2025 GLOBAL LEAP Awards
SOLAR GENERATORS COMPETITION
TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Background

The Global LEAP Solar Generators Competition ("the Competition") is a global competition to identify the best solar generators currently available, based on safety, performance, ease of use, and value for money. The Competition is intended to drive innovation and performance in early-stage product markets, while also building valuable technical and commercial market knowledge.

Solar generators – also referred to as "solar inverters", "zero- emission generators", "AC solar home systems" and "power stations" – receive power from solar PV modules, store power in a battery, and provide electrical energy through AC and optional DC power outputs. Some systems may also allow for AC charging from the electrical grid; however, they are not intended to be fully grid dependent. Solar generators offer renewable energy alternatives to fossil-fueled generators for powering households and businesses in energy-constrained settings.

Globally, 733 million people still live without basic and reliable energy access. For these populations, backup generators that use diesel or gasoline have been a common stopgap measure to meet the electricity needs of households and businesses. There are estimated to be 82.6 million diesel generators in use globally[1], and roughly 25 million were deployed in developing countries in 2016 alone.[2] These dirty traditional generators have caused negative impacts on the environment and people's health.

The Competition aims to advance renewable energy-based alternatives in low- to lower-middle-income countries that currently depend on fossil-fueled generators. Viable solar generators do exist, but despite the financial, health and environmental benefits that they offer, the reach of these solutions is extremely limited.

The 2025 Global LEAP Awards Solar Generator Competition is implemented by CLASP and funded by ZE-Gen. ZE-Gen is a collaborative initiative by The Carbon Trust and Innovate UK, with funding from the IKEA Foundation and UK Government via the Transforming Energy Access platform. Launched at COP27, ZE-Gen is the leading international initiative working to improve the lives of people across Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia and the Indo-Pacific region by driving the use of renewable energy in place of polluting fossil fuel generators. CLASP is an international NGO focused on appliance efficiency, which manages and operates the Global LEAP Awards.

[1] Environmental Journal, Beyond diesel: Moving off-grid communities in developing countries off generators.
[2] International Finance Corporation, The Dirty Footprint of the Broken Grid.

Companies that participate in the Competition are subject to these Terms and Conditions ("Terms and Conditions"). CLASP is the Administrator of the Competition ("the Administrator"). Violations of, or a failure to abide by, these Terms and Conditions may disqualify a participant from the Competition at the sole discretion of the Administrator.

Brief Overview

This document provides information about eligibility requirements, nomination procedures, the evaluation process, and benefits to participants. The following table provides a summary of key information contained in this document. Detailed information about each of these questions is contained in the body of the document below.

Who is eligible to participate in the 2025 Global LEAP Solar Generators Competition?	Manufacturers, designers, or associated distributors of solar generators (the "Products") are eligible to nominate Products for the Competition. Collectively a Product manufacturer and any other eligible nominating party is referred to as a "Nominator".
Do you only accept DC Products?	The Competition is open to solar generators that are charged by DC inputs (i.e., PV modules). Products that are capable of both DC and AC charging (i.e., PV modules and AC grid charging) are also accepted.
What are the benefits of participating?	**Cash Prizes**: Subject to additional terms and conditions, up to $100,000 USD prize money will be available for winning product(s) based on results from laboratory testing and field evaluation. **Global Recognition**: The Global LEAP Awards is a trusted global brand. A Buyer's Guide is published at the end of each Global LEAP Awards competition that serves as the de facto source of accurate, actionable information about the quality and energy performance of off- and weak-grid appliances (see here for an example). Winners and Finalists in the Global LEAP Solar Generators Competition will be featured in the **2026 Global LEAP Solar Generators Buyer's Guide**, which will be the only third-party source of market intelligence about the technical performance, quality, and energy efficiency of these solutions.

When do nominations open?	Product nominations for the Competition open 08 October 2025. Note that the timeline for the Competition, and all milestone dates set out herein, are subject to change.
When do nominations close?	Product nominations for the Competition close 29 October 2025. Note that the timeline for the Competition, and all milestone dates set out herein, are subject to change.
How will products be assessed?	Products will be assessed in four ways: 1. Evaluation of product eligibility and accompanying documentation submitted via Nomination Form 2. Initial product safety assessment, based on accompany documentation submitted with the Nomination Form 3. Laboratory testing conducted according to the VeraSol Solar Generator Test Method 4. Field evaluation conducted according to the Global LEAP Solar Ge nerator Field Evaluation Protocol
Is there a fee to participate?	Online submission of Nomination Forms is free. Nominators are responsible for covering the costs of laboratory testing, Product samples, random sampling, and shipping Product samples to the laboratory and field evaluation location. Funding will be available to cover a portion of costs incurred by Nominators for Product sampling, shipping, laboratory and field testing. Additional details will be provided by the Competition Administrator prior to initiating Product sampling.
Who should I contact with additional questions?	globalleap@efficiencyforaccess.org

About the 2025 Global LEAP Awards Solar Generator Competition

The Global LEAP Solar Generators Competition uses a five-step process to identify the best solar generators currently available, based on safety, performance, ease of use, and value for money. Industry experts assess technical documentation, conduct laboratory testing, and field evaluation of product samples as described below.

