

Annual Review Process for IPC 1752A Solution Providers

Starting 2014, IPC introduced an annual review process to determine a list of verified solution providers for the IPC-1752A standard. Companies who receive this accolade have submitted sample files that have been verified to the current 1752A requirements.

IPC established an open annual review committee which all members of IPC are welcome to join. The committee developed two data sets for solution providers to report against. All solution providers are invited to provide example XML files which report these data sets as Class A, Class C and/or Class D IPC 1752A XML declarations to demonstrate that their XMLs:

- Use the IPC 1752A lists of regulated substance and exemptions correctly
- Comply with the format for an IPC 1752A XML file

Using the IPC 1752A lists of regulated substance and exemptions correctly

Consistent use of defined industry naming conventions is essential for accurate communication of materials information in the IPC-1752A XML declarations. If there are any differences in the letters or numbers used to report regulated substances or exemptions among IT systems, they will not be able to communicate with one another and the declaration will be rejected.

The review committee inspects the solution providers' example XML files by checking whether the IPC 1752A lists of regulated substances and exemptions had been used correctly to report the data in the two data sets.

Compliance with the format for an IPC 1752A XML file

The IPC 1752A standard includes an XML Schema which provides the structure and rules that must be followed in the IPC 1752A XML declaration files. The XML Schema specifies the types of data elements which must be included and the order in which the data elements must be reported.

Timeline for Review of Solution Providers

April 1	Deadline for Solution Providers to submit data set
April 1-30	Review Committee to review and comment on XML files for data sets submitted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each solution provider's XML files to be reviewed by at least 3 Review Committee members • Review Committee members cannot comment on their own solution • Review Committee members to submit comments on the solution provider's XML files to IPC by April 29
April 30	IPC to circulate all comments received to Review Committee and schedule conference call
May 30	Review Committee to determine next steps for each solution provider <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve • Disapprove - needs improvements. Review Committee to specify the required improvements
August 31:	If necessary, solution providers to resubmit corrected XML files to IPC
September 15	Review Committee to review resubmitted XML files
September 30	IPC to notify solution providers on the Review Committee's findings

October	Publish to the IPC website the 2014 approved list of IPC 1752A solution providers
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Several tools are used by review committee members to check whether the solution providers' example XML files followed the correct format specified in the IPC 1752A XSD Schema. Some of the free online tools included:

- [Core Filing](#)
- [Free Formatter](#)
- [Utilities Online](#)

The review process includes a tutorial to help review committee members to become familiar with these tools before reviewing solution provider example XML files.

Additional elements for future review processes

The scope of the 2015 review will be carried forward into the 2016 review, with no additional elements included, to check that

- Current IPC lists of Substance Categories and Exemptions are being used;
- The XML files provided can validate against the current schema
- The data in the data sets are reported correctly in the XML files. In particular, Class A XML files must include the correct statements for the data sets and Class C and Class D XML files must correctly report the substance masses and concentrations provided in the data sets
- All fields which are required in the Standard must be provided in the XMLs, in addition to the fields which are required in the Schema

The IPC 1752A Committee agreed to use the same data sets for the 2016 annual review, with the addition of required reporting against the REACH Candidate List of 15 June 2015 or a later REACH Candidate List.

The committee will re-evaluate the scope for future years.