Score Publication

The purpose of this document is to avoid any confusion and disputes that may arise from all official scores issued by VCX-Forum and posting activities on the official website www.vcx-forum.org, and to ensure that they are managed according to accurate guidelines.

1. Terms and entities

- **Test Device**: Typically a smartphone with at least one imaging component enabled to capture images in the human visual range and is operable without special software or hardware equipment and is intended to be used by the general public. The test device is expected to have a stable operating system and a default camera application. This default camera application is the only one that will be used for testing. If a special case needs to be made, an exception request needs to be raised to the VCX-forum board. There are 2 types of testing
    - Private testing
    - Published testing
- **Published testing**: is the VCX-Forum official test which includes testing of *In-market & Pre-launch* devices
- **Sponsor**: Any legal entity who/that pays for a (or any number of) device/s to be tested at a VFTL/VFCL; Typically a sponsor is also the device donor. The sponsor pays for the device testing.
- **TLR and DTR**: **T**op-**L**evel-**R**esult (TLR) is a high-level score sheet that is published on the VCX-Forum website. Test results by VFCL are not published; only the results from a VFTL are considered for publication on the website. A **D**etailed-**T**est-**R**eport (DTR) is a detailed document generated by the VFTL / VFCL as part delivery to the sponsor. The detailed test reports generated by VFTLs follow a template for content, but may differ in style; some VFTLs may include additional information at their discretion.
- **Private testing**: testing requested by a sponsor for a device that satisfies one or more of the following conditions
    - The device is not known to the general public and/or cannot be bought off the shelf such as prototype
    - The device that is available to the general public to buy, but a test is requested for a non-default configuration (for example, specific software, configuration, application setting, deprