

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460



OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

August 23, 2004

**Efficiency Challenge 2004 – Power Supply Design Competition  
Submission Deadline Approaching**

Dear Power Supply Manufacturers, ENERGY STAR® Partners, and Other Interested Parties:

The submission deadline for Efficiency Challenge 2004 is fast approaching. All entries must be received by **November 15** to be considered. If you plan to participate in the competition, please visit <http://www.efficientpowersupplies.org/pages/EC200FullDescription041904.pdf> to review the final submission guidelines.

As you may recall, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the California Energy Commission formally announced Efficiency Challenge 2004, an international design competition for power supply efficiency, February 23, 2004 at the Applied Power Electronics Conference and Exposition (APEC). Winners will be announced at APEC 2005, which will be held in Austin, Texas, March 6-10.

Research funded by the EPA ENERGY STAR program and the Energy Commission's Public Interest Energy Research (PIER) program identified ac-dc power supplies as a major opportunity for reducing global energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. The vision for Efficiency Challenge 2004 is to achieve dramatic improvements in the energy efficiency of the most widely purchased types of power supplies. External power supplies have primarily been marketed and purchased based on unit price instead of performance, features, or quality. This competition aims to make total cost of ownership, including energy use, a competitive advantage and unleash the best technology the private sector has to offer.

Some exciting developments have unfolded over the last six months. Intel, Sony, and Pace Micro responded to Efficiency Challenge 2004 and became Industry Champions, providing internal power supply specifications for the Internal Market Ready Class of the competition. Intel provided a specification for desktop computers, Pace Micro for set-top boxes, and Sony for LCD televisions. Specification details are posted at <http://www.efficientpowersupplies.org/competition.html>.

Efficiency Challenge 2004 presents a tremendous opportunity for members of the power supply industry to draw attention to their innovations. Efficiency Challenge has been covered by key trade publications, including Power Electronics Technology and EE Times, and by the popular science publication Scientific American. We expect that media coverage of Efficiency Challenge 2004 will peak when the winners are announced and look forward to showcasing the best the industry has to offer.

Your involvement in ENERGY STAR's consumer and office electronics initiatives is making a difference to your customers and the world we all share. I invite you to join EPA in its quest to increase power supply efficiency. Please contact contest administrator Suzanne Foster at [sfoster@ecosconsulting.com](mailto:sfoster@ecosconsulting.com) with any questions about Efficiency Challenge 2004. Any other questions may be directed to me at [fanara.andrew@epa.gov](mailto:fanara.andrew@epa.gov) or by telephone at (202) 343-9019. Thank you.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew Fanara", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Andrew Fanara  
ENERGY STAR Specification Development