to scale up a standalone server is not considered a Blade Server.
- 36 (1) *Multi-bay Blade Server*: A blade server requiring more than one bay for installation in

- 37 a blade chassis.
- 38 (2) *Single-wide Blade Server*: A blade server requiring the width of a standard blade  
39 server bay.
- 40 (3) *Double-wide Blade Server*: A blade server requiring twice the width of a standard  
41 blade server bay.
- 42 (4) *Half-height Blade Server*: A blade server requiring one half the height of a standard  
43 blade server bay.
- 44 (5) *Quarter-height Blade Server*: A blade server requiring one quarter the height of a  
45 standard server bay.
- 46 (6) *Multi-Node Blade Server*: A blade server which has multiple nodes. The blade server  
47 itself is hot swappable, but the individual nodes are not.
- 48 B. Blade Chassis: An enclosure that contains shared resources for the operation of blade  
49 servers, blade storage, and other blade form-factor devices. Shared resources provided  
50 by a chassis may include power supplies, data storage, and hardware for dc power  
51 distribution, thermal management, system management, and network services.
- 52 C. Blade Storage: A storage device that is designed for use in a blade chassis. A blade  
53 storage device is dependent upon shared blade chassis resources (e.g., power supplies,  
54 cooling) for operation.
- 55 3) Fully Fault Tolerant Server: A computer server that is designed with complete hardware  
56 redundancy, in which every computing component is replicated between two nodes running  
57 identical and concurrent workloads (i.e., if one node fails or needs repair, the second node  
58 can run the workload alone to avoid downtime). A fully fault tolerant server uses two systems  
59 to simultaneously and repetitively run a single workload for continuous availability in a  
60 mission critical application.
- 61 4) Resilient Server: A computer server designed with extensive Reliability, Availability,  
62 Serviceability (RAS) and scalability features integrated in the micro architecture of the  
63 system, CPU and chipset. For purposes of ENERGY STAR certification under this  
64 specification, a Resilient Server shall have the characteristics as described in Appendix B of  
65 this specification.
- 66 5) Multi-node Server: A computer server that is designed with two or more independent server  
67 nodes that share a single enclosure and one or more power supplies. In a multi-node server,  
68 power is distributed to all nodes through shared power supplies. Server nodes in a multi-node  
69 server are not designed to be hot-swappable.
- 70 A. Dual-node Server: A common multi-node server configuration consisting of two server  
71 nodes.
- 72 6) Server Appliance: A computer server that is bundled with a pre-installed OS and application  
73 software that is used to perform a dedicated function or set of tightly coupled functions.  
74 Server appliances deliver services through one or more networks (e.g., IP or SAN), and are  
75 typically managed through a web or command line interface. Server appliance hardware and  
76 software configurations are customized by the vendor to perform a specific task (e.g., name  
77 services, firewall services, authentication services, encryption services, and voice-over-IP  
78 (VoIP) services), and are not intended to execute user-supplied software.
- 79 7) High Performance Computing (HPC) System: A computing system which is designed and  
80 optimized to execute highly parallel applications. HPC systems feature a large number of  
81 clustered homogeneous nodes often featuring high speed inter-processing interconnects as  
82 well as large memory capability and bandwidth. HPC systems may be purposely built, or  
83 assembled from more commonly available computer servers. HPC systems must meet ALL  
84 the following criteria:
- 85 A. Marketed and sold as a Computer Server optimized for higher performance computing

- 86 applications;
- 87 B. Designed (or assembled) and optimized to execute highly parallel applications;
- 88 C. Consist of a number of typically homogeneous computing nodes, clustered primarily to
- 89 increase computational capability;
- 90 D. Includes high speed inter-processing interconnections between nodes.
- 91 8) Direct Current (dc) Server: A computer server that is designed solely to operate on a dc
- 92 power source.
- 93 9) Large Server: A resilient/scalable server which ships as a pre-integrated/pre-tested system
- 94 housed in one or more full frames or racks and that includes a high connectivity I/O
- 95 subsystem with a minimum of 32 dedicated I/O slots.
- 96 B) Computer Server Form Factors:
- 97 1) Rack-mounted Server: A computer server that is designed for deployment in a standard 19-
- 98 inch data center rack as defined by EIA-310, IEC 60297, or DIN 41494. For the purposes of
- 99 this specification, a blade server is considered under a separate category and excluded from
- 100 the rack-mounted category.
- 101 2) Pedestal Server: A self-contained computer server that is designed with PSUs, cooling, I/O
- 102 devices, and other resources necessary for stand-alone operation. The frame of a pedestal
- 103 server is similar to that of a tower client computer.
- 104 C) Computer Server Components:
- 105 1) Power Supply Unit (PSU): A device that converts ac or dc input power to one or more dc
- 106 power outputs for the purpose of powering a computer server. A computer server PSU must
- 107 be self-contained and physically separable from the motherboard and must connect to the
- 108 system via a removable or hard-wired electrical connection.
- 109 A. Ac-Dc Power Supply: A PSU that converts line-voltage ac input power into one or more
- 110 dc power outputs for the purpose of powering a computer server.
- 111 B. Dc-Dc Power Supply: A PSU that converts line-voltage dc input power to one or more dc
- 112 outputs for the purpose of powering a computer server. For purposes of this specification,
- 113 a dc-dc converter (also known as a voltage regulator) that is internal to a computer server
- 114 and is used to convert a low voltage dc (e.g., 12 V dc) into other dc power outputs for use
- 115 by computer server components is not considered a dc-dc power supply.
- 116 C. Single-output Power Supply: A PSU that is designed to deliver the majority of its rated
- 117 output power to one primary dc output for the purpose of powering a computer server.
- 118 Single-output PSUs may offer one or more standby outputs that remain active whenever
- 119 connected to an input power source. For purposes of this specification, the total rated
- 120 power output from any additional PSU outputs that are not primary and standby outputs
- 121 shall be no greater than 20 watts. PSUs that offer multiple outputs at the same voltage as
- 122 the primary output are considered single-output PSUs unless those outputs (1) are
- 123 generated from separate converters or have separate output rectification stages, or (2)
- 124 have independent current limits.
- 125 D. Multi-output Power Supply: A PSU that is designed to deliver the majority of its rated
- 126 output power to more than one primary dc output for the purpose of powering a computer
- 127 server. Multi-output PSUs may offer one or more standby outputs that remain active
- 128 whenever connected to an input power source. For purposes of this specification, the
- 129 total rated power output from any additional PSU outputs that are not primary and
- 130 standby outputs is greater than or equal to 20 watts.
- 131 2) I/O Device: A device which provides data input and output capability between a computer
- 132 server and other devices. An I/O device may be integral to the computer server motherboard
- 133 or may be connected to the motherboard via expansion slots (e.g., PCI, PCIe). Examples of

134 I/O devices include discrete Ethernet devices, InfiniBand devices, RAID/SAS controllers, and  
135 Fibre Channel devices.

