



PHILIPS Ranking = 5.3/10

Philips stays in 4th place despite a reduced score of 5.3, down from 5.9 points in v.13. While Philips scores well on both toxic chemical and energy issues, it loses points for failing to support the need for the RoHS 2.0 Directive (Restriction of Hazardous Substances in electronics, currently being revised) to adopt an end-of-life focussed methodology for adding new substances and an immediate ban on organo-chlorine and bromine compounds.

On chemicals, Philips has committed to eliminating PVC vinyl plastic and all brominated flame retardants (BFRs) in all its new product models by the end of 2010, and six types of phthalates and antimony by 31 December 2010. Beryllium and its compounds are already restricted; arsenic has been eliminated from TV glass and other display products from 2008. Philips has now put on the market TVs with PVC/BFR-free housings (EU market only so far), PVC/BFR-free Senseo and oral healthcare products and a PVC-free remote control, but these are insufficient to score one point (doubled).

Philips is weakest on e-waste and recycling, scoring zero on use of recycled plastic and for no longer reporting on recycling rates based on past sales. It loses the point it was awarded for voluntary take-back and recycling for failing to expand its take-back programme beyond India and the pilots in Brazil and Argentina. Philips now supports Individual Producer Responsibility (IPR), is engaging in a European NGO and industry coalition in support of IPR, and is committed to actively working towards developing IPR-based recycling systems and their supporting financial mechanisms.

On energy, Philips scores full marks for supporting the levels of cuts in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions needed to abate dangerous climate change and for committing to absolute cuts in its operational carbon footprint of 25 percent by 2012 (using a baseline year of 2007). It also scores points for disclosing externally verified carbon dioxide equivalent emissions from its own operations, for sourcing 16 percent of all electricity used in 2009 from renewables and for reporting to the latest Energy Star standard. All TVs sold in the US and 90 percent of European models meet Energy Star v.3.

PHILIPS Overall Score

	BAD (0)	PARTIALLY BAD (1+)	PARTIALLY GOOD (2+)	GOOD (3+)
Precautionary Principle and support for revision of RoHS Directive.				
Chemicals Management				
Timeline for PVC & BFR phaseout				
Timeline for additional substances phaseout				
PVC-free and/or BFR-free models <small>(companies score double on this criterion)</small>				
Individual producer responsibility				
Voluntary take-back				
Information to individual customers				
Amounts recycled				
Use of recycled plastic content				
Global GHG emissions reduction support				
Carbon Footprint disclosure				
Own GHG emissions reduction commitment				
Amounts of renewable energy used				
Energy efficiency of new models <small>(companies score double on this criterion)</small>				

PHILIPS Detailed Scoring

Chemicals

Precautionary Principle and support for revision of RoHS Directive.	Chemicals Management	Timeline for PVC & BFR phaseout	Timeline for additional substances phaseout	PVC-free and/or BFR-free models (double points)
PARTIALLY BAD (1+)	GOOD (3+)	GOOD (3+)	GOOD (3+)	BAD (0)
Philips' definition of the Precautionary Principle identifies the need to take preventative measures without full scientific certainty. More information. However, Philips states no support for the need for RoHS 2.0 to adopt an end-of-life methodology for banning additional harmful substances and an immediate ban on organo-chlorine and bromine substances (at least PVC, CFRs and BFRs within 3 – 5 years).	Philips scores top marks for providing Product and Process Specs, criteria for identifying 'future substances' for elimination and examples, namely 'reported' substances. More information. Restricted substances in Products list. Restricted substances in Processes list. Criteria for identifying 'future' substances for phase out. List of "relevant" substances.	Philips had a goal to have certain models of consumer products free of PVC and BFRs by the end of 2008 and aims to phase out PVC and all BFRs in all new models by the end of 2010. Philips has eliminated BFRs and PVC in TV housings for the EU market, in Senseo and oral healthcare products. More information.	Six types of phthalates and antimony will be eliminated by December 31 2010. Arsenic has been eliminated from TV glass and other displays from 2008. More information. Beryllium and its compounds are already restricted with a threshold of 1000 ppm, but include exemptions. More information. Philips needs to provide a timeline for overcoming the exemptions on beryllium and to clarify why other types of phthalates (beyond the six specified) are not scheduled for elimination.	Philips has put on the market TVs with PVC/BFR-free housings (EU market only so far), PBV/BFR-free Senseo and oral healthcare products and a PVC-free remote control. More information.

