



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 17, 2011**

**Media Contacts:**

Sarah O'Brien [sarah.obrien@greenelectronicscouncil.org](mailto:sarah.obrien@greenelectronicscouncil.org) +1 802 479 0317

Tilman Voegelé-Eberling [tilman.voegelé-eberling@dekra.com](mailto:tilman.voegelé-eberling@dekra.com) (07 11) 78 61-2122

## **DEKRA and EPEAT: Working together for green electronic products**

**Stuttgart / Portland (Oregon)** – The international expert organization DEKRA ([www.dekra.com/epeat](http://www.dekra.com/epeat)) and EPEAT, Inc., the leading system for identifying, comparing and selecting environmentally preferable electronics ([www.epeat.net](http://www.epeat.net)) today launch a unique Strategic Partnership. DEKRA and EPEAT will leverage their complementary strengths to support global use of the EPEAT system by purchasers and manufacturers.

EPEAT<sup>(R)</sup> is the definitive environmental rating system for electronics, with more than 3,200 [environmentally preferable electronic products](#) currently registered by 48 [participating manufacturers](#), from global giants to small integrators, across [41 countries](#). Products are rated Bronze, Silver or Gold in the system, based on assessment against a total of [51 environmental criteria](#) - including the elimination of toxic materials, design for recycling, extended product longevity, increased energy efficiency, and availability of take-back and recycling services.

As EPEAT's strategic partner, DEKRA will provide a network of local EPEAT experts in Europe, China, and South America and will help train electronics manufacturers and suppliers, purchasers and other interested parties. EPEAT will train DEKRA staff, enabling them to integrate EPEAT content into their sustainability and health and safety consulting work. The organizations will jointly engage new purchasers and manufacturers to use the system to support their business decisions.

"An increasing number of purchasing departments – whether private corporations or public entities – make product environmental performance a condition for doing business", observes Dr Gesa Köberle, Head of Sustainability Services at DEKRA. "We believe an objective, rigorous standard with comprehensive performance criteria helps businesses meet their purchasing goals and ensures manufacturers are rewarded in the market for their achievements. We are excited to combine expertise with EPEAT to help both organisations succeed".

EPEAT was developed through a stakeholder consensus process and is managed by the US non-profit programme the Green Electronics Council, based in Portland, Oregon. The system currently rates computers – desktops, laptops, thin clients and workstations – and computer monitors based on the IEEE 1680 family of public standards. IEEE 1680 Imaging Equipment and Television standards are under development and EPEAT coverage of additional product categories is expected to begin in 2012.

"Demand is growing worldwide," said Jeff Omelchuck, EPEAT's Executive Director, "Partnering with a firm of DEKRA's global reach and reputation helps EPEAT meet that demand with quality training and support services for all participants in the electronics market. We are very pleased to work with DEKRA to expand knowledge and use of EPEAT through this alliance."

# # #

**About EPEAT:**

*EPEAT<sup>(R)</sup> is the definitive global registry for greener electronics, covering the most products from the broadest range of manufacturers across the widest array of countries. EPEAT combines comprehensive criteria for design, production, energy use and recycling with ongoing independent verification of manufacturer claims. More than 80 million EPEAT registered products were sold in covered countries in 2009 – resulting in reductions of 2 million metric tons of greenhouse gases – like taking 1.37 million US cars off the road for a year, elimination of 29,000 metric tons solid waste – equal to 15,000 US households' annual waste, and enough mercury to fill 372,000 fever thermometers. More information at [www.epeat.net](http://www.epeat.net)*

**About DEKRA:**

*DEKRA SE is one of the world's leading expert organisations. The company currently runs activities in more than 50 countries. Over 25,000 employees are committed to ensuring long-term safety, quality and environmental protection. The DEKRA Business Units "Automotive", "Industrial" and "Personnel" provide professional and innovative services in the fields of vehicle inspections, expert appraisals, international claims management, consulting, industrial testing, product testing, certification, environmental protection, qualification, temporary work as well as out- and new placement. In 2010 DEKRA generated sales totalling around 1.8 billion euros. For more information see [www.dekra.com](http://www.dekra.com) , [www.dekra.com/epeat](http://www.dekra.com/epeat) and <http://www.dekra.com.cn/information.aspx?ID=48>.*