136 A. I/O Port: Physical circuitry within an I/O device where an independent I/O session can be  
137 established. A port is not the same as a connector receptacle; it is possible that a single  
138 connector receptacle can service multiple ports of the same interface.

139 3) Motherboard: The main circuit board of the server. For purposes of this specification, the  
140 motherboard includes connectors for attaching additional boards and typically includes the  
141 following components: processor, memory, BIOS, and expansion slots.

142 4) Processor: The logic circuitry that responds to and processes the basic instructions that drive  
143 a server. For purposes of this specification, the processor is the central processing unit  
144 (CPU) of the computer server. A typical CPU is a physical package to be installed on the  
145 server motherboard via a socket or direct solder attachment. The CPU package may include  
146 one or more processor cores.

147 5) Memory: For purposes of this specification, memory is a part of a server external to the  
148 processor in which information is stored for immediate use by the processor.

149 6) Storage Device: A collective term for disk drives (HDDs), solid state drives (SSDs), tapes  
150 cartridges, and any other mechanisms providing non-volatile data storage. This definition is  
151 specifically intended to exclude aggregating storage elements such as RAID array  
152 subsystems, robotic tape libraries, filers, and file servers. Also excluded are storage devices  
153 which are not directly accessible by end-user application programs, and are instead  
154 employed as a form of internal cache.

155 D) Other Datacenter Equipment:

156 1) Network Equipment: A device whose primary function is to pass data among various network  
157 interfaces, providing data connectivity among connected devices (e.g., routers and switches).  
158 Data connectivity is achieved via the routing of data packets encapsulated according to  
159 Internet Protocol, Fibre Channel, InfiniBand or similar protocol.

160 2) Storage Product: A fully-functional storage system that supplies data storage services to  
161 clients and devices attached directly or through a network. Components and subsystems that  
162 are an integral part of the storage product architecture (e.g., to provide internal  
163 communications between controllers and disks) are considered to be part of the storage  
164 product. In contrast, components that are normally associated with a storage environment at  
165 the data center level (e.g., devices required for operation of an external SAN) are not  
166 considered to be part of the storage product. A storage product may be composed of  
167 integrated storage controllers, storage devices, embedded network elements, software, and  
168 other devices. While storage products may contain one or more embedded processors, these  
169 processors do not execute user-supplied software applications but may execute data-specific  
170 applications (e.g., data replication, backup utilities, data compression, install agents).

171 3) Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS): Combination of convertors, switches, and energy  
172 storage devices (such as batteries) constituting a power system for maintaining continuity of  
173 load power in case of input power failure.

174 E) Operational Modes and Power States:

175 1) Idle State: The operational state in which the OS and other software have completed loading,  
176 the computer server is capable of completing workload transactions, but no active workload  
177 transactions are requested or pending by the system (i.e., the computer server is operational,  
178 but not performing any useful work). For systems where ACPI standards are applicable, Idle  
179 State correlates only to ACPI System Level S0.

180 2) Active State: The operational state in which the computer server is carrying out work in  
181 response to prior or concurrent external requests (e.g., instruction over the network). Active  
182 state includes **both** (1) active processing and (2) data seeking/retrieval from memory, cache,  
183 or internal/external storage while awaiting further input over the network.

184 F) Other Key Terms:

- 185 1) Controller System: A computer or computer server that manages a benchmark evaluation  
186 process. The controller system performs the following functions:
- 187 A. start and stop each segment (phase) of the performance benchmark;
- 188 B. control the workload demands of the performance benchmark;
- 189 C. start and stop data collection from the power analyzer so that power and performance  
190 data from each phase can be correlated;
- 191 D. store log files containing benchmark power and performance information;
- 192 E. convert raw data into a suitable format for benchmark reporting, submission and  
193 validation; and
- 194 F. collect and store environmental data, if automated for the benchmark.
- 195 2) Network Client (Testing): A computer or computer server that generates workload traffic for  
196 transmission to a unit under test (UUT) connected via a network switch.
- 197 3) RAS Features: An acronym for reliability, availability, and serviceability features. The three  
198 primary components of RAS as related to a computer server are defined as follows:
- 199 A. *Reliability Features*: Features that support a server's ability to perform its intended  
200 function without interruption due to component failures (e.g., component selection,  
201 temperature and/or voltage de-rating, error detection and correction).
- 202 B. *Availability Features*: Features that support a server's ability to maximize operation at  
203 normal capacity for a given duration of downtime (e.g., redundancy [both at micro- and  
204 macro-level]).
- 205 C. *Serviceability Features*: Features that support a server's ability to be serviced without  
206 interrupting operation of the server (e.g., hot plugging).
- 207 4) Server Processor Utilization: The ratio of processor computing activity to full-load processor  
208 computing activity at a specified voltage and frequency, measured instantaneously or with a  
209 short term average of use over a set of active and/or idle cycles.
- 210 5) Hypervisor: A type of hardware virtualization technique that enables multiple guest operating  
211 systems to run on a single host system at the same time.
- 212 6) Auxiliary Processing Accelerators (APAs): An additional compute device installed in the  
213 computer server that handles parallelized workloads in place of the CPU.
- 214 A. Expansion APA: An APA that is an add-in card installed in a general-purpose add-in  
215 expansion slot (e.g., GPGPUs installed in a PCI slot).
- 216 B. Integrated APA: An APA that is integrated into the motherboard or CPU package.

217 **Note:** EPA has revised the APA definition and added two new sub-definitions to better address recent  
218 advancements, such as FPGA technology, in server designs where the APA is directly attached to the  
219 motherboard or integrated into the CPU package.

- 220 7) Buffered DDR Channel: Channel or Memory Port connecting a Memory Controller to a  
221 defined number of memory devices (e.g., DIMMs) in a computer server. A typical computer  
222 server may contain multiple Memory Controllers, which may in turn support one or more  
223 Buffered DDR Channels. As such, each Buffered DDR Channel serves only a fraction of the  
224 total addressable memory space in a computer server.

- 225 G) Product Family: A high-level description referring to a group of computers sharing one  
226 chassis/motherboard combination that often contains hundreds of possible hardware and software  
227 configurations. Products within a product family may differ in color.

