PC makers wanting to prove their green credentials will need to try harder, as the European Commission (EC) tightens the criteria of the EU Ecolabel covering the production, construction and life cycle of desktop, notebook and tablet computers.



First introduced in 1992, the Ecolabel is a voluntary certification scheme allowing businesses to prove their products or services have a low environmental impact. Following the updated criteria vendors will need to show the "energy efficiency and upgradability" of devices, as well as the ease said devices can be dismantled and recycled.

"The EU Ecolabel promotes Europe's transition to a circular economy, supporting both sustainable production and consumption," EC commissioner for the environment Karmenu Vella says. "Thanks to transparent ecological criteria, consumers can make conscious choices, without compromising on the quality of the products. Similarly, the Ecolabel rewards those manufacturers who choose to design products that are durable and repairable, promoting innovation and saving resources."

The criteria revision is valid for 6 years following adoption.

Go Commission Expands Ecolabel Criteria to Computers