

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



What is ETV?

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established the Environmental Technology Verification (ETV) Program in 1995 to verify the performance of innovative technical solutions to problems that threaten human health or the environment.

ETV's mission is to accelerate the use of new environmental technologies in the domestic and inter-national marketplace. ETV provides third-party, quality-assured performance data so buyers and users of environmental technologies can make informed purchase and application decisions. ETV operates through public/private testing partnerships (called Centers) to evaluate the performance of environmental technologies for monitoring, pollution control, and pollution prevention.

Various groups are actively involved in ETV, including stakeholders, technology buyers and users, vendors, permittees, technology experts, consulting engineers, and investment companies.

All test protocols, test plans, verification reports and statements are on the ETV Web Site at [http:// www.epa.gov/etv](http://www.epa.gov/etv).

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Materials Management and Remediation Center

The Materials Management and Remediation (MMR) Center is a new ETV center in 2008. The MMR Center will verify materials management technologies, including recycling, beneficial use of waste materials, recovery of useful components of wastes, and treatments to minimize disposal requirements (e.g., containment, volume, cost). The Center will also verify technologies to remediate contaminated land and ground water, such as is found at Superfund sites and other properties where industrial or commercial activities resulted in a legacy of hazardous constituents that limits future use of the property. Potential technology categories may include:

- Technology types in active development and technology segments in stable or growth phase
- Materials stream volume, risks, and suitability for secondary use
- Waste and/or site types for which cost-effective options are lacking
- Known client needs where verification would help in decision-making
- Absence of existing certification/verification/ demonstration opportunities

This MMR Center Verification Organization, Battelle, will conduct verification testing at its facilities and/or conduct or oversee testing performed at field sites. Vendors interested in learning more about the verification process should complete a MMR Center Vendor Application (<http://www.epa.gov/nrmrl/std/etv/howtoapply.html>). The center will be taking applications through February 2012.

Useful Marketing Tool

Vendors have realized the value of having independent verification data for use in marketing their technologies. In a survey of vendors who participated in ETV verification tests, nearly all reported that ETV's verification statements were useful in marketing and that they would consider submitting another technology for verification.

Other vendors said the process was valuable because of the credibility of independent testing under EPA oversight, the assurance of verification statements and reports given to potential customers, and the marketing visibility of the ETV logo.



Verification Process

Vendors interested in obtaining objective third-party performance data on their product, and a competitive advantage in the marketplace, can submit their technology for verification. Battelle staff will evaluate the technologies vendors submit for verification. Additional information about the technology may be requested from the vendor to complete this evaluation. Members of the ETV MMR Center's stakeholder committees—including representatives from regulatory agencies, industry, trade associations, and environmental groups—will assist Battelle in prioritizing the technologies submitted. Battelle notifies vendors when a verification test of their technology is being considered and invites additional vendors to participate.

Once a technology or group of technologies has been identified for verification testing, Battelle will draft a vendor agreement to be signed by the participating vendors, which will also be invoiced for the verification fee. The fee is determined by the cost of the verification that is not being supported by others (e.g., EPA and other collaborators through cash and in-kind contributions). Upon receipt of the signed vendor agreement and fee, Battelle will develop a draft test/quality assurance plan (TQAP). Participating vendors and representative stakeholders will provide advice and suggestions in developing the plan. The draft plan will be reviewed by the participating vendor(s), stakeholder committee members, U.S. EPA representatives, and additional peer reviewers as necessary. Then the plan is revised by Battelle and sent to participating vendors, EPA ETV MMR Center Project Officer, and EPA ETV MMR Center Quality Manager for approval. The verification test will be conducted according to the approved TQAP.

ETV Verification Benefits

Feedback from vendors who have participated in ETV verification tests confirm the benefits to their companies. Here are examples:

- a. Obtain objective, credible, EPA quality-assured performance data for potential buyers of your technology.
- b. Verified technologies are widely publicized in ETV web pages (which receives over 2 million hits per year), publications, and trade show exhibits.
- c. Opens new international markets by facilitating export of environmental products, as ETV collaborates with verification programs in other countries.
- d. Investors can have added confidence in your technology.
- e. Levels the playing field among competitors through standardized tests and objective reporting.
- f. Facilitates technology acceptance and permitting at the state/local level.

Contact the MMR Center

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