- 228 1) Common Product Family Attributes: A set of features common to all models/configurations  
229 within a product family that constitute a common basic design. All models/configurations  
230 within a product family must share the following:
- 231 A. Be from the same model line or machine type;
- 232 B. Either share the same form factor (i.e., rack-mounted, blade, pedestal) or share the same  
233 mechanical and electrical designs with only superficial mechanical differences to enable  
234 a design to support multiple form factors;
- 235 C. Either share processors from a single defined processor series or share processors that  
236 plug into a common socket type.
- 237 D. Share PSUs that perform with efficiencies greater than or equal to the efficiencies at all  
238 required load points specified in Section 3.2 (i.e., 10%, 20%, 50%, and 100% of  
239 maximum rated load for single-output; 20%, 50%, and 100% of maximum rated load for  
240 multi-output).
- 241 2) Product Family Tested Product Configurations:
- 242 A. Low-end Performance Configuration: The combination of Processor Socket Power,  
243 PSUs, Memory, Storage Devices, and I/O devices that represents the lowest-  
244 performance computing platform within the Product Family. This configuration shall  
245 include the lowest processor performance per socket, as represented by the lowest  
246 numerical value resulting from the multiplication of the core count by the frequency in  
247 GHz, offered for sale and capable of meeting ENERGY STAR requirements.<sup>1</sup>
- 248 B. High-end Performance Configuration: The combination of Processor Socket Power,  
249 PSUs, Memory, Storage Devices, and I/O devices that represents the highest-  
250 performance computing platform within the Product Family. This configuration shall  
251 include the highest processor performance per socket, as represented by the highest  
252 numerical value resulting from the multiplication of the core count by the frequency in  
253 GHz, offered for sale and capable of meeting ENERGY STAR requirements.<sup>1</sup>
- 254 C. Typical Configuration: A product configuration that lies between the Low-end  
255 Performance and High-end Performance configurations and is representative of a  
256 deployed product with high volume sales.

257 **Note:** EPA is proposing to simplify the product family to three required test configurations that include  
258 low-end and high-end performance configurations, as well as the typical configuration. EPA believes that  
259 manufacturers will be able to sufficiently capture configurations previously addressed by the minimum  
260 power configuration through the modifications to the low-end performance configuration definition which  
261 now specifies the lowest performance configuration in the family. This proposed change will simplify  
262 testing and the reporting of the product family on the certified product list. EPA welcomes stakeholder  
263 feedback on this proposal.

<sup>1</sup> Processor performance per socket = [# of processor cores] x [processor clock speed (GHz)], where # of cores represents the number of physical cores and processor clock speed represents the Max TDP core frequency as reported by SERT for a given processor.

## 264 **2 SCOPE**

### 265 **2.1 Included Products**

266 2.1.1 A product must meet the definition of a Computer Server provided in *Section 1* of this document  
267 to be eligible for ENERGY STAR certification under this specification. Eligibility under Version 3.0  
268 is limited to Blade-, Multi-node, Rack-mounted, or Pedestal form factor computer servers with no  
269 more than four processor sockets in the computer server (or per blade or node in the case of  
270 blade or multi-node servers). Products explicitly excluded from Version 3.0 are identified in  
271 *Section 2.2*.

### 272 **2.2 Excluded Products**

273 2.2.1 Products that are covered under other ENERGY STAR product specifications are not eligible for  
274 certification under this specification. The list of specifications currently in effect can be found at  
275 [www.energystar.gov/products](http://www.energystar.gov/products).

276 2.2.2 The following products are not eligible for certification under this specification:

- 277 i. Computer Servers shipped with Integrated APAs;
- 278 ii. Fully Fault Tolerant Servers;
- 279 iii. Server Appliances;
- 280 iv. High Performance Computing Systems;
- 281 v. Large Servers;
- 282 vi. Storage Products including Blade Storage; and
- 283 vii. Network Equipment.

284 **Note:** EPA has, to date, not received enough data on integrated APAs to determine if they comprise a  
285 meaningful portion of the market, nor the magnitude of adjustment needed for both idle state and active  
286 state energy requirements to appropriately address products shipped with them. As a result, EPA is  
287 proposing to exclude computer servers shipped with integrated APAs from scope in Version 3.0. EPA  
288 welcomes additional data from stakeholders that would allow these products to be covered in the next  
289 draft of this specification.

## 290 **3 CERTIFICATION CRITERIA**

### 291 **3.1 Significant Digits and Rounding**

292 3.1.1 All calculations shall be carried out with directly measured (unrounded) values.

293 3.1.2 Unless otherwise specified, compliance with specification limits shall be evaluated using directly  
294 measured or calculated values without any benefit from rounding.

295 3.1.3 Directly measured or calculated values that are submitted for reporting on the ENERGY STAR  
296 website shall be rounded to the nearest significant digit as expressed in the corresponding  
297 specification limit.

### 298 **3.2 Power Supply Requirements**

299 3.2.1 Power supply test data and test reports from testing entities recognized by EPA to perform power  
300 supply testing shall be accepted for the purpose of certifying the ENERGY STAR product.

301 3.2.2 Power Supply Efficiency Criteria: Power Supplies used in products eligible under this specification  
 302 must meet the following requirements when tested using the *Generalized Internal Power Supply*  
 303 *Efficiency Test Protocol, Rev. 6.7* (available at [www.efficientpowersupplies.org](http://www.efficientpowersupplies.org)). Power Supply  
 304 data generated using Rev. 6.4.2 (as required in Version 1.1), 6.4.3, 6.5, or 6.6 are acceptable  
 305 provided the test was conducted prior to the effective date of Version 3.0 of this specification.

- 306 i. Pedestal and Rack-mounted Servers: To certify for ENERGY STAR, a pedestal or rack-  
 307 mounted computer server must be configured with **only** PSUs that meet or exceed the  
 308 applicable efficiency requirements specified in Table 1 **prior to shipment**.
- 309 ii. Blade and Multi-node Servers: To certify for ENERGY STAR, a Blade or Multi-node computer  
 310 server shipped with a chassis must be configured such that **all** PSUs supplying power to the  
 311 chassis meet or exceed the applicable efficiency requirements specified in Table 1 **prior to**  
 312 **shipment**.

313 **Table 1: Efficiency Requirements for PSUs**

Power Supply Type	Rated Output Power	10% Load	20% Load	50% Load	100% Load
Multi-output (Ac-Dc)	All Output Levels	N/A	90%	92%	89%
Single-output (Ac-Dc)	All Output Levels	83%	90%	94%	91%

314 3.2.3 Power Supply Power Factor Criteria: Power Supplies used in Computers Servers eligible under  
 315 this specification must meet the following requirements when tested using the *Generalized*  
 316 *Internal Power Supply Efficiency Test Protocol, Rev. 6.6* (available at  
 317 [www.efficientpowersupplies.org](http://www.efficientpowersupplies.org)). Power Supply data generated using Rev. 6.4.2 (as required in  
 318 Version 1.1), 6.4.3, or 6.5 are acceptable provided the test was conducted prior to the effective  
 319 date of Version 3.0.