The Competition is structured in six stages:

- **Stage 1 – Nomination:** Nominators submit Nomination Form and accompanying documentation that contains technical information about their solar generators, as well as details about their business models, target markets, and other aspects of their commercial strategies.
- **Stage 2 – Initial screening & safety assessment:** Administrator conducts preliminary screening of information submitted by Nominators, including an initial safety assessment of the Product. Nominators are notified of the outcome of the initial screening and safety assessment.
- **Stage 3 – Product sampling:** Products that pass Stage 2 are approved for laboratory testing and field evaluation. Product samples used for lab and field testing are randomly selected from stock at authorized dealers, retailers, outlets, factories, or warehouses. Product samples are sent to the approved test lab and field evaluation location.
- **Stage 4 – Laboratory testing:** Products that pass Stage 2 undergo full laboratory testing (concurrently with field testing) to generate performance data for comparison.
- **Stage 5 – Field evaluation:** Products that pass Stage 2 undergo field evaluations (concurrently with lab testing), where products are deployed in households, businesses and institutions to assess performance, quality and usability in real-life conditions.
- **Stage 6 - Assessment of Test Results & Determination of Competition Winners:** Results from Stages 1-5 are compiled, evaluated and compared to identify best-in-class solar generators. Awards will be given to the Winner and Finalists for each category.

Product Eligibility Requirements

In the context of the Competition, a "solar generator" is a renewable energy product that receives power from a solar module, stores power in a battery and provides electrical energy through AC and optionally DC power outputs. Some systems may also allow for charging from the electrical grid; however, they are not intended to be fully grid-dependent—they can be grid charged but not purely charged by grid. Other terms that are commonly used to describe this product category include "solar inverter", "zero- emission generator", "AC solar home system" and "power station".

Products eligible for the Competition must meet all the following criteria:

General Criteria

(1) Commercially available solar generator, i.e., no prototypes
(2) Capable of powering typical electrical loads required by household and small commercial users
(3) Key components of the solar generator (i.e., battery, charge controller and inverter) must be preconfigured and sold together as a kit
(4) Systems intended exclusively for powering a single-purpose device (such as an e-bike) are not eligible
(5) System and components must meet minimum safety requirements to ensure safe installation, as well as safe operation by end users
(6) Must include user manual and consumer-facing warranty policy
(7) Not knowingly in violation of another's intellectual property
(8) Sufficient Product stock (at least 50 units) is available for random sampling by Administrator or its designee by December 2025

Technical Criteria

(1) Power input: PV input mandatory [Product may be sold with or without PV module(s)], AC input optional
(2) Power output: AC output mandatory, DC output optional, single-phase output only
(3) Designed for use in locations with grid electricity of 220-240 V, 50 Hz, and with AC appliances compatible with these conditions.
(4) No grid interactive systems, i.e., systems that feed power back into the grid
(5) Component size limits:
    a. Battery maximum: 1000 Ah, 900 V; nickel-cadmium batteries not accepted
    b. PV array maximum: 50 kW, 120 A, 700 V
    c. Inverter input maximum: 50 kW, 120 A Isc, 2000 Voc
    d. Inverter output maximum: 113 kW, 300 V

Product Categorization

Nominated solar generators will be grouped into three categories according to type of charging and operational model. Categories 1 and 2 are further divided into three sub-categories based on the inverter's rated output power. Competition Winners and Finalists will be awarded for each of the seven categories and sub-categories that are summarized below in Table 1. Each sub-category will need at least three Product nominations that pass through the initial safety screening, lab testing and field evaluation to identify a Winner and Finalists.

Category 1: Solar-only charging (no AC input)
Solar generators that are designed for DC charging by PV modules; acceptable configurations include plug-and-play, non-plug-and-play, or hard-wired.

