

SYSmark® 2014 Benchmarking Rules

This document describes the rules governing publication of results derived from running the BAPCo SYSmark 2014 benchmark. Any licensee who wishes to publish such results is obliged to adhere to all rules and regulations described in this document or other documents provided by BAPCo related to execution and reporting of SYSmark 2014 benchmark results. BAPCo reserves the right to change the rules outlined in this document at any time. Licensees are encouraged to consult BAPCo website at www.bapco.com for the latest information regarding execution and publication rules. For more information please consult the Software License Agreement.

Benchmark Execution

Workload Manager: All benchmarks must be run using the SYSmark 2014 Workload Manager. This utility is an executable program that runs the SYSmark 2014 benchmark. It also includes a module that generates the final benchmark results for the system under test. All published results must be derived only from a complete and correct run of the benchmark. All tests must be performed without modification to any part of the SYSmark 2014 software.

The collective set of hardware and software used in generation of an official SYSmark 2014 result must be available to the public as defined by BAPCo's availability criteria. The following specific rules apply:

Operating System: The operating system used to generate and publish results must be a publicly available release from the original software vendor. Consult the product manual at www.bapco.com for the current list of supported operating systems. Upgrade of specific drivers that are released and maintained by vendors other than the operating system vendor (e.g. graphics drivers, disk drivers, motherboard setting files, multimedia drivers) is allowed provided these drivers are publicly available, release-quality drivers from original vendors of such drivers. Licensees may also use operating system service packs, API updates (e.g. Direct X) and other such updates provided they are publicly available, release-quality software from the original vendor, and that they meet the benchmark's Operating System requirements. Licensees should also consult license agreements from individual software vendors to ensure compliance with vendor benchmark restrictions.

Performance Enhancing Utilities: Use of performance enhancing utilities or techniques is allowed provided that the utility or technique is publicly available, release-quality software from the original vendor. The utility needs to be documented and such techniques should not compromise the integrity of the system under test or the benchmark. BAPCo shall reserve the right to review the usage of such tools or techniques and invalidate published results if need be.

Hardware: The system hardware used to generate official SYSmark 2014 results must be publicly available at the time of publication or within 60 days thereafter. The system must be purchasable as a complete platform from an Original Equipment Manufacturer within 60 days of publication. Alternatively, licensees may report results for systems which may not be available from an OEM but whose individual components are publicly available and purchasable from various vendors at the time of publication or within 60 days thereafter. Note that the 60-day grace period does not apply to system software. All software used must be publicly available and be of release-quality available from the original software vendor.

Full Disclosure Report

A complete Full Disclosure Report (FDR), must be generated by the Workload Manager for all published results. This FDR must include the overall SYSmark 2014 Rating, the ratings for each of the three scenarios as well as pertinent system information about the state of the system under test. The format and the information included in this report is determined by BAPCo. No modifications should be made to the FDR (modifications to the FDR will invalidate the FDR). FDRs can be saved using the Result Brower software.

Publication

BAPCo encourages all licensees to submit FDRs on the BAPCo website (www.bapco.com) for all publicly available results. To submit results, the licensee emails a Full Disclosure Report to BAPCo (report@bapco.com) that was generated by the Workload Manager. If the licensee publishes results external to the BAPCo web site, the licensee agrees to submit the FDR within 5 business days, upon request from BAPCo.

Availability

When publishing SYSmark 2014 results, the tested system must be available for purchase by the public either at the time of publication or within 60 days after publication. Note that the 60-day grace period does not apply to system software. All software used must be release-quality and made publicly available from the original software vendor.

FDR Processing

The submitted FDRs are processed by BAPCo and classified as:

Released for publication - The results are released for publication as filed.

Rejected - The results are rejected for publication as filed.

The Released for publication classification is in no way a validation or an endorsement of the results by BAPCo. The submitting licensees are free to publish results as long as a complete and valid FDR has been generated. The licensee agrees to submit the valid FDR to BAPCo within 5 business days, upon request

from BAPCo. BAPCo will perform frequent audits of the submitted FDRs and reserves the right to revoke the license granted to licensees who have not adhered to the regulations described in this or other SYSmark 2014 documentation. In the case where an FDR is returned to the licensee with rejected classification, the licensee must immediately stop publication of the rejected results until the matter is clarified by BAPCo. Any publication of results must be accompanied by at least the system model number plus any discrepancies between the configuration of the stated model number and the configuration of the system tested. The publication can use the single overall SYSmark 2014 rating or the combination of the overall rating and a scenario rating. Licensees may not publish scenario ratings unless the overall SYSmark 2014 rating is also included. (E.g. the Office Productivity scenario rating cannot be published without disclosing the SYSmark 2014 overall rating) The term SYSmark is a registered trademark of the Business Applications Performance Corporation and may only be used in conjunction with performance metrics generated by the SYSmark 2014 Workload Manager. Any other performance characterizations may be made but must be derived from the performance metrics generated by the Workload Manager. The terms SYSmark and SYSmark 2014 may not be used as the performance metric describing such characterizations.

Publication of Results on Non-OEM Platforms

BAPCo allows the publication of performance indices using SYSmark 2014 for making "Non- OEM" platform comparisons. This includes performance comparisons on systems that are not shipped from an OEM as a complete platform. An example of such comparisons is when a graphics card manufacturer wishes to compare the performance of its graphics card to that of another manufacturer in an identical platform by swapping the cards and measuring the performance. Results published on Non-OEM platforms must be marked as Modified on the accompanying FDR and whenever appearing in publications of any kind.

Publication of Results for Competitive Comparisons

Licensees may publish results on competitor systems as long as the performance results for the competitor have been published previously at www.bapco.com. In the case where competitor performance results are not available, the competitor will be notified by BAPCo and given fifteen working days to provide a counter-FDR for its own system or challenge the submitted FDRs (results). The submitted results may not be published until the fifteen-day waiting period has expired and all matters with respect to any counter-FDRs have been resolved by BAPCo. In the absence of a response from the competitor after fifteen days, the original publishing licensee may begin publication. Industry publications may publish results for making competitive comparisons without being subject to the above procedure. Publications are, however, subject to all other regulations set forth in this document.