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# GAMES CONSOLES VOLUNTARY AGREEMENT (GCVA)

## FIFTH STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

2 July 2024, 17:00-18:00 CEST (16:00-17:00 BST)  
Online meeting



# PARTICIPANTS

## **DESNZ**

1. Margaret Sutherland

## **Independent Inspector (Intertek)**

2. Steve Fernandes  
3. Jane Lee

## **Microsoft Corporation**

4. Kim Braun  
5. Ted Eckert  
6. Adriana Mattei, Zetacast, consultant

## **Nintendo of Europe GmbH**

7. Calum Robertson  
8. Emil Schweiger  
9. Hiroki Takuma

## **Sony Interactive Entertainment (SIE)**

10. Joshua Aslan  
11. Ceri Fenwick

## **VA Administrator (SEC Newgate EU)**

12. Ferial Saouli  
13. Katie Kapodistria

# AGENDA

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Approval of minutes of previous Steering Committee meeting
3. Review of actions of previous Steering Committee meeting
4. Annual Compliance Report (ACR) presentation
5. Presentation from Signatories:
  - 5.1 Summary of changes to the draft UK VA v.2
  - 5.2 Recognition of the final UK VA v.2
  - 5.3 Next steps
6. AOB and date of next Steering Committee meeting
7. End of meeting

# MEETING MINUTES

## 1. Welcome and introductions

Feriel Saouli (SEC Newgate EU, VA Administrator) opened the meeting at 17:00 CEST, she welcomed participants, presented the agenda, and held a brief round of introductions. No AOBs were added.

## 2. Approval of minutes of previous Steering Committee meeting (23 January 2024)

Feriel Saouli (SEC Newgate EU, VA Administrator) confirmed that the minutes were circulated, approved, and uploaded on the Games Consoles Voluntary Agreement (GCVA) [website](#) on 22 February 2024.

## 3. Review of actions of previous Steering Committee meeting

Feriel Saouli (SEC Newgate EU, VA Administrator) noted that all the actions agreed at the 4th UK Steering Committee meeting had been completed.

## 4. Annual Compliance Report (ACR) presentation

Jane Lee (Intertek, Independent Inspector) presented the 2023 Annual Compliance Report (ACR). Both the 2023 ACR and her presentation can be found on the GCVA website.

- The Independent Inspector determined that the Signatories continue to be compliant with all VA requirements.
- The VA version applicable to reporting period 1 January - 31 December 2023 is VA v.1.1.
- Nine games consoles fell within the scope of the VA for the 2023 reporting period: Xbox Series X (Model: 1882), Xbox Series S (Model: 1883), Nintendo Switch (Model: HAC-001(-01)), Nintendo Switch - OLED Model (Model: HEG-001), PlayStation®4 (Model: CUH-2216), PlayStation®5 (Model: CFI-1116A), PlayStation®5 Digital Edition (Model: CFI-1116B), PlayStation®5 (Model: CFI-1216A), PlayStation®5 Digital Edition (Model: CFI-1216B).
- Two consoles (PlayStation®5 [CFI-2016] and PlayStation®5 Digital Edition [CFI-2016]) had updated model numbers but still classified as existing models, and there were no changes affecting power consumption.

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- No new consoles were placed on the market during the 2023 reporting period for which PCRs were submitted in February 2024.
- Only the PlayStation®5 Digital Edition (CFI-1216B) was selected for testing, as the majority of console models had been previously tested. This testing was to verify results from a manufacturer-supplied sample of the PlayStation®5 Digital Edition obtained in 2021. The sample obtained for testing in 2022 was an updated version and held over for testing in 2023. The model tested was compliant for energy consumptions and resource efficiency and consumer information requirements.

Jane Lee (Intertek, Independent Inspector) informed participants that following the 2023 investigation, Intertek did not have any recommendations.

## 5. Presentation from Signatories

### 5.1 Summary of changes to the draft UK VA v.2

Ceri Fenwick (SIE) summarised the revisions and clarifications made in the **UK VA v.2**:

- Amendments to text regarding the verification procedure, which was adjusted to ensure power testing is representative through a more comprehensive testing process and addressing potential outliers.
- Editorial updates such as those regarding broken links and missing footnotes, text order, typos, and clarifications.
- Minor updates to Annex F regarding energy savings calculations.

Emil Schweiger (Nintendo) provided a reminder of the contents of **UK VA v.2** as it was presented at the previous UK Steering Committee meeting on 23 January 2024:

- **Energy Efficiency:** Further power cap reductions for Navigation and Media modes.
- **Resource Efficiency:** Increase duration of spare parts provision from 2 to 5 years; Increased the number and types of spare parts made available; Included a minimum time commitment of 5 years to provide an out-of-warranty repair and/or refurbishment services; Exclusion of halogenated flame retardants (HFRs) in plastic external enclosure parts greater than 0.5g.
- **General updates:** Compliance and verification process; editorial changes.

### 5.2 Recognition of UK VA v.2

VA version 2.0 was recognised by the four voting members of the Steering Committee: DESNZ and the three Signatories. Emil Schweiger (Nintendo) stated that any remaining editorial and formatting errors will be corrected in the final UK VA v.2.

### 5.3 Next steps

Ted Eckert (Microsoft) noted that the next update will take place over the course of 2024 in the form of minor revisions for **UK VA v.2.1**. These will typically be technical amendments, with a view to proposing new VA amendments to DESNZ for preliminary feedback in Q4 2024 (TBD) and to stakeholders for preliminary feedback in Q1 2025 (TBD). The next UK Steering Committee meeting is envisaged to take place in Q1 2025 (TBD).

## 6. AOB and date of next Steering Committee meeting

Margaret Sutherland (DESNZ) informed participants that recruitment for the open position within DESNZ is ongoing and due to be completed shortly. It is envisaged that the new recruit

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will take over responsibility for the UK VA and will be present as of the next UK Steering Committee meeting. Emil Schweiger (Nintendo) inquired if the current process of finalising the UK VA and sharing signed Annex D membership forms with DESNZ via the VA Administrator is acceptable. Margaret Sutherland (DESNZ) confirmed that it is and praised the process as well. Ferial Saouli (SEC Newgate EU, VA Administrator) indicated the next UK Steering Committee meeting will be held at the beginning of 2025 (TBD).

The draft minutes of the current meeting will be shared by 9 July at the latest and participants will have two weeks for comments, as indicated in the VA. The final version of the minutes will be published by 2 August.

### **8. End of meeting**

Ted Eckert (Microsoft Corporation) thanked participants and closed the meeting at 17:30 CEST.

### **Actions**

- VA Administrator to prepare and distribute the minutes of the current meeting. *DONE*