



**ACER**

4<sup>th</sup> position, 5.1/10

**Acer moves up the ranking to 4<sup>th</sup> position, with a score of 5.1. Acer is showing a larger leadership role in its conversations with suppliers on a range of issues, including greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and hazardous substances, conflict minerals, and fibre sourcing. This has resulted in increase scoring across the three criteria.**

Acer shows greatest improvement on the **Energy** criteria. The company has set new reduction targets for its GHG emissions, aiming to reduce its global GHG emissions by 30% by 2015, relative to a baseline of 2009. Acer’s target for 2020 is a 60% reduction between 2009 and 2020. Acer also continues to support cuts of 30% by 2020 for industrialised countries. Additionally, Acer has asked all 1<sup>st</sup> tier suppliers to adopt more aggressive GHG reduction strategies, setting a deadline of the end of 2012 to provide details.

While Acer’s **Products** score improved with progress in energy efficiency, the company continues to score no points on product life cycle for failing to publicly disclose the length of warranty and spare parts availability for its main product lines. Acer’s new deadline of eliminating polyvinyl chloride plastic (PVC) and all phthalates by 2012 is fast approaching, and Greenpeace is looking forward to seeing this goal achieved.

Acer scores higher in **Sustainable Operations**, mostly due to its more dynamic role with its suppliers. The company continues doing particularly well on chemicals management for its lobbying for restrictions on organo-halogens, and for its precautionary approach to chemicals.

		ZERO	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH
<b>ENERGY</b>	Disclose and set targets for operational GHG emissions and RE supply				
	Disclose and set targets for supply chain GHG emissions and RE supply				
	Clean Electricity Plan (CEP)				
	Clean Energy Policy Advocacy				
<b>PRODUCTS</b>	Product energy efficiency				
	Avoidance of hazardous substances in products				
	Use of recycled plastic in products				
	Product life cycle				
<b>OPERATIONS</b>	Chemicals management and advocacy				
	Policy and practice on sustainable sourcing of fibres for paper				
	Policy and practice on avoidance of conflict minerals				
	Provides effective voluntary take-back where there are no EPR laws				

Energy		17/32
<b>Disclose and set targets for operational GHG emissions and RE supply</b>	<p>Acer calculates <b>GHG emissions of worldwide operations in 2011</b> at around 53,008 tonnes carbon dioxide equivalents (CO<sub>2</sub>-e). The overall figure is adjusted down after verifying a lease relationship with the Acer e-Enabling Data Center's (eDC) data supply and storage services. Taking this into account, emissions have risen from 42,860 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>-e in 2010. The data covers Scope 1,2, and 3; Scope 3 emissions are business travel, which represents 15% of the total. Acer states that the EPA approved certification body in Taiwan has verified the Scope 1 &amp; 2 data in Q3 of 2012, although a copy is not provided. For more points Acer needs to provide evidence of its external verification and more background information and analysis on the source of its GHG emissions (on its website or CR report).</p> <p>Acer has set new reduction targets for its GHG emissions; it aims to reduce its global GHG emission by 30% by 2015, relative to a baseline of 2009; Acer's target for 2020 is a 60% reduction between 2009 and 2020. Acer has not yet set a goal to increase its use of renewable energy but is now planning to <b>assess the feasibility of investing in projects</b> to generate or purchase renewable energy to offset our emissions in the future. GHG emissions have risen substantially since 2007 but have reduced slightly from the 2009 level. P.35, CR Report 2010.</p>	6/8
<b>Disclose and set targets for supply chain GHG emissions and RE supply</b>	<p>70% of Acer suppliers participate in the CDP's Supply Chain programme, with over 95% providing a high response rate for three consecutive years from 2008. Acer reports its ODM's GHG emissions for NB, DT, Monitor &amp; Smart Handheld as 169,160 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>-e in 2009 and 170,465 in 2010. . In 2012 Acer requested that its 1<sup>st</sup> tier suppliers adopt more aggressive reduction targets to conduct carbon reduction activities and also to use renewable energy as one of the reduction programmes. 1<sup>st</sup> tier suppliers have been requested to <b>propose long-term reduction targets</b> by the end of this year, similar to Acer's GHG emissions reduction target, or even more ambitious. Acer also worked with its suppliers in 2010 to calculate the carbon footprint of its AO532H netbook and V193W LCD monitor, and following third party verification, obtained Carbon Footprint labels for these products in cooperation with the Taiwan EPA. Acer provides a <b>breakdown of carbon emissions</b> during each stage of the product lifecycle. Acer has published carbon footprint disclosure for two of its products, which identifies raw materials, manufacturing and use as the source of the majority of GHG emissions, p36, CR Report. Acer also began actively participating in the WRI/WBCSD Greenhouse Gas Protocol Scope 3 &amp; Product Life Cycle Accounting and Reporting Standards Road Testing in 2010. See p.40 CR Report.</p>	6/8
<b>Clean Electricity Plan (CEP)</b>	<p>To reduce GHG emissions, Acer is working to increase the energy efficiency of its operations and set feasible reduction plans, targets and benchmarks. Acer states that it is "now planning to assess the feasibility of investing in projects to generate or purchase renewable energy to offset our emissions in the future". Acer also describes its Clean Energy Plan: (1) its first priority to use renewable energy (RE) in its own facilities if the conditions are suitable; (2) to purchase RE via the grid and advocate to governments if this is not available; (3) to seek suitable regions to build RE facilities worldwide, especially for Acer facilities with higher carbon emissions; and (4) to procure Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) or Carbon Credits when the previous options are not available. A combined solar and wind power generation system has been installed at its e-enabling Data Centre in Taiwan, the first of its facilities to install renewable energy. Acer has also pledged, along with other enterprises, to reduce electricity consumption by 5% within three years, as part of a voluntary carbon reduction plan promoted by the Bureau of Energy, Ministry of Economic Affairs in Taiwan. P. 37, 38 <b>CR Report</b>.</p>	3/8
<b>Clean Energy Policy Advocacy</b>	<p>In Taiwan, Acer Chairman JT Wang "publicly offered advice to President Ma Ying-Jeou to call on the government to pay more attention to climate change risks, to promote renewable energy development, and to plan a green power procurement mechanism. The government highly valued this appeal and instructed the Bureau of Energy and Ministry of Economic Affairs to proceed with green pricing programmes". Acer also participated in the TCSF Climate Change Working Group in 2010 concerning the governments Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Act to "provide the government with practical recommendations on setting up framework and regulations that support a more comprehensive policy on energy and climate change". <b>Other initiatives are also described.</b></p> <p>Acer supports the reduction targets proposed by the EU, which are to cut GHG emissions by at least 50% by 2050 globally and 30% by 2020 from industrialised countries (compared to 1990 levels). Acer also supports calls for global GHG emissions to peak by 2015. "Acer also backs international initiatives such as in US, Japan, or India to sharply reduce GHG emissions and appeals to all circles worldwide to work together in preventing global GHG from increasing beyond the year 2015". <b>More information.</b></p>	2/8

