



July 3, 2002

Dear Power Supplies Workshop Attendee,

The purpose of this memo is to provide you with an update since the power supply workshop in San Francisco, California in January. At this time EPA is continuing to keep a close eye on power supply market trends as well as evaluating strategies to encourage higher market penetration of more efficient power supplies. Please visit the Power Supplies page of ENERGY STAR's product development Web site at <http://yosemite1.epa.gov/Estar/consumers.nsf/content/powersupplies.htm>. The following items have been recently posted to the Web site:

Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) Final Power Supplies Report and Executive Summary

As promised during the January workshop, NRDC's Final Power Supplies Report and Executive Summary are now available on the product development Web site for your review. Information obtained at the workshop was extremely beneficial to the completion of this report. If you have any comments or questions, please e-mail Noah Horowitz, NRDC, at nhorowitz@nrdc.org.

International Energy Efficiency in Commercial Buildings (IEECB) Conference in Nice, France, May 27 - 29, 2002

Representatives from around the globe came together for this 3-day conference to discuss environmental and energy efficiency policies, changes in regulation and deregulation, market approaches, and the challenges of implementing energy efficiency.

During the conference, Chris Calwell, Ecos Consulting, presented an updated talk on power supply efficiency on May 29, 2002. The talk highlighted the importance of active mode efficiency, discussing existing efforts to improve efficiency through voluntary programs and standards. The talk also examined links between U.S. and international energy-saving strategies with power supplies. The presentation is available on the product development Web site. For more information, please contact Chris Calwell at ccalwell@ecosconsulting.com.

Other items of interest from the IEECB Conference:

- The European Union's Code of Conduct aims to reduce Stand-by Losses in External Power Supplies. The EC has proposed that all companies producing or buying external power supplies sign the Code of Conduct
- Efficiency of External Power Supplies may expand to include consideration of active mode efficiency later this year: visit http://energyefficiency.jrc.cec.eu.int/html/s_b-ParticipantsCoC.htm for more information.
- Kevin Fisher, from Intel, delivered a presentation that included a discussion of the role of power supplies in overall energy efficiency of desktop computers.

For more information on the IEECB Conference visit: <http://ieecbr15.online.fr/>.

Japan's METI issues guidelines that call for Efficient R&D to Save Energy

The Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) released guidelines Wednesday on ways to make the development of energy-saving technologies more efficient. The guidelines are aimed at getting researchers to focus more closely on developing technologies that have greater energy



conservation effects than ones they might otherwise pursue due to development feasibility. For example, they call for improving the efficiency of adapters and chargers for use in home electronics to help keep energy consumption down. *Kyodo News, June 12, 2002.*

Power Sources Manufacturers Association (PSMA) Presentation

On March 11, 2002, Chris Calwell gave a presentation to PSMA at their annual meeting in Dallas on the challenges of and savings gained by using more energy-efficient power supplies. The talk presented current power supply energy usage numbers and discussed possible ways of marketing to and transforming the market. PSMA is considering looking into this issue further over the next year. This presentation is available on the product development Web site. For more information on PSMA activities visit www.pdma.org.

Manufacturer Incentives for Energy Efficient External Power Supplies: A Feasibility Study

At the January Power Supply meeting, Commissioner Arthur Rosenfeld of the California Energy Commission (CEC) proposed that energy efficiency incentives be paid to the manufacturers/ assemblers that make the actual power supply purchase decision. This would be intended to buy down the incremental manufacturing cost of more efficient power supplies before the subsequent markup that occurs in the sales chain, yielding substantial price reductions at relatively modest cost. The feasibility study analyzes that proposal and explores the opportunities for pursuing it. This document is also available on the product development Web site.

FCC Requirements: Feedback Needed

Last week, EPA received a copy of the FCC Order and Report, ET Docket No. 98-80. It seems that the new R&O places requirements on signals in the frequency range from 150 kHz to 450 kHz where no requirements existed previously. It also (according to the FCC analysis) has slightly more stringent requirements on the level of allowed emissions in the 450 kHz to 5 MHz frequency range.

As you know, ENERGY STAR continues to encourage the use of SMPS (as well as highly efficient and low no-load power supplies) as a way to reduce standby energy use. We would like to learn if and how these FCC requirements will impact the availability of SMPS for telephony or other consumer electronics products, thereby potentially hindering those manufacturers wishing to design ENERGY STAR qualifying models. Your comments are appreciated. Please contact Craig Hershberg by phone (202) 564-1251 or by email at hershberg.craig@epa.gov.

ENERGY STAR Specification for Laptop Computers

EPA has decided to break out laptops from the current ENERGY STAR computer specification. In the process of creating a distinct energy performance specification for laptops, we plan to evaluate the role of power supplies in this new specification. If you have any thoughts regarding this matter, please send your ideas to Craig Hershberg at hershberg.craig@epa.gov.

At this time EPA does not have plans to conduct another meeting/workshop; however, your name is listed in our database and you will be contacted for future events. If you have new information regarding power supplies or the power supply market you'd like to share, please feel free to call Craig Hershberg directly at (202) 564-1251.

Thank you.
