2020 Global LEAP Awards Electric Pressure Cooker (EPC) Competition

FAQs

What is Efficiency for Access?

Efficiency for Access first kicked off in 2015 as a year-long call to action and collaborative effort led by Global LEAP & Sustainable Energy for All. Now, a number of donors have joined together under a scaled-up Efficiency for Access – a coalition promoting energy efficiency as a potent catalyst in global clean energy access efforts. Coalition programs aim to scale up markets and reduce prices for super-efficient, off- and weak-grid appropriate products, support technological innovation, and improve sector coordination. Current Efficiency for Access Coalition members have programs and initiatives spanning three different continents, 44 countries, and 19 key technologies. The Efficiency for Access Coalition is coordinated jointly by CLASP and the Energy Saving Trust.

What is CLASP?

CLASP is an international non-profit organization that improves the energy and environmental performance of the appliances and equipment we use every day, accelerating our transition to a more sustainable world. CLASP’s programs and services accelerate the availability and affordability of super-efficient, high-quality appliances, maximizing energy services and minimizing environmental impacts.

CLASP has been managing and administrating the Global LEAP Awards since 2013.

What does it mean for an appliance to be off-grid?

The Global LEAP Awards defines off-grid appliance as a product intentionally designed and compatible with off-grid energy systems, such as standalone DC solar home systems and renewable mini-or micro-grids [AC or DC].

What does it mean for an appliance to be weak-grid?

The Global LEAP Awards defines weak-grid appliances to be an appliance used in settings where electricity grid connections are intermittent and of inconsistent quality.

What is the total cost of participating in the competition?

Nominations are free! The Global LEAP Awards program will subsidize the full laboratory testing fee and a partial product shipping fee. The Administrator will reimburse participating company’s shipping cost up to $300 USD upon submission of receipts. The Administrator reserves the right to withhold reimbursement pending any receipt inconsistencies.

Can you nominate products other than electric pressure cookers for the 2020 Global LEAP Awards competition?
Unfortunately, this round of Global LEAP Awards only focuses on electric pressure cookers. However, there is a parallel product testing and data sharing programs that CLASP manages that cover other product types, such as AC/DC TV, refrigerators, solar water pumps and fans. If interested in such programs, please visit Equip Data for more information.

Can a company participate in the Global LEAP Awards competition if it only manufactures specific components of the appliances?

If your company only manufactures components of these products, encourage your partners that produce, distribute, or sell electric pressure cookers to participate in the 2020 Global LEAP Awards competition. Benefits for Finalist and Winning products have ripple effects throughout the supply chain that component based companies may benefit from.

Is a product designer considered a “manufacturer” in the Global LEAP Awards?

Yes.

Does wholesale price cost estimates refer to price of the supplier (manufacturer) or the price being offered to retailers (distributors)?

This depends on how products are going to be distributed by. If products will be distributed by manufacturer’s subsidiaries/operating entities in different countries procuring from the central manufacture, then please provide the wholesale price that is being paid for the product to the original supplier. Any additional margins added for passing the product through to country-specific subsidiaries could left out. If products will be distributed wholesale to unaffiliated subsidiaries in various countries, please provide the wholesale price at which manufacturers plan to sell the products to third parties.

Are there templates of the nomination forms that explains everything that is required to participate?

Yes. Template for the 2020 Global LEAP Awards Electric Pressure Cooker Competition can be found at TBD LINK.

Who is a Global LEAP Awards preliminary finalist?

Preliminary finalists are products that meet all the eligibility criteria of the competition and are ready to undergo product sampling and laboratory testing. Status as a preliminary finalist does not indicate status as Global LEAP Award finalist or winner. Global LEAP Award winners and finalists are determined after undergoing testing by accredited laboratories for their energy performance, quality, and reliability, and an evaluation by a panel of off-grid market experts.

How many products are required for warehouse sampling?

All preliminary finalists should make available at least 20 nominated products for Global LEAP Awards warehouse sampling. The Administrator’s designated sampling agent will randomly select and package two (2) nominated products for testing. Nominators are to contact the Administrator if there are
challenges to product sampling acquisition including low product inventory and warehouse closed for holidays. A Preliminary Finalist may submit an alternative proposal to the Administrator for obtaining Product samples, which the Administrator may accept or reject in its sole discretion.

**How should sampled products be shipped and which shipping agents should Nominators use?**

The Administrator highly encourages shipping via air as this is the quickest way to meet our shipping deadlines. However, the sole discretion is with the Nominator. Nominators are responsible for choosing shipping agents of their choice, ensuring that the samples are safely packed, and managing transportation to the testing laboratory.

**If a product has a test report issued by a third party testing entity, can the report be used instead of product sample undergoing testing by the Global LEAP test method and accredited laboratory?**

No. The test will be conducted according to the Global LEAP Test Methods, which is an unique test protocol developed by Global LEAP Awards program in collaboration with market, product and testing experts. The test method may include test conditions that differ from the existing international test methods and thus all Preliminary Finalist products will need to undergo the same testing process defined in the Global LEAP test method.

**How are the Global LEAP Awards Test methods developed?**

The Global LEAP Awards collaborates with off-grid energy industry stakeholders, appliance manufacturers, policymakers, and test facilities to develop test methods that evaluate the quality, durability, energy performance, and off-grid market appropriateness of appliances. The test methods are developed through a rigorous research, consultation, and review process. Global LEAP Awards leverages other existing, widely adopted test methods (e.g. International Electrotechnical Commission, World Health Organization) with added components to measure off-grid appropriateness (e.g. voltage fluctuation conditions).

**Who are the panel of expert judges to evaluate products?**

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 (i.e UK Aid, MECS). 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.

**When will winners and finalists of the Global LEAP Awards Electric Pressure Cooker competition be announced?**

The Administrator expects to conclude product testing and announce Winners and Finalists by July 2020. However, competition timeline may be subject to change. All preliminary finalists will be notified of changes, if necessary.
The Administrator will provide further details about announcement and promotional events for Winners and Finalists.
Refrigerator Specific

Do solar direct drive products exclude products with thermal storage built in features?

Solar direct drive products can have thermal energy storage in the form of phase change materials in the cabinet of a product.

What is the “warranty for reclamation and safe destruction of ODS”?

The warranty for reclamation and safe destruction of ODS provides the end consumer any information and instructions related to the product’s end of life, such as recycling of the product and ozone depletion substances. It is a recommended, but not required document to participate in the 2019 Global LEAP Awards Off-Grid Refrigerator Competition. Manufacturers typically provide information in a page or short description in the user manual or user-facing documents that contains such information. A copy of that section is sufficient to provide on the nomination form if company will like to submit that document.

At what internal temperature would autonomy testing be conducted for off-grid refrigerators?

The current Global LEAP Awards off-grid refrigerator test method tests refrigerator at the internal temperature of 4°C. However, the Global LEAP Awards team is in the process of revising the testing and evaluation approach to reflect minimum internal temperatures greater than 4°C. The competition testing will measure internal temperatures to their lowest point and run the autonomy test from that point. Subsequently, the relevant promotional materials – such as the Buyer’s Guide – will reflect this minimum value.