Greener Products		7/21
<b>Product energy efficiency</b>	<p>100% of notebook PCs comply with the latest Energy Star requirements, and 60% exceed them by 50%. 33% of desktop PCs meet the standard, with 19% exceeding it. 97% of monitors also comply with Energy Star. All external power supply units meet the Level V rating of the International Efficiency Marking Protocol.</p> <p><b>Acer focusses</b> on energy-saving design and using leading energy-saving technologies such as Intel's Display Power Savings Technology (DPST), best feasible power management systems, Acer PowerSmart key, and Acer PowerSmart power supply equipment.</p> <p>Acer designed the Aspire S3 to provide a combination of <b>energy-saving technologies</b>, such as Acer Green Instant On, PowerSmart batteries, open cell display technology, and Mg-Al alloy chassis. The carbon reduction of this technology combination is estimated around 17,500 tonnes, roughly 45% of Acer's carbon emission in 2009, based on 5 million units sales forecast.</p>	4/5
<b>Avoidance of hazardous substances in products</b>	<p>Acer makes progress on releasing New BFR/PVC free products that have since 2010 Q3, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 23 new models of TravelMate and Gateway notebooks that are BFRs/PVCfree (except external cables)</li> <li>- 6 new monitors.</li> <li>- 5 new desktops</li> <li>- ICONIA SMART is the first BFR/PVC-free Smart Handheld that Acer launched in 2011 Q3 and the smart phone A9 launched in 2012.</li> </ul> <p>These add to Acer's existing BFR/PVCfree products, such as the four notebooks launched in January 2010 and the 16 models of LCD monitor launched since October 2008.</p> <p>Acer has a new timeline and roadmap for eliminating PVC and BFRs of 2011, which now applies only to personal and mobile computing products; its previous commitment applied to all products. Acer has informed Greenpeace that the majority of its products will be PVC/BFR free in the near future. Acer has adopted a timeline of 2012 for the phase out of all phthalates, beryllium and compounds and antimony and compounds in all new products. Certain phthalates are to be phased out by 2011, along with PVC and all phthalates by 2012. Acer needs to bring products to market that are free of these substances. <b>More information.</b></p>	2/3
<b>Use of recycled plastic in products</b>	<p>Acer uses a material containing 28% post- consumer recycled plastic in monitor casings of 7 families of EPEAT Gold models. The recycled plastic percentage will be around 10%~13% of all plastics used in the monitor. Acer is currently evaluating a newly developed recycled plastic containing more than 50% of post-consumer recycled materials, which will be launched by the end of 2012 and gradually introduced into new products, if it meets quality requirements. <b>More information.</b></p>	1/5
<b>Product life cycle</b>	<p>No information. Acer needs to publicly disclose the length of warranty and spare parts availability for its main product lines. For maximum points it also needs to show some innovative measures that increase lifespan and durability of whole product systems, rather than only individual parts.</p>	0/8