- 320 i. Pedestal and Rack-mounted Servers: To certify for ENERGY STAR, a pedestal or rack-  
 321 mounted computer server must be configured with **only** PSUs that meet or exceed the  
 322 applicable power factor requirements specified in Table 2 **prior to shipment**, under all  
 323 loading conditions for which output power is greater than or equal to 75 watts. Partners are  
 324 required to measure and report PSU power factor under loading conditions of less than 75  
 325 watts, though no minimum power factor requirements apply.
- 326 ii. Blade or Multi-node Servers: To certify for ENERGY STAR, a Blade or Multi-node computer  
 327 server shipped with a chassis must be configured such that **all** PSUs supplying power to the  
 328 chassis meet or exceed the applicable power factor requirements specified in Table 2 **prior**  
 329 **to shipment**, under all loading conditions for which output power is greater than or equal to  
 330 75 watts. Partners are required to measure and report PSU power factor under loading  
 331 conditions of less than 75 watts, though no minimum power factor requirements apply.

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**Table 2: Power Factor Requirements for PSUs**

Power Supply Type	Rated Output Power	10% Load	20% Load	50% Load	100% Load
Ac-Dc Multi-output	All Output Ratings	N/A	0.80	0.90	0.95
Ac-Dc Single-output	Output Rating ≤ 500 W	N/A	0.80	0.95	0.95
	Output Rating > 500 W and Output Rating ≤ 1,000 W	0.65	0.80	0.95	0.95
	Output Rating > 1,000 watts	0.80	0.90	0.95	0.95

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**Note:** In Draft 1, EPA proposed updating the efficiency requirements to 80Plus platinum equivalent levels, which stakeholders supported. EPA also received stakeholder feedback requesting tighter power factor requirements to align with 80Plus platinum equivalent power factor requirements. EPA has harmonized with 80Plus platinum equivalent power factor requirements at the 50% load, which is the only requirement where ENERGY STAR was out of alignment.

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**3.3 Power Management Requirements**

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3.3.1 Server Processor Power Management: To certify for ENERGY STAR, a Computer Server must offer processor power management that is enabled by default in the BIOS and/or through a management controller, service processor, and/or the operating system shipped with the computer server. **All** processors must be able to reduce power consumption in times of low utilization by:

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i. reducing voltage and/or frequency through Dynamic Voltage and Frequency Scaling (DVFS), or

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ii. enabling processor or core reduced power states when a core or socket is not in use.

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3.3.2 Supervisor Power Management: To certify for ENERGY STAR, a product which offers a pre-installed supervisor system (e.g., operating system, hypervisor) must offer supervisor system power management that is enabled by default.

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3.3.3 Power Management Reporting: To certify for ENERGY STAR, all power management techniques that are enabled by default must be itemized on the Power and Performance Data Sheet. This requirement applies to power management features in the BIOS, operating system, or any other origin that can be configured by the end-user.

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**3.4 Blade and Multi-Node System Criteria**

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3.4.1 Blade and Multi-Node Thermal Management and Monitoring: To certify for ENERGY STAR, a blade or multi-node server must provide real-time chassis or blade/node inlet temperature monitoring and fan speed management capability that is enabled by default.

359 3.4.2 Blade and Multi-Node Server Shipping Documentation: To certify for ENERGY STAR, a blade or  
 360 multi-node server that is shipped to a customer independent of the chassis must be accompanied  
 361 with documentation to inform the customer that the blade or multi-node server is ENERGY STAR  
 362 qualified only if it is installed in a chassis meeting requirements in *Section 3.4.1* of this document.  
 363 A list of certified chassis and ordering information must also be provided as part of product  
 364 collateral provided with the blade or multi-node server. These requirements may be met via either  
 365 printed materials, electronic documentation provided with the blade or multi-node server, or  
 366 information publically available on the Partner's website where information about the blade or  
 367 multi-node server is found.

368 **3.5 Active State Efficiency Criteria**

369 3.5.1 Active State Efficiency Reporting: To certify for ENERGY STAR, a Computer Server or Computer  
 370 Server Product Family must be submitted for certification with the following information disclosed  
 371 in full and in the context of the complete Active State efficiency rating test report:

- 372 i. Final SERT rating tool results, which include the results files (in xml, html, and text format)
- 373 and all results-chart png files; and
- 374 ii. Intermediate SERT rating tool results over the entire test run, which include the results-details
- 375 files (in xml, html, and text format) and all results-details-chart png files.

376 Data reporting and formatting requirements are discussed in Section 4.1 of this specification.

377 3.5.2 Incomplete Reporting: Partners shall not selectively report individual workload module results, or  
 378 otherwise present efficiency rating tool results in any form other than a complete test report, in  
 379 customer documentation or marketing materials.

380 3.5.3 Active State Efficiency Requirements: Calculated Active State efficiency score ( $Eff_{ACTIVE}$ ) shall be  
 381 greater than or equal to the minimum Active State efficiency thresholds listed in Table 3.

382 **Equation 1: Calculation  $Eff_{ACTIVE}$**

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$$Eff_{ACTIVE} = EXP(0.65 * \ln(Eff_{CPU}) + 0.30 * \ln(Eff_{MEMORY}) + 0.05 * \ln(Eff_{STORAGE}))$$

384 Where:

- 385 ▪  $Eff_{ACTIVE}$  is comprised of  $Eff_{CPU}$ ,  $Eff_{MEMORY}$  and  $Eff_{STORAGE}$
- 386 which are defined in equations 2 through 4 below:

388 **Equation 2: Calculation  $Eff_{CPU}$**

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$$Eff_{CPU} = Geomean(Eff_{COMPRESS}, Eff_{LU}, Eff_{SOR}, Eff_{CRYPTO}, Eff_{SORT}, Eff_{SHA256}, Eff_{HYBRIDSSJ})$$

390 Where:

- 391 ▪  $Eff_{COMPRESS}$  is the measured Compression worklet score
- 392 ▪  $Eff_{LU}$  is the measured LU worklet score
- 393 ▪  $Eff_{SOR}$  is the measured SOR worklet score
- 394 ▪  $Eff_{CRYPTO}$  is the measured Crypto worklet score
- 395 ▪  $Eff_{SORT}$  is the measured Sort worklet score
- 396 ▪  $Eff_{SHA256}$  is the measured SHA256 worklet score
- 397 ▪  $Eff_{HYBRIDSSJ}$  is the measured Hybrid SSJ worklet score