Category 2: Solar and grid charging (DC and AC input)
Solar generators that are designed for DC charging by PV modules and AC charging via a connection to AC mains; acceptable configurations include plug-and-play, non-plug-and-play, or hard-wired.[4]

Category 3: Solar hub charging
A hub-charging solar generator relies on a centralized PV system – often located at a kiosk or service hub – that charges multiple portable power packs. These swappable units, comprised of a battery and inverter, are distributed to end users for off-site use, powering AC (and optionally DC) loads. Solar hub charging business models commonly rent swappable battery packs to households and small businesses in off- or weak-grid locations. Solar hubs that charge/rent batteries with DC outputs only (i.e., units that don't deliver AC output power) are excluded from the Competition.

Table 1: Categorization of nominated solar generators

	Sub-Category based on Inverter rated output power		
	Small	**Medium**	**Large**
Category 1: Solar-only charging (no AC input)	< 350 W	350 W – 2 kW	> 2 kW
Category 2: Solar and grid charging (DC and AC input)			
Category 3: Hub Charging	Single category for all sizes		

Procedures

Stage 1: Nomination

Organizations that wish to nominate eligible solar generators for the Competition use the online nomination form**.** Online submission of Nomination Forms is free.

Entries may be submitted by product manufacturers, suppliers, designers, or associated distributors ("Nominators"). In the case of nominations from suppliers, designers, or distributors, a supporting letter from the product manufacturer (the "Manufacturer") that confirms their support

for the Product nomination and agreement to these Terms and Conditions must be included with the submitted materials.

Nominators that are unable to submit the required form online or by email should contact the Administrator for an offline version. (The online and offline version of the nomination form shall be referred to herein as the "Nomination Form") The Administrator can be contacted via email at globalleap@efficiencyforaccess.org, or via post at:

Global LEAP Solar Generator Competition
c/o CLASP
Principal Place, 6th Floor
School Lane, Westland, Nairobi
Kenya

The nomination process for the Competition begins at 00:00:01 EAT on 08 October 2025. The deadline for receipt of all nominations is 23:59:59 EAT on 29 October 2025 (the "Nomination Deadline").

All information in the Nomination Form must be completed, or the nomination will be deemed void. Nomination Forms must be accompanied by:

1. Specification sheet(s) that provide details about the Product's key components, system technical data and relevant performance information
2. Product user manual, including safety instructions for end-users
3. Photograph(s) of the Product
4. Documentation of the consumer-facing Product warranty
5. Documentation required for the Initial Safety Assessment (refer to Stage 2, below)

Nominators agree to cooperate with the Administrator to supply other information regarding the Product as requested by Administrator or the nomination will be deemed void. The Administrator shall have the right to place a nomination in another Category from the one selected by the Nominator at its discretion.

Nominators may submit more than one Product type or model, but a separate application package must accompany each nomination.

Fully completed Nomination Forms must be received in accordance with these Terms and Conditions by the Nomination Deadline to be eligible to win an award. All late or incomplete nominations will be deemed void and not eligible to enter or win. Administrator's computer is the official timekeeping device for the Competition. Early submissions are strongly encouraged. The Administrator will only accept the first properly completed nomination for any particular Product.

Conditions of Entry

By submitting a nomination, all Nominators agree to be bound by these Terms and Conditions. Participation in the Competition is at the sole and absolute discretion of the Administrator. All nominations and materials submitted in connection therewith shall become the sole property of the Administrator and will not be returned. Nomination Forms may contain confidential or

trade secret information, and Administrator agrees not to share or disclose this information without Nominator consent.

Participants in the Competition may be added to Global LEAP, Efficiency for Access Coalition, and the Competition donors' mailing lists and contact databases, and may receive information on relevant activities. By submitting a nomination, all Nominators agree to the inclusion of such information in such lists and databases, and to receive such information. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing in this paragraph shall constitute a waiver of any rights under applicable law.

Global LEAP, the Efficiency for Access Coalition, the Competition donors, and the Administrator may use the winning and/or finalist Products for public information purposes and to promote the Global LEAP Awards via such media as websites, brochures, and events. By submitting a nomination, all Nominators consent to such use.

Global LEAP, Efficiency for Access, the Competition donors, and the Administrator may make public any Product specifications provided in the Nomination Form and data gathered through laboratory testing and field evaluation. By submitting a nomination, all Nominators and Manufacturers consent to such publication.

The Administrator reserves the right to adjust, strike, make reasonable changes to or redefine any of the Competition's terms and conditions at any time.

Stage 2: Initial Screening & Safety Assessment

The Administrator will pre-screen nominations and select Products that will advance to the next stage of the Competition. This review will be based upon information provided in the Nomination Form and accompanying documents. As part of the Initial Screening, the Administrator will conduct an Initial Safety Assessment of the Product to confirm its suitability for field deployment in households, businesses and institutions. The Initial Safety Assessment is based on a review of the following information and documents that the Nominator is required to submit with the Nomination Form.