<b>Sustainable Operations</b>		11/21
<b>Chemicals management and advocacy</b>	<p>Acer's statement on the precautionary principle recognises the need for preventive action, even if scientific evidence is not conclusive. Acer is changing from a one-way to two-way communication by requesting suppliers to report their agreement on precautionary principle, structure of chemicals management system, and the status of HSF substitution in order to offer systematic management controls to ensure each supplier is able to meet requirements.</p> <p>Acer is proactively supporting a ban on organo - chlorine and bromine substances in the revision of RoHS 2.0; it states that it will keep watching the future development of RoHS recast to ensure early involvement of and work on relevant strategies in time. Acer has proactively lobbied for strong chemicals legislation in Taiwan but has not submitted case studies demonstrating the substitution of hazardous chemicals of concern to the Substitution Support Portal (Subsport).</p> <p>Acer <b>describes the mechanisms</b> for identifying future substances of concern and provides details of its position in relation to regulations such as REACH and RoHS. Acer has a Guidance of Restricted Substances in Products, which sets out the substances which it restricts to its suppliers and reflects its commitments on phasing out hazardous substances.</p>	4/5
<b>Policy and practice on sustainable sourcing of fibres for paper</b>	<p>Acer launched a new "Sustainable Paper and Packaging Policy" in 2012, which prohibits all business relationships with suppliers that are involved in deforestation and illegal logging. It outlines the three main principles as: (1) obtaining raw materials from legal sources; (2) maximising the use of eco-friendly paper products in all operations, including the use of recycled content, recyclable, and renewable materials; and (3) minimising the consumption of paper products containing virgin wood fiber.</p> <p>Acer also sets out its <b>strategy and performance for reducing paper consumption</b>.</p>	1/3
<b>Policy and practice on avoidance of conflict minerals</b>	<p>Recently, Acer began participating on the EICC/GeSI Conflict-Free Smelter (CFS) assessment programme working group. Acer is contributing to the group by assisting with the scheduling of and participation on smelter visits. The goal of the smelter visits is to introduce the smelters to the CFS programme and to secure participation. Acer lists the expectations it has of its suppliers to avoid the sourcing of conflict minerals which it will validate.</p> <p>Acer also reports on the <b>results of a survey of its suppliers</b> that it undertook in 2009.</p> <p>Acer adopted EICC/GeSI Due Diligence Template tool to investigate which companies refine our supply of tantalum, tin, tungsten, and gold in 2011 and publishes the findings. See p,38 <b>Corporate Responsibility Report 2011</b></p> <p>Acer has joined the EICC initiative also but has not yet publicly mapped its smelters or suppliers. It has also joined the EICC audit process but does not have an internal audit policy on conflict minerals.</p> <p>Acer did not issue a statement against the Chamber of Commerce lawsuit or join the multi-stakeholder submission to the SEC on conflict minerals. It did not participate in the OECD due diligence drafting or engage the public on conflict minerals.</p>	4/5
<b>Provides effective voluntary take-back where there are no EPR laws</b>	<p>Acer promotes voluntary product recycling services throughout several countries in the Asia Pacific region, including Indonesia, Taiwan, Japan, and Malaysia, providing consumers several recycling options such as postal service or drop-off stations. See p. 30 <b>Corporate Responsibility Report 2011</b>. Acer also <b>takes back and recycles for free in India</b>.</p> <p>Acer has a <b>recycling programme in America</b> for all Acer products sold there.</p> <p>Recycling information is provided for EU, Japanese, Taiwanese, US and Canada and Indian customers only. In the EU, some of the links provided navigate to trade associations (e.g. Czech Republic) and not to recyclers. Recycling information for Indonesia is only in its CSR report and not the website and there is no link to its US recycling programme. <b>More information</b>.</p> <p>Acer reports a recycling rate of 37.72% in 2011 based on sales 6 years ago, for desktops and notebooks sold and recycled in Taiwan. However, data on the recycling rate is only for Taiwan. The total quantities recycled in Japan and America are also reported. See p. 30 &amp; 31, <b>Acer Corporate Responsibility Report</b>.</p>	2/8