399 **Equation 3: Calculation  $Eff_{MEMORY}$**

400 
$$Eff_{MEMORY} = Geomean(Eff_{FLOOD2}, Eff_{CAPACITY2})$$

401 Where:

- 402 ▪  $Eff_{FLOOD2}$  is the measured Flood2 worklet score
- 403 ▪  $Eff_{CAPACITY2}$  is the measured Capacity2 worklet score

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**Equation 4: Calculation  $Eff_{STORAGE}$**

$$Eff_{STORAGE} = Geomean(Eff_{SEQUENTIAL}, Eff_{RANDOM})$$

Where:

- $Eff_{SEQUENTIAL}$  is the measured Sequential worklet score
- $Eff_{RANDOM}$  is the measured Random worklet score

412

**Table 3: Active State Efficiency Thresholds for all Computer Servers**

Product Type	Minimum $Eff_{ACTIVE}$
Rack	50
Tower	50
Blade	55
Multi-Node	55
Resilient	30

413

**Note:** The proposed active state efficiency requirements above are a culmination of multiple years of SERT data collection, which included over 600 configurations and over 120 unique product families, as well as consistent collaboration with stakeholders to determine the best way to vet, interpret, and use this data to set appropriate active state requirements across a variety of server types. After performing analysis on the active state efficiency data, EPA is proposing the minimum active state efficiency thresholds presented in Table 3 above. The process of calculating  $Eff_{ACTIVE}$  aligns with the metric development work presented to EPA through a collaborative effort between SPEC and The Green Grid.

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EPA has balanced the proposed active state and idle requirements so that together the overall energy requirements target the top quartile of the market and represent products that excel in both areas. The overall proposal targets a wide variety of products both by product type and socket count. EPA has received stakeholder feedback that retaining idle state requirements negatively impacts products that have top tier active state results. EPA’s review of the available product data does not support this claim, but rather shows that a large majority of the best performing products in active state can also meet their requisite idle state requirements.

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EPA welcomes stakeholder feedback on both the proposed metric, as well as the minimum state efficiency thresholds presented in Table 3, including any additional new model product data that may influence either the idle or active state proposed requirements in Version 3.0.

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**3.6 Idle State Efficiency Criteria – One-Socket (1S) and Two-Socket (2S) Non-Resilient Servers**

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3.6.1 **Idle State Data Reporting:** Idle State power ( $P_{IDLE}$ ,  $P_{BLADE}$ , or  $P_{NODE}$ ) shall be measured and reported, both in certification materials and as required in Section 4. In addition, for blade and multi-node products,  $P_{TOT\_BLADE\_SYS}$  and  $P_{TOT\_NODE\_SYS}$  shall also be reported respectively. Please see Section 3.9 for details on how to calculate  $P_{BLADE}$  and  $P_{TOT\_BLADE\_SYS}$ , and Section 3.10 for details on how to calculate  $P_{NODE}$  and  $P_{TOT\_NODE\_SYS}$ .

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3.6.2 **Idle State Efficiency Requirements:** Measured Idle State power ( $P_{IDLE}$ ,  $P_{BLADE}$ , or  $P_{NODE}$ ) shall be less than or equal to the Maximum Idle State Power Requirement ( $P_{IDLE\_MAX}$ ), as calculated per Equation .

441

**Equation 5: Calculation of Maximum Idle State Power**

442

$$P_{IDLE\_MAX} = P_{BASE} + \sum_{i=1}^n P_{ADDL\_i}$$

443

Where:

444

- $P_{IDLE\_MAX}$  is the Maximum Idle State Power Requirement,
- $P_{BASE}$  is the base idle power allowance, as determined per Table 3 or Table 4,
- $P_{ADDL\_i}$  is the Idle State power allowance for additional components, as determined per 5.

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i. These Idle power limits are applicable to one and two socket systems only.

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ii. Use Section 6.1 of the ENERGY STAR Computer Servers Test Method to determine the Idle State power for certification.

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iii. All quantities (with the exception of installed processors) in Table 3, Table 4 and, Table 5 refer to the number of components installed in the system, not the maximum number of components the system can support (e.g., installed memory, not supported memory; etc.)

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iv. The Additional Power Supply allowance may be applied for each redundant power supply used in the configuration.

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v. For the purposes of determining Idle power allowances, all memory capacities shall be rounded to the nearest GB<sup>2</sup>

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vi. The Additional I/O Device allowance may be applied for all I/O Devices over the Base Configuration (i.e., Ethernet devices additional to two ports greater than or equal to 1 Gigabit per second (Gbit/s), onboard Ethernet, plus any non-Ethernet I/O devices), including on-board I/O devices and add-in I/O devices installed through expansion slots. This allowance may be applied for each of the following types of I/O functionality: Ethernet, SAS, SATA, Fibre Channel and Infiniband.

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vii. The Additional I/O Device allowance shall be calculated based upon the rated link speed of a single connection, rounded to the nearest Gbit. I/O devices with less than 1 Gbit speed do not qualify for the Additional I/O Device allowance.

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viii. The Additional I/O Device allowance shall only be applied for I/O devices that are active/enabled upon shipment, and are capable of functioning when connected to an active switch.

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**Table 4: Base Idle State Power Allowances for One and Two Socket Non-Resilient Servers**

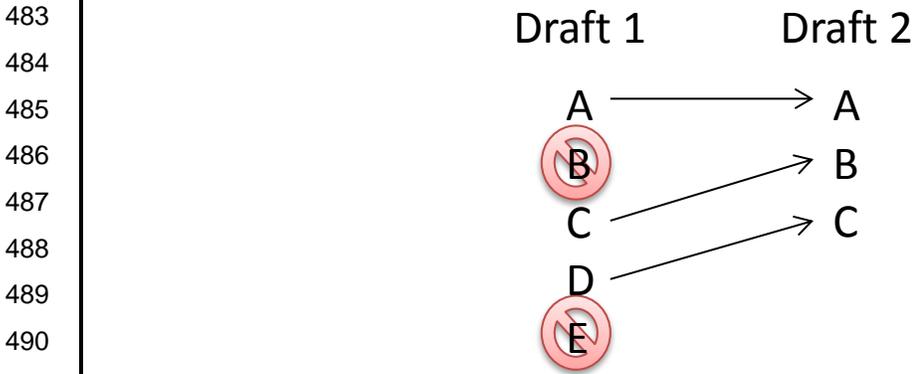
Category	Number of Sockets	Blade or Multi-Node	Base Idle State Power Allowance, P <sub>BASE</sub> (watts)
A	1	N/A <sup>3</sup>	37
B	2	No	85
C	2	Yes	105

<sup>2</sup> GB defined as 1024<sup>3</sup> or 2<sup>30</sup> bytes.

<sup>3</sup> The blade or multi-node differentiation is only applicable for two socket systems. Category A applies to all one socket computer servers.

473 **Note:** Recognizing the changing nature of this segment of the market, the small number of resilient server  
 474 models in the ENERGY STAR dataset, and lastly the limited differentiation in the idle state performance  
 475 of these products, EPA is not able to confidently develop idle levels for this product type at this time.  
 476 EPA is maintaining a reporting requirement for idle state for these products in order to maintain access to  
 477 this for those interested customers. Further, resilient servers are subject to the new active state power  
 478 requirements.

479 Due to the removal of the resilient server requirements in the idle state power section, EPA has  
 480 consolidated the previous Tables 3 and 4 from Draft 1 into a single table covering the socket count and  
 481 blade / multi-node capability. A figure showing the consolidation of categories and removal of previous  
 482 resilient categories in Draft 1 is shown below:



492 **Table 5: Additional Idle Power Allowances for Extra Components**

System Characteristic	Applies To:	Additional Idle Power Allowance
Additional Power Supplies	Power supplies installed explicitly for power redundancy <sup>(v)</sup>	10 watts per Power Supply
Storage Devices	Per installed storage device	4.0 watts per Storage Device
Additional Memory	Installed memory greater than 4 GB <sup>(vi)</sup>	0.125 watts per GB <sup>(vi)</sup>
Additional I/O Devices <sup>(vii), (viii), (ix)</sup>	Installed Devices greater than two ports of $\geq 1$ Gbit, onboard Ethernet	$< 1$ Gbit: No Allowance $= 1$ Gbit: 2.0 watts / Active Port $> 1$ Gbit and $< 10$ Gbit: 4.0 watts / Active Port $\geq 10$ Gbit: 8.0 watts / Active Port

493 **Note:** EPA is proposing to amend the following adder values from the Draft 1 specification allowances  
 494 based on feedback from stakeholders and analysis of additional product data made available since the  
 495 release of the Draft 1 specification.

496 - EPA has removed the Additional Buffered DDR Channel adder since it only applies to resilient servers,  
 497 which no longer have idle requirements.

498 - After further discussions with stakeholders, along with analyzing an expanded product data set since the  
 499 development of Draft 1, EPA has determined that the 0.25 watts / GB memory adder was not sufficiently  
 500 aggressive. EPA is proposing to modify this adder to 0.125 watts / GB above 4GB of installed memory.  
 501 These requirements along with the new active state requirements highlight the products which perform  
 502 the best in both idle and active state efficiency earning the ENERGY STAR label.

503 EPA also received feedback regarding the following stakeholder proposed adder changes which require  
504 additional data in order to address. They are:

505 - A definition and adder for newer non-volatile memory devices, including those that are flash based. EPA  
506 is open to addressing this new type of memory technology, but is unsure whether it should be addressed  
507 independently of the existing memory definition and adder which are focused on traditional random  
508 access memory. EPA welcomes additional data from stakeholders to determine the best way to address  
509 these new memory types including if they merit additional adder allowances, and what value those  
510 allowances should be.

511 - Certain stakeholders contend that the current 8 watt per active port adder for Additional I/O Devices  
512 greater than 10 Gbit is not sufficient for newer network port technologies. EPA welcomes energy data to  
513 support these claims, as well as inform what adder levels would be appropriate for these higher speed  
514 ports (e.g. 40Gbit+).

### 515 **3.7 Idle State Efficiency Criteria – Three-Socket (3S) and Four-Socket (4S) Servers** 516 **(neither Blade nor Multi-Node)**

517 3.7.1 Idle State Data Reporting: Idle State power ( $P_{IDLE}$ ) shall be measured and  
518 reported, both in certification materials and as required in Section 4.

### 519 **3.8 Idle State Efficiency Criteria – All Resilient Servers**

520 3.8.1 Idle State Data Reporting: Idle State power ( $P_{IDLE}$ ) shall be measured and  
521 reported, both in certification materials and as required in Section 4.

522 **Note:** Although EPA has removed the idle state efficiency requirements for resilient servers, EPA is  
523 proposing to maintain a reporting requirement for these products. This information will be posted on the  
524 ENERGY STAR website as an additional resource for interested customers.

### 525 **3.9 Calculating Idle State Values – Blade Servers**

526 3.9.1 The testing of Blade Servers for compliance with Section 3.6.1 shall be carried out under all of the  
527 following conditions:

- 528 i. Power values shall be measured and reported using a half-populated Blade Chassis. Blade  
529 Servers with multiple power domains, choose the number of power domains that is closest to  
530 filling half of the Blade Chassis. In a case where there are two choices that are equally close  
531 to half, test with the domain or combination of domains which utilize a higher number of Blade  
532 Servers. The number of blades tested during the half-populated Blade Chassis test shall be  
533 reported.
- 534 ii. Power for a fully-populated blade chassis may be optionally measured and reported, provided  
535 that half-populated chassis data is also provided.
- 536 iii. All Blade Servers installed in the Blade Chassis shall share the same configuration  
537 (homogeneous).
- 538 iv. Per-blade power values shall be calculated using Equation 6.

#### 539 **Equation 6: Calculation of Single Blade Power**

540 
$$P_{BLADE} = \frac{P_{TOT\_BLADE\_SYS}}{N_{INST\_BLADE\_SRV}}$$

541 *Where:*

- 542 ▪  $P_{BLADE}$  is the per-Blade Server Power,  $P_{TOT\_BLADE\_SYS}$  is  
543 total measured power of the Blade System,  
544