- Inverter safety
    - IEC 62109-1 and 62109-2 test reports showing safety of power converters for use in photovoltaic power systems; Reports must be for the nominated Product and traceable to a laboratory that has these standards in the scope of their ISO 17025 accreditation.
- Wiring and connector safety[3]
    - Declaration in Nomination Form confirming that all wiring, cables and connectors included with the Product meet the requirements for conductor sizing and robustness
    - Declaration in Nomination Form confirming that the Product uses safe connectors for DC-only input connections. Refer to the Appendix for details about the connector types that are not accepted for DC-only inputs. Use of unacceptable connectors for DC-only inputs may disqualify the Product from the Competition.
- Battery safety
    - For all battery chemistries:
        - Battery specification sheets from the battery manufacturer showing at a minimum, the acceptable deep discharge protection and overcharge protection thresholds
        - Material safety data sheet (MSDS) for the battery, specifying battery chemistry
    - For products containing lithium-ion batteries, submit the specifications sheet and MSDS listed above, as well as the following[4]:
        - Declaration in Nomination Form that the Product has individual battery cell protection.
        - Battery cell protection description, report or specification sheet that clearly describes individual cell protection
        - Battery safety test report(s)
- AC-DC power supply[5]
    - Documentary evidence that any AC-DC adapter included with the Product carries a recognized consumer electronics safety certification with accompanying valid documentation
- User / installer safety information included with the Product

The Administrator will notify Nominators of pre-screening decisions by email on or before 21 November 2025. Products that receive a "pass" on the Initial Screening and Safety Assessment proceed to Stage 3 (Product Sampling).

Stage 3: Product Sampling

Upon notification of successful completion of Stage 2, the Nominator will provide information about locations where the Administrator can procure samples of the nominated Product for laboratory testing and field evaluation. Acceptable locations include authorized dealers, retailers, outlets, factories, or warehouses that hold a stock of at least 50 units of the Product. An approved

[3] Refer to the Appendix of this document for a detailed description of the wiring and connector safety requirements.
[4] Refer to the Appendix of this document for additional details about the documentation that must be submitted with the Nomination Form for products containing lithium batteries.
[5] Refer to the Appendix of this document for additional details about the documentation that must be submitted with the Nomination Form for products that include AC-DC chargers.

representative of the Administrator will randomly sample three (3) Product units. Two (2) Product samples will be shipped to an approved laboratory for testing, and one (1) Product sample will be shipped to Nigeria for field evaluation, as determined by the Administrator. Additional guidance on product sampling can be found in VeraSol's Product Sampling Policy[6].

Fees

Once a Product has successfully passed Stage 2, the Nominator is responsible for covering the following costs. Three (3) Product samples

- Random selection of Product samples by a third party approved by the Administrator
- Shipping Product samples to an Administrator-approved laboratory for testing
- Shipping Product sample to Nigeria for field evaluations
- Laboratory testing fees, which are expected to be on the order of US$6,000 per Product
- Return shipping of Product samples, if desired (not required)

Funding will be available to subsidize a portion of costs incurred by Nominators for Product sampling, shipping, laboratory and field testing. Additional details will be provided by the Competition Administrator prior to initiating Product sampling.

Stage 4: Laboratory Testing

Products that have passed the Initial Screening and Safety Assessment (Stage 2) proceed to more comprehensive testing at an approved laboratory, as described in the VeraSol Solar Generator Test Method. Testing will be conducted on a total of two (2) Product samples that will be randomly selected as described above in Stage 3.

Laboratory testing will evaluate four key areas:

- **Safety –** Product is evaluated to ensure it is safe for use by consumers and installers (as applicable)
- **Quality & Durability –** Visual inspection, component durability testing, and battery storage tests are conducted to evaluate the Product's overall build quality and durability
- **Energy Performance –** Product charging and discharging is measured to characterize the delivery of energy services to the end user
- **Consumer Protection –** Product information, warranty coverage, and performance claims are evaluated to verify marketing accuracy and determine the level of consumer protection

Stage 5: Field Evaluation

Products that pass the Initial Screening and Safety Assessment (Stage 2) will undergo a field-based evaluation to assess the Products' design, performance, and end-user impact in real-world settings in Nigeria. This field evaluation will be conducted in parallel with laboratory testing (Stage 4) for a duration of approximately 8 weeks. One sample per nominated Product will be

[6] Disregard the "Stock Requirements" section of VeraSol's Product Sampling Policy. As described in these Terms & Conditions, Product samples used for the Competition shall be randomly selected from a minimum stock of 50 units.

installed and used in a household, business, or institutional setting to assess performance, quality and usability in real-life conditions. Product performance and functionality data will be measured and transmitted via remote monitoring devices connected to the Products. Information for the qualitative assessment of Product impacts and user experience will be collected through user surveys and interviews.

