Are You Ready for Level VI?

The U.S. Department of Energy has mandated compliance to the new Level VI external power supply (EPS) efficiency requirements by February 10, 2016. What does the change mean and who does it affect?

What's Changed?

In order to comply with the new standard, external power supplies will need to become more efficient. This means that they need to consume less electricity while supplying the same amount of power as they did at the Level V efficiency standard. For example, one change raises the minimum efficiency of external AC/DC power supplies 49W-250W from 87% to 88%. No load power decreases; 0.3W to 0.21W.

- Average efficiencies of external power supplies increase when they are in active mode.
- External power supplies will have reduced power consumption levels in a no load condition.
- Establishes efficiency standards on higher wattage models (>250w) which weren’t part of Level V.
- Establishes efficiency standards on multi-voltage models which weren’t part of Level V.
- Establishes efficiency standards on POE (Power Over Ethernet) devices.

Who's Affected?

Power supply designers, manufacturers, original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) who use EPS's in their products, all wholesalers and distributors of external power supplies covered under the new standard.
What's Exempt?

The new Level VI update does not include all external power supplies.

- External power supplies used on certain medical devices are exempt (requires FDA listing and approval)
- External power supplies used to power the charger of a detachable battery pack or charges the battery of a product that is fully or primarily motor operated are exempt.
- External power supplies that are made available as a spare or service part by the manufacturer of an end product that was produced before July 1, 2008 for which the power supply was the primary load are exempt.

Transition Strategy

Wall Industries has been a leader in the power conversion industry for over 50 years. We can assist you in the transition of your product designs to the more efficient Level VI power supplies. Starting February 10, 2016, compliance will be from the manufacturing date of the power supply. Therefore non-Level VI power supplies may still be used and in compliance as long as they were manufactured before February 10, 2016. Original equipment manufacturers (OEM's) who design and incorporate external power supplies; mainly desktop, wall mount, power bricks and power adapters into their products should be aware of new regulations in the U.S. or similar regulations in other countries.

About Wall Industries

Wall is currently offering Level VI external power supplies in many wattages and models. Wall has been a leader in power supplies and DC/DC converters for over 50 years. Have a unique requirement? We can modify our standard products or design a complete custom power supply or DC/DC converter to meet your requirements.

How can we help you?

To speak with our power supply and conversion specialists, contact us any time at 888-597-9255 or sales@wallindustries.com. We can't wait to power your success.