January 28, 2015
TG 13 Recommendation

13.5.3 Certification to Social Responsibility Performance Standard (Optional)
Manufacturer shall ensure that all facilities of its 3 largest suppliers (based on total spend) that manufacture each of three main components (principal storage device(s); principal semiconductor device(s); and primary circuit board(s)) for the product are:

1) Certified by accredited certification bodies to Social Accountability (SA) 80001. Certification bodies shall be accredited by an authorized accreditation body to certify to the SA8000. (2 points).

Optional points shall only be awarded for SA8000 certification if all facilities designated above are certified to SA8000. If there are less than three suppliers for a component type named above, every supplier for that component shall conform to this criterion.

Or

2) Audited to the EICC Code of Conduct2 using the Validated Audit Process (VAP). (1 point)

Optional point shall only be awarded for VAP audits if:

- Audit reports contain no major or priority non-conformance findings as defined by the EICC VAP, or
- A certificate has been issued by the VAP Operations Management Team to verify that all corrective actions resulting from VAP audits were remedied within timeframe specified by the VAP.

Optional point shall only be awarded for EICC VAP audits if all facilities designated above meet the VAP audit requirements or facilities meet a combination of VAP audits and SA8000 certification. If there are less than three suppliers for a component type named above, every supplier for that component shall conform to this criterion.

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Comment [PD1]: From EICC site:
VAP auditors’ results must be submitted to the EICC Audit Program Manager for review and quality control. The EICC Audit Program Manager comes from the leading social responsibility consulting firm Vectra. Vectra does not conduct their own audits but manages the VAP audit process, including overseeing quality control of VAP audit reports. Where VAP audits uncover non-compliances to the audit protocol, those findings are rated by severity as “minor,” “major” or “priority.” All three categories of findings have specified periods of time during which the facility in question must remedy the findings and implement systems to prevent recurrences. Remedy and prevention plans are part of corrective action plans (CAPs) as referenced above.

Note that the EICC Membership Compliance Policy defines priority non-conformance as non-conformance pertaining to child labor, forced labor, health & safety issue with significant and immediate impact on worker health & safety.

Comment [PD2]: From EICC FAQ:
Will a certificate be issued once all the corrective actions have been adequately addressed? The VAP Operations Management Team (VAP OMT) is currently working to develop performance recognition such as a certificate of performance. This is not available at this time but will be communicated to VAP participants once finalized.