The Administrator or a designated representative – in coordination with Nominators – will be responsible for Product deployment for field evaluation. Product deployment will begin in January 2026. The Administrator may request proof of ability to deploy by the target date at any time during the process of nomination, screening and assessment.

Field evaluation and site visits will be coordinated by the Administrator and conducted according to the Global LEAP Solar Generators Competition Field Evaluation Protocol, which may be subject to additional terms and conditions.

Stage 6: Assessment of Test Results & Determination of Competition Winners

After successful completion of laboratory and field testing, the Administrator will compile and evaluate the results for each Product. Results will be compared across Products in each category (as described in Table 1) to identify a Winner and Finalists for each category. The announcement of Competition Winners and Finalists will be made in November 2026.

Assessment Process & Winner Selection

Initial Screening & Safety Assessment

The Competition Administrator will evaluate all information provided in the Nomination Forms and accompanying documents to select Products eligible for the Competition. The Initial Screening and Safety Assessment will be conducted on a pass/fail basis, with Product nominations that successfully pass Stage 2 deemed eligible to proceed to Stage 3.

The Administrator will notify Nominators of the pre-screening results by email on or before 21 November 2025.

Assessment of Laboratory Test and Field Evaluation Results

A panel of Expert Judges[7] will assess information provided by Nominators, results from laboratory testing and field evaluation of all Products that complete Stages 1-5 of the Competition. A pre-defined methodology will be applied uniformly to award points to all Products that complete laboratory testing and field evaluation.

Products will be scored based on the following categories:

- **Quality & Durability** – Points will be awarded based on Nominator-provided information, visual screening, and results from lab testing. The quality and durability of Product design will be scored based on battery durability and overcharge protection, system electrical protection, as well as the physical durability of the Product and its

[7] The panel of Expert Judges will include technical, development, and off-grid industry and market experts, and may include representatives from the donor agencies supporting the Competition. Expert Judges will not have personal or financial interests in, or be an employee, officer, director, or agent of any entity that is participating in the Competition.

components, among others. Consumer-facing warranties and after-sales service will also be considered in the scoring for this category.

- **Safety** – Points will be awarded based on an assessment of battery and inverter safety documentation, system output overload protection, and protection from miswiring, among others.
- **Energy Performance** – Points will be awarded based on laboratory testing of Product charging and discharging, inverter efficiency, and standby losses, among others.
- **Energy Cost-Effectiveness** – Points will be awarded based on Products' energy cost effectiveness, expressed as dollars per watt-hours per day of solar charging ($/Wh/day). This value represents a Product's Free On Board (FOB) price relative to its available daily energy and is used as a proxy for cost-adjusted performance.
- **Usability** – Points will be awarded based on lab testing of output port functionality, consumer-facing Product information, as well as quantitative and qualitative assessment of field evaluation findings generated by remote monitoring and end-user surveys.
- **Innovation** – Points will be awarded based on the extent to which Products demonstrate optimized design, novel features, and unique approaches that enhance usability, performance, cost-effectiveness, and suitability for off- and weak-grid applications.

The total score will be determined for each Product that completes laboratory and field testing. The Product in each Category that earns the most points will be declared the "Winner" of its category. Each sub-category will need at least three Product nominations that pass through the initial safety screening, lab testing and field evaluation to identify a Winner and Finalists. In the event of a tie, a category will have multiple Winners with each of the Products that earns the most points being declared a Category Winner. Any Product that is not a Category Winner but passes all laboratory and field testing without serious malfunctions or safety issues will be referred to as a "Finalist." The Administrator reserves the right to exclude from all Competition promotions any Product that fails or performs poorly in laboratory testing and/or field evaluation.

All decisions rendered by the Global LEAP Solar Generators Competition Expert Judges or Administrator are final.

Should the Administrator discover that reliable comparisons of products across the Competition's categories are not possible, the Administrator reserves the right to strike or redefine those Categories or create new Categories. In such an event, the Administrator will give notice to all Nominators, and Nominators, who will have ten (10) calendar days from the date of such notice to request recategorization of nominations.