## 583 4 STANDARD INFORMATION REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

### 584 4.1 Data Reporting Requirements

- 585 4.1.1 All required data fields in the ENERGY STAR Version 3.0 Computer Servers Qualified Product  
586 Exchange form shall be submitted to EPA for each ENERGY STAR certified Computer Server or  
587 Computer Server Product Family.
- 588 i. Partners are encouraged to provide one set of data for each ENERGY STAR certified product  
589 configuration, though EPA will also accept a data set for each qualified product family.
- 590 ii. A product family certification must include data for all defined test points in 1.G)2), as  
591 applicable.
- 592 iii. Whenever possible, Partners must also provide a hyperlink to a detailed power calculator on  
593 their Web site that purchasers can use to understand power and performance data for  
594 specific configurations within the product family.
- 595 4.1.2 The following data will be displayed on the ENERGY STAR Web site through the product finder  
596 tool:
- 597 i. model name and number, identifying SKU and/or configuration ID;
- 598 ii. system characteristics (form factor, available sockets/slots, power specifications, etc.);
- 599 iii. system type (e.g. resilient.);
- 600 iv. system configuration(s) (including Low-end Performance Configuration, High-end  
601 Performance Configuration, and Typical Configuration for Product Family certification);
- 602 v. power consumption and performance data from required Active and Idle State Efficiency  
603 Criteria testing including results.xml, results.html, results.txt, all results-chart png files,  
604 results-details.html, results-details.txt, results-details.xml, all results-details-chart png files;
- 605 vi. available and enabled power saving features (e.g., power management);
- 606 vii. a list of selected data from the ASHRAE Thermal Report;
- 607 viii. inlet air temperature measurements made prior to the start of testing, at the conclusion of Idle  
608 State testing, and at the conclusion of Active State testing;
- 609 ix. for product family certifications, a list of qualified configurations with qualified SKUs or  
610 configuration IDs; and
- 611 x. for a blade server, a list of compatible blade chassis that meet ENERGY STAR certification  
612 criteria.
- 613 4.1.3 EPA may periodically revise this list, as necessary, and will notify and invite stakeholder  
614 engagement in such a revision process.

## 615 5 STANDARD PERFORMANCE DATA MEASUREMENT AND OUTPUT 616 REQUIREMENTS

### 617 5.1 Measurement and Output

- 618 5.1.1 A computer server must provide data on input power consumption (W), inlet air temperature (°C),  
619 and average utilization of all logical CPUs. Data must be made available in a published or user-  
620 accessible format that is readable by third-party, non-proprietary management software over a  
621 standard network. For blade and multi-node servers and systems, data may be aggregated at the  
622 chassis level.

623 5.1.2 Computer servers classified as Class B equipment as set out in EN 55022:2006 are exempt from  
624 the requirements to provide data on input power consumption and inlet air temperature in 5.1.1.  
625 Class B refers to household and home office equipment (intended for use in the domestic  
626 environment). All computer servers in the program must meet the requirement and conditions to  
627 report utilization of all logical CPUs.

## 628 **5.2 Reporting Implementation**

629 5.2.1 Products may use either embedded components or add-in devices that are packaged with the  
630 computer server to make data available to end users (e.g., a service processor, embedded power  
631 or thermal meter (or other out-of-band technology), or pre-installed OS);

632 5.2.2 Products that include a pre-installed OS must include all necessary drivers and software for end  
633 users to access standardized data as specified in this document. Products that do not include a  
634 pre-installed OS must be packaged with printed documentation of how to access registers that  
635 contain relevant sensor information. This requirement may be met via either printed materials,  
636 electronic documentation provided with the computer server, or information publicly available on  
637 the Partner's website where information about the computer server is found.

638 5.2.3 When an open and universally available data collection and reporting standard becomes  
639 available, manufacturers should incorporate the universal standard into their systems;

640 5.2.4 Evaluation of the accuracy (5.3) and sampling (5.4) requirements shall be completed through  
641 review of data from component product datasheets. If this data is absent, Partner declaration  
642 shall be used to evaluate accuracy and sampling.

## 643 **5.3 Measurement Accuracy**

644 5.3.1 *Input power:* Measurements must be reported with accuracy of at least  $\pm 5\%$  of the actual value,  
645 with a maximum level of accuracy of  $\pm 10W$  for each installed PSU (i.e., power reporting accuracy  
646 for each power supply is never required to be better than  $\pm 10$  watts) through the operating range  
647 from Idle to full power;

648 5.3.2 *Processor utilization:* Average utilization must be estimated for each logical CPU that is visible to  
649 the OS and must be reported to the operator or user of the computer server through the operating  
650 environment (OS or hypervisor);

651 5.3.3 *Inlet air temperature:* Measurements must be reported with an accuracy of at least  $\pm 2^{\circ}C$ .

## 652 **5.4 Sampling Requirements**

653 5.4.1 *Input power and processor utilization:* Input power and processor utilization measurements must  
654 be sampled internally to the computer server at a rate of greater than or equal to measurement  
655 per contiguous 10 second period. A rolling average, encompassing a period of no more than 30  
656 seconds, must be sampled internally to the computer server at a frequency of greater than or  
657 equal to once per ten seconds.

658 5.4.2 *Inlet air temperature:* Inlet air temperature measurements must be sampled internally to the  
659 computer server at a rate of greater than or equal to 1 measurement every 10 seconds.

660 5.4.3 *Time stamping:* Systems that implement time stamping of environmental data shall sample  
661 internally to the computer server data at a rate of greater than or equal to 1 measurement every  
662 30 seconds.

663 5.4.4 *Management Software:* All sampled measurements shall be made available to external  
664 management software either via an on-demand pull method, or via a coordinated push  
665 method. In either case the system's management software is responsible for establishing the  
666 data delivery time scale while the computer server is responsible to assuring data delivered  
667 meets the above sampling and currency requirements.

668 **6 TESTING**

669 **6.1 Test Methods**

670 6.1.1 When testing Computer Server products, the test methods identified in 6 shall be used to  
671 determine ENERGY STAR certification.

672 **Table 6: Test Methods for ENERGY STAR Certification**

Product Type or Component	Test Method
All	ENERGY STAR Test Method for Computer Servers (Rev. April-2016)
All	Standard Performance Evaluation Corporation (SPEC) most current <sup>4</sup> Server Efficiency Rating Tool (SERT)

673 6.1.2 When testing Computer Server products, UUTs must have all Processor Sockets populated  
674 during testing.

675 i. If a Computer Server cannot support populating all Processor Sockets during testing, then  
676 the system must be populated to its maximum functionality. These systems will be subject  
677 to the base idle state power allowance based on the number of sockets in the system.

678 **6.2 Number of Units Required for Testing**

679 6.2.1 Representative Models shall be selected for testing per the following requirements:

680 i. For certification of an individual product configuration, the unique configuration that is  
681 intended to be marketed and labeled as ENERGY STAR is considered the Representative  
682 Model.

683 ii. For certification of a product family of all product types, one product configuration for each  
684 of the three points identified in definitions 1.G)2) within the family are considered  
685 Representative Models. All such representative models shall have the same Common  
686 Product Family Attributes as defined in 1.G)1).

687 **Note:** EPA has revised the number of points required from four to three configurations to match the  
688 revised product family definition in Section 1.G)2).

689 6.2.2 All product configurations within a product family that is submitted for certification must meet  
690 ENERGY STAR requirements, including products for which data is not reported.

691 **7 EFFECTIVE DATE**

692 7.1.1 Effective Date: This ENERGY STAR Computer Servers specification shall take effect on **TBD**. To  
693 certify for ENERGY STAR, a product model shall meet the ENERGY STAR specification in effect  
694 on its date of manufacture. The date of manufacture is specific to each unit and is the date on  
695 which a unit is considered to be completely assembled.

<sup>4</sup> For the purposes of this document, the most current SERT version will be listed in the most recently published Servers 3.0 Clarification Memo, located on the Enterprise Servers Specification Version 3.0 website ([https://www.energystar.gov/products/spec/enterprise\\_servers\\_specification\\_version\\_3\\_0\\_pd](https://www.energystar.gov/products/spec/enterprise_servers_specification_version_3_0_pd))

696 7.1.2 Future Specification Revisions: EPA reserves the right to change this specification should  
697 technological and/or market changes affect its usefulness to consumers, industry, or the  
698 environment. In keeping with current policy, revisions to the specification are arrived at through  
699 stakeholder discussions. In the event of a specification revision, please note that the ENERGY  
700 STAR certification is not automatically granted for the life of a product model.

## 701 **8 CONSIDERATIONS FOR FUTURE REVISIONS**

### 702 **8.1 TBD**

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## APPENDIX B: IDENTIFYING RESILIENT SERVER CLASS

- A. *Processor RAS and Scalability* - All of the following shall be supported:
- (1) *Processor RAS*: The processor must have capabilities to detect, correct, and contain data errors, as described by all of the following:
    - (a) Error detection on L1 caches, directories and address translation buffers using parity protection;
    - (b) Single bit error correction (or better) using ECC on caches that can contain modified data. Corrected data is delivered to the recipient (i.e., error correction is not used just for background scrubbing);
    - (c) Error recovery and containment by means of (1) processor checkpoint retry and recovery, (2) data poison indication (tagging) and propagation, or (3) both. The mechanisms notify the OS or hypervisor to contain the error within a process or partition, thereby reducing the need for system reboots; and
    - (d) (1) Capable of autonomous error mitigation actions within processor hardware, such as disabling of the failing portions of a cache, (2) support for predictive failure analysis by notifying the OS, hypervisor, or service processor of the location and/or root cause of errors, or (3) both.
  - (2) The processor technology used in resilient and scalable servers is designed to provide additional capability and functionality without additional chipsets, enabling them to be designed into systems with 4 or more processor sockets. The processors have additional infrastructure to support extra, built-in processor busses to support the demand of larger systems.
  - (3) The server provides high bandwidth I/O interfaces for connecting to external I/O expansion devices or remote I/O without reducing the number of processor sockets that can be connected together. These may be proprietary interfaces or standard interfaces such as PCIe. The high performance I/O controller to support these slots may be embedded within the main processor socket or on the system board.
- B. *Memory RAS and Scalability* - All of the following capabilities and characteristics shall be present:
- (1) Provides memory fault detection and recovery through Extended ECC;
  - (2) In x4 DIMMs, recovery from failure of two adjacent chips in the same rank;
  - (3) Memory migration: Failing memory can be proactively de-allocated and data migrated to available memory. This can be implemented at the granularity of DIMMs or logical memory blocks. Alternatively, memory can also be mirrored;
  - (4) Uses memory buffers for connection of higher speed processor -memory links to DIMMs attached to lower speed DDR channels. Memory buffer can be a separate, standalone buffer chip which is integrated on the system board, or integrated on custom-built memory cards. The use of the buffer chip is required for extended DIMM support; they allow larger memory capacity due to support for larger capacity DIMMs, more DIMM slots per memory channel, and higher memory bandwidth per memory channel than direct-attached DIMMs. The memory modules may also be custom-built, with the memory buffers and DRAM chips integrated on the same card;
  - (5) Uses resilient links between processors and memory buffers with mechanisms to recover from transient errors on the link; and
  - (6) Lane sparing in the processor-memory links. One or more spare lanes are available

- 805 for lane failover in the event of permanent error.
- 806 C. *Power Supply RAS*: All PSUs installed or shipped with the server shall be redundant and  
807 concurrently maintainable. The redundant and repairable components may also be  
808 housed within a single physical power supply, but must be repairable without requiring  
809 the system to be powered down. Support must be present to operate the system in  
810 degraded mode when power delivery capability is degraded due to failures in the power  
811 supplies or input power loss.
- 812 D. *Thermal and Cooling RAS*: All active cooling components, such as fans or water-based  
813 cooling, shall be redundant and concurrently maintainable. The processor complex must  
814 have mechanisms to allow it to be throttled under thermal emergencies. Support must be  
815 present to operate the system in degraded mode when thermal emergencies are  
816 detected in system components.
- 817 E. *System Resiliency* – no fewer than six of the following characteristics shall be present in  
818 the server:
- 819 (1) Support of redundant storage controllers or redundant path to external storage;  
820 (2) Redundant service processors;  
821 (3) Redundant dc-dc regulator stages after the power supply outputs;  
822 (4) The server hardware supports runtime processor de-allocation;  
823 (5) I/O adapters or hard drives are hot-swappable;  
824 (6) Provides end to end bus error retry on processor to memory or processor to  
825 processor interconnects;  
826 (7) Supports on-line expansion/retraction of hardware resources without the need for  
827 operating system reboot (“on-demand” features);  
828 (8) Processor Socket migration: With hypervisor and/or OS assistance, tasks executing  
829 on a processor socket can be migrated to another processor socket without the need  
830 for the system to be restarted;  
831 (9) Memory patrol or background scrubbing is enabled for proactive detection and  
832 correction of errors to reduce the likelihood of uncorrectable errors; and  
833 (10) Internal storage resiliency: Resilient systems have some form of RAID hardware in  
834 the base configuration, either through support on the system board or a dedicated  
835 slot for a RAID controller card for support of the server’s internal drives.
- 836 F. *System Scalability* – All of the following shall be present in the server:
- 837 (1) Higher memory capacity:  $\geq 8$  DDR3 or DDR4 DIMM Ports per socket, with resilient  
838 links between the processor socket and memory buffers; and  
839 (2) Greater I/O expandability: Larger base I/O infrastructure and support a higher  
840 number of I/O slots. Provide at least 32 dedicated PCIe Gen 2 lanes or equivalent I/O  
841 bandwidth, with at least one x16 slot or other dedicated interface to support external  
842 PCIe, proprietary I/O interface or other industry standard I/O interface.