E-Waste

Support for Individual Producer Responsibility	Provides voluntary take-back where no EPR laws exist	Provides info for individual customers on take-back in all countries where products are sold	Reports on amount of e-waste collected and recycled	Use of recycled plastic content in products - and timelines for increasing content
PARTIALLY GOOD (2+)	BAD (0)	PARTIALLY BAD (1+)	BAD (0)	BAD (0)
Philips supports the principle of Individual Producer Responsibility (IPR) at least as far as differentiation is concerned but not as far as provisions that avoid the costs falling on others. Philips has signed the IPR coalition statement and has pledged to actively work towards developing IPR based recycling systems and their supporting financial mechanisms. More information. For full marks on IPR Philips needs to document its operationalising of IPR and continue to lobby for IPR, inter alia by ensuring that the revised WEEE legislation sets clearer requirements (enforcement criteria) for the implementation of IPR. It also needs to reject Art 14.2. (continued use of the Visible Fee) of the EC proposal for a revised WEEE Directive.	It is Philips' intention to help establish global collection and recycling systems. More information. Philips has a voluntary take-back programme in India encompassing 8 cities with 27 service centres. More information. Pilot projects have started in Brazil and Argentina, otherwise, there is no voluntary take-back offered by Philips, although in the US Philips lists local recyclers for customers to contact. More information. To regain the lost point, Philips needs to institutionalise the pilot projects and expand its take-back programme to other countries.	Philips provides general advice to customers on recycling, contacts for recyclers in most of the EU (excluding some New Member States), and a search tool to locate recyclers courtesy of the Consumer Electronics Association in the US. More information here and here. Good information for customers in India.	Philips reports that in 2008 the total amount of WEEE recycled waste in EU countries was 69,818 tons. It no longer provides details of its recycling rate as a % of past sales. More information.	Philips introduced a vacuum cleaner which is made with 50% post industrial plastics and 25% bio based plastic; the use of post consumer plastics is not mentioned. More information.

Energy

Support for global mandatory reduction of GHG emissions	Company carbon footprint disclosure	Commitment to reduce own direct GHG emissions	Amount of renewable energy used	Energy efficiency of New Models (double points)
GOOD (3+)	PARTIALLY GOOD (2+)	GOOD (3+)	PARTIALLY GOOD (2+)	PARTIALLY GOOD (2+)
Philips believes that global emissions should peak in 2015 and decline thereafter to achieve a 50-80% cut in 2050. It supports mandatory cuts in domestic emissions in industrialised countries of at least 30% by 2020. More information.	Philips discloses its CO ₂ equivalent emissions to be approximately 2.147 million tons in 2008 that are verified by KPMG in its Annual 2008 Report. Some of these emissions are from supply chain inbound logistics. For top marks, emissions from a second stage of the product supply chain (scope 3) are needed. More information. Data definitions and scope – p.181, Operational carbon footprint – p.183-184, KPMG verification – p.189	Philips is committed to reducing its operational carbon footprint by 25% by 2012, using 2007 as a baseline. Philips has committed to strong reduction targets, but needs to back this up by showing annual emissions reductions, regardless of acquisitions. More information. See Annual Report for baseline year (p.63)	In 2008, Philips doubled its purchase of green electricity from 7% in 2007 to 16% currently. By 2012, the number of sites that use green electricity should be raised to the level needed to achieve the 25% carbon footprint reduction target by 2012. For maximum points Philips needs to increase its purchasing of renewable energy. Philips has asked its suppliers to introduce procedures to avoid double counting of renewable energy certificates. More information.	All TVs sold in the US and 90% of European models meet Energy Star v.3. In 2008 all Philips TV models exceeded the requirement for standby power consumption by at least 70%. More information. 10% of Philips current battery charger models fulfil the Energy Star v.2 requirements. These models exceed the technical Energy Star requirements by 5-15%. More information.

Criteria on Toxic Chemicals

Greenpeace wants to see electronics companies clean up their act.

Substituting harmful chemicals in the production of electronics will prevent worker exposure to these substances and contamination of communities that neighbour production facilities. Eliminating harmful substances will also prevent leaching/off-gassing of chemicals like brominated flame retardants (BFR) during use, and enable electronic scrap to be safely recycled. The presence of toxic substances in electronics perpetuates the toxic cycle – during reprocessing of electronic waste and by using contaminated secondary materials to make new products.

The issue of toxicity is overarching. Until the use of toxic substances is eliminated, it is impossible to secure 'safe' recycling. For this reason, the points awarded to corporate practice on chemicals are weighted more heavily than criteria on recycling.

Although there are five criteria on both chemicals and waste, the top score on chemicals is 18 points, as double points are awarded for vinyl plastic-free (PVC) and BFR-free models on the market, whereas the top score on e-waste is 15 points.

The first criterion has been sharpened to require companies not only to have a chemicals policy underpinned by the Precautionary Principle, but also to support a revision of the RoHS Directive that bans further harmful substances, specifically BFRs, chlorinated flame retardants (CFRs) and PVC. The criterion on Chemicals Management remains the same. The criterion: BFR-free and PVC-free models on the market, also remains the same and continues to score double points.

The two former criteria: Commitment to eliminating PVC with timeline and Commitment to eliminating all BFRs with timeline, have been merged into one criterion, with the lower level of commitment to PVC or BFR elimination determining the score on this criterion.

A new criterion has been added, namely Phase out of additional substances with timeline(s). The additional substances, many of which have already been identified by the brands as suspect substances for potential future elimination are:

- (1) all phthalates,
- (2) beryllium, including alloys and compounds and
- (3) antimony/antimony compounds

Criteria on e-waste

Greenpeace expects companies to take financial responsibility for dealing with the electronic waste (e-waste) generated by their products, to take back discarded products in all countries with sales of their products and to re-use or recycle them responsibly. Individual Producer Responsibility (IPR) provides a feedback loop to the product designers of the end-of-life costs of treating discarded electronic products and thus an incentive to design out those costs.

An additional e-waste criterion has been added and most of the existing criteria have been sharpened, with additional demands. The new e-waste criterion requires the brands to report on the use of recycled plastic content across all products and provide timelines for increasing content.

Criteria on energy

The five new energy criteria address key expectations that Greenpeace has of responsible companies that are serious about tackling climate change. They are:

- (1) Support for global mandatory reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions;
- (2) Disclosure of the company's own GHG emissions plus emissions from two stages of the supply chain;
- (3) Commitment to reduce the company's own GHG emissions with timelines;
- (4) Amount of renewable energy used
- (5) Energy efficiency of new models (companies score double on this criterion)

Click here to see more detailed information on the ranking

Ranking criteria explained

As of the 8th edition of the Guide to Greener Electronics, Greenpeace scores electronics brands on a tightened set of chemicals and e-waste criteria, (which include new criteria) and on new energy criteria.

The ranking criteria reflect the demands of the Toxic Tech campaign to electronics companies. Our two demands are that companies should:

- (1) clean up their products by eliminating hazardous substances; and
- (2) take-back and recycle their products responsibly once they become obsolete.

The two issues are connected: the use of harmful chemicals in electronic products prevents their safe recycling once the products are discarded.

Given the increasing evidence of climate change and the urgency of addressing this issue, Greenpeace has added new energy criteria to encourage electronics companies to:

- (3) improve their corporate policies and practices with respect to Climate and Energy

Ranking regrading: Companies have the opportunity to move towards a greener ranking as the guide will continue to be updated every quarter. However penalty points will be deducted from overall scores if Greenpeace finds a company lying, practicing double standards or other corporate misconduct.

Disclaimer: Greenpeace's 'Guide to Greener Electronics' aims to clean up the electronics sector and get manufacturers to take responsibility for the full life cycle of their products, including the electronic waste that their products generate and the energy used by their products and operations.

The guide does not rank companies on labour standards, social responsibility or any other issues, but recognises that these are important in the production and use of electronics products.

Changes in ranking guide: We first released our 'Guide to Greener Electronics' in August 2006, which ranked the 14 top manufacturers of personal computers and mobile phones according to their policies on toxic chemicals and recycling.

In the sixth issue of the Guide, we added the leading manufacturers of TVs – namely, Philips and Sharp – and the game console producers Nintendo and Microsoft. The other market leaders for TVs and game consoles are already included in the Guide.

In the eighth edition, we sharpened some of the existing ranking criteria on toxic chemicals and e-waste and added a criterion on each issue. We also added five new energy criteria. In this edition the criteria for the Precautionary Principle has been made more challenging.

For the latest version greenpeace.org/greenelectronics

In versions 11 and 12 of the Guide, PC manufacturers HP, Dell and Lenovo were served a penalty point for backtracking on their commitment to eliminate vinyl plastic (PVC) and brominated flame retardants (BFRs) from their products from the end of 2009. The penalty point on HP was lifted in version 13; LGE was served a penalty point for backtracking on its timeline to eliminate PVC and BFRs in all its products by end of 2010. LGE, Dell and Lenovo continue to be penalised in this version and are joined by Samsung, who is served a penalty point for backtracking on its commitment to eliminate BFRs in new models of all products by January 2010 and PVC by end of 2010.