Laboratory test and field evaluation results will be delivered to Nominators after the announcement of Competition results. Lab and field results may be used by the Administrator for market intelligence reporting. The Nominator will remain the owner of all intellectual property related to the Product, its technology, and/or its design, as applicable, with the exception of the following: (1) declared performance data and product technical specifications submitted with a Product's nomination and (2) results generated through laboratory and field evaluation.

Benefits to Winners and Finalists

Nominators of Winners and Finalists will receive the right to use a Global LEAP Awards logo and approved phrase ("Global LEAP Awards Winner" or "Global LEAP Awards Finalist") in marketing materials for the Product in accordance with these Terms and Conditions.

All Competition Winners and Finalists will be eligible for the following:

1. Inclusion in the Global LEAP Solar Generator Competition Buyer's Guide and featured in VeraSol's Product Database
2. Inclusion in Global LEAP-sponsored communications to promote Competition Winners and Finalists and raise consumer awareness about high-quality solar generators. Among other efforts, Global LEAP will distribute information about Winners and Finalists to off-grid industry leaders and procurement officials, including company-specific promotional videos.
3. A total of US$100,000 of cash prizes to be awarded to Products that demonstrate market-leading performance, affordability, and high user impact based on results of laboratory testing and field evaluation.
4. Tap into ZE-Gen and TEA networks for business development and partnership opportunities. ZE-Gen will enable the replacement of millions of polluting and expensive fossil fuel generators by accelerating the transition to renewable energy-based alternatives by focusing on four key areas of: Finance and Investment; Product and Innovation: Ecosystem and Supply Chain Building; Demand Generation.

Competition Timeline

Stage	Item	Date
1. Nomination	Nominations window opens	08 Oct. 2025
	Nominations window closes	29 Oct. 2025
2. Initial Screening & Safety Assessment	Nominators notified of pre-screening decisions	21 Nov. 2025
3. Product Sampling & Shipping	Random sampling of Products for laboratory testing and field evaluation	Dec. 2025
4. Laboratory Testing	Laboratory testing begins	Jan. 2026
	Laboratory testing completed	June 2026
5. Field Evaluation	Deployment of Product samples	Jan. 2026
	Field evaluation begins	April 2026
	Completion of field evaluation	June 2026
6. Determination of Winners	Assessment of laboratory and field test results	July-Aug. 2026
	Announcement of Winner and Finalists for each category. Publication of Buyer's Guide Delivery of lab and field test results to Nominators	Nov. 2026

Please note that the timeline above is subject to change. All Participants will be notified of changes, if necessary.

Additional Terms and Conditions

1. Excluded List Screening

The Administrator will conduct a responsibility determination before designating Winners and Finalists to ensure that any award meets applicable laws, including regulations administered by the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) of the US Department of Treasury. For more information see OFAC website: http://www.ustreas.gov/ofac.

2. Award Restrictions

Nominators and Manufacturers agree not to challenge or seek to register any intellectual property associated with the Global LEAP Awards Competition. Winners and Finalists will be granted a limited personal license to use the Global LEAP Awards IP to advertise and promote the award or finalist status granted to the specific model of their Product for one year from the date of the announcement of the Winners. All use of the Global LEAP Awards IP must be in compliance with the guidelines published by Administrator that will be provided to Winners at a later date. Nominators, Manufacturers, Winners and Finalists agree not to use the Global LEAP Awards IP or make any mention of winning an award that is not consistent with these Terms and Conditions, and to immediately cease all inconsistent use upon notice by Administrator. Winners and Finalists may only promote that an award pertains to the specific Product model winning an award, may not state or imply that the award applies to other product models of a Winner or Finalist, and must clearly state whether the Product was a Finalist or Winner. Winners and Finalists may not use the Global LEAP Awards IP to state or imply that the Administrator or any other entity or person associated with the Competition endorse or are affiliated with the Winner or Finalist or its Products.

3. Publicity

Except where and as may be prohibited by law, participation in the Global LEAP Awards constitutes express permission of a Manufacturer and Nominator for the Administrator (and those acting pursuant to the authority of the Administrator) to use each Nominator's and Manufacturer's name, logo, trademark and nomination for the Global LEAP Awards for advertising, trade, and publicity purposes for the Global LEAP program and the Competition in all forms of media now known or hereafter discovered or devised, worldwide, in perpetuity, without further notice, review or approval, or compensation. For Winners and Finalists, they will be required to refer to ZE-Gen and TEA in all communications related to the Competition. Subject to the permissions granted in these Terms and Conditions, Manufacturers and/or Nominators, as applicable, shall retain all rights, title and interests in and to the intellectual property in their Products.

4. General Conditions

By participating in the Competition, each Nominator and Manufacturer fully and unconditionally agrees to and accepts these Terms and Conditions and the decisions of the Administrator, which are final and binding in all respects. By participating in the Competition, each Nominator and Manufacturer waives any right to claim ambiguity in these Terms and Conditions. A Product is not a Winner or Finalist unless and until the Nominator and Manufacturer have fully complied with these Terms and Conditions. The Administrator reserves the right to adjust, strike, or redefine any of these Terms and Conditions at any time and for any reason, and shall give prompt notice thereof to all Nominators, and Nominators will have five (5) business days from the date of such notice to withdraw from the competition. In the event of such withdrawal, Nominators will not be entitled to the refund or payment of any costs incurred or any other expense and shall not be entitled to receive back any samples of Products submitted for consideration. The Administrator reserves the right, in its sole and absolute discretion, to cancel, terminate, modify, extend, or suspend the Global LEAP Awards (in whole or in part) should non-authorized intervention, fraud, or other causes corrupt or affect the administration, security, fairness, or proper conduct of the Global LEAP Awards. In such case,

the Administrator may name Winners from all eligible nominations received for the Global LEAP Awards prior to and/or after (if appropriate) the action taken by Administrator or via some other means determined by Administrator in its sole and absolute discretion to be fair, appropriate and consistent with these Terms and Conditions. Awards may not be given if in the Administrator's sole discretion, an insufficient number of nominations were received in a Category. [In its sole discretion, the Administrator may award more than one Winner in a Category. The Administrator anticipates that all Winners will be announced in November 2026. Administrator reserves the right to disqualify any Product if it determines, in its sole and absolute discretion, that the Product's Nominator and/or Manufacturer is or is attempting or intending to: (a) tamper with any aspect of the operation of the Competition, (b) defraud the Global LEAP Awards, (c) undermine the legitimate operation of the Global LEAP Awards, its sponsors, its partners, or the Administrator by cheating, deception, or other unfair playing practices, (d) annoy, abuse, threaten, or harass any other participants, the Administrator, or representatives of Global LEAP, or (e) act in violation of these Terms and Conditions. In such event, the Administrator reserves the right (in addition to disqualification of such Product) to seek damages from any such Manufacturer and/or Nominator to the fullest extent permitted by law. The Administrator's failure to enforce any provision of these Terms and Conditions shall not constitute a waiver of that provision. Any entity that enters the Global LEAP Awards through means not permitted by these Terms and Conditions is subject to disqualification. The Administrator is not required to respond to questions about the Global LEAP Awards. The preemption, cancellation, or rescheduling of the Global LEAP Awards, shall be excused to the extent that performance of the Competition is rendered impossible or commercially unreasonable by strike, fire, flood, hurricane, earthquakes, other natural disaster, governmental acts or orders or restrictions, or any other reason beyond the Administrator's reasonable control.

5. General Release and Waiver of Claims

By entering the Global LEAP Awards, each Manufacturer and Nominator hereby indemnifies, defends, and holds harmless the Administrator, Global LEAP, and all of their respective parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, advertising agencies, and all of their respective directors, officers, governors, employees, shareholders, and agents (collectively, the "Releasees") from any and all liability, loss, harm, damage, cost (including but not limited to reasonable counsel fees and court costs), expense, or claims, including arising from third party claims based on: (i) publicity and/or privacy rights, defamation, and intellectual property associated with the Nominator's participation in the Global LEAP Awards; (ii) any award associated with the Global LEAP Awards; (iii) the administration of the Competition; (iv) the use, collection, or release of any and all testing data, and/or use or misuse of any award in connection with the Global LEAP Awards, and (v) anything that may occur in connection with acceptance and/or use of the award or while participating in the Global LEAP Awards, even if caused or contributed to by the negligence of Releasees.

6. Limitations of Liability

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7. Choice of Law/Interpretation/Headings

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The section headings used in this document are for convenience and reference only and are not intended to define, limit, expand, or describe the scope or intent of any provision of this Terms and Conditions. Should any provision of this document require interpretation or construction, you agree that the entity interpreting or construing the Terms and Conditions shall not apply a presumption against one party by reason of the rule of construction that a document is to be construed more strictly against the party who prepared the document.

8. Severability

If any term or provision of the Terms and Conditions is held to be illegal, invalid, ineffective, or unenforceable, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall to any extent be illegal, invalid, ineffective, or unenforceable under present or future laws, then and in such event, it is the express intention of the parties that the remainder of the Agreement, or the application of such terms, clauses or provision other than to those as to which it is held illegal, invalid, or unenforceable, shall not be affected thereby, and each term, clause, or provision of the Agreement, and the application thereof, shall be legal, valid, and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.

9. Copy of Winner's List

For a list of Winners visit the website of the Administrator located at:
https://efficiencyforaccess.org/program/global-leap-awards/

Appendix

1. Wire, cable and connector safety requirements

To take part in the Competition, all products must meet the following requirements: *All wires, cables and connectors included with the Product shall be appropriately sized for the expected current and voltage, and all connectors and wire joints shall be robust. This includes that all external cords provided with the product shall be capable of carrying the electric currents present during normal operation without exceeding 50 °C ± 3 °C (measured at 25 °C ± 3 °C ambient temperature).*

The Nomination Form includes a field where Nominators can confirm that products comply with these wire, cable and connector safety requirements. No additional documents need to accompany the Nomination Form to confirm compliance with these requirements for the Initial Safety Assessment. Laboratory testing of wires, cables and connectors will be conducted to assess compliance during Stage 4.

2. Connector types not accepted for DC-only inputs

To take part in the Competition, nominated products shall not include any of the following connector types for DC-only inputs (e.g., PV module input connection):

- Appliance couplers specified in IEC 60320 (all parts) and commonly used variants (e.g., the non-standard polarized form of the C7/C8 plug and socket, sometimes referred to as C7P/C8P)
- AC plugs or receptacles specified by national, regional, or international standards such as those described in IEC TR 60083
- AC plugs and receptacles specified by ANSI/NEMA WD 6 (typically used in North America)
- Plugs, socket-outlets, and couplers specified in IEC 60309 (all parts)
- Other AC connectors not intended for DC-only inputs

The Nomination Form includes a field where Nominators can confirm that products do not include any of the disallowed AC plugs used for DC-only inputs. No additional documents need to accompany the Nomination Form to confirm compliance with this requirement for the Initial Safety Assessment. Laboratory physical assessment of connectors will be conducted to assess compliance during Stage 4.

3. Lithium battery cell protection requirements

To take part in the Competition, all Nomination Forms for products containing lithium batteries must be accompanied by one of the following documents:

- Written description of individual battery cell protection measures; **OR**
- Battery test report or specification sheet that clearly describes individual cell protection. (Please indicate in the document where the description is located)

Nominations for products containing lithium batteries are also encouraged to include the following optional documents, if available:

- Datasheet for the battery management system (BMS)
- Datasheet for the battery protection circuit module (PCM)
- IEC 61427-1 test report for the battery

4. Lithium battery safety requirements

Due to the elevated risk of fire and/or explosion of lithium batteries caused by thermal runaway, short circuits, low-quality cells, physical damage, etc., all nominations for products containing lithium batteries must be accompanied by relevant test reports, determined according to the type of application and/or battery, as described below.

- One of the following test reports for lithium batteries used in **portable applications** – Defined as Product weighing less than 3 kg, designed to be carried by hand, and comprised of two or more main components in a single unit (e.g., PV module and battery housed together):
  - IEC 62133-2; **OR**
  - UL 62133; **OR**
  - UL 2054
- One of the following individual test reports or combination of test reports for lithium batteries used in **stationary applications**:
  - IEC 62133-2; **OR**
  - UL 62133; **OR**
  - UL 2054; **OR**
  - **BOTH** UN 38.3 **AND** IEC 62619; **OR**
  - **BOTH** IEC 62281 **AND** IEC 62619; **OR**
  - **BOTH** UN 38.3 **AND** UL 1973; **OR**
  - **BOTH** IEC 62281 **AND** UL 1973
- One of the following individual test reports or combination of test reports for products containing **single-cell lithium batteries**:
  - IEC 62133-2; **OR**
  - UL 62133; **OR**
  - UL 2054; **OR**
  - **BOTH** UN 38.3 **AND** IEC 62619; **OR**
  - **BOTH** IEC 62281 **AND** IEC 62619; **OR**
  - **BOTH** UN 38.3 **AND** UL 1973; **OR**
  - **BOTH** IEC 62281 **AND** UL 1973; **OR**
  - UL 1642
- One of the following test reports for **products weighing more than 18 kg** that contain lithium batteries:
  - IEC 62619; **OR**
  - UL 1973

5. AC-DC power supply safety requirements

To take part in the Competition, all nominated products that include separate AC-DC power supplies must have a recognized consumer electronics safety certification, test certificate, or test report showing that the included AC-DC power supply has been tested against the appropriate safety standards and that the test results are current and valid. The Nomination Form must be accompanied by one of the following acceptable test reports:

- UL 1310; **OR**
- IEC 62368; **OR**
- IEC 60335-2-29; **OR**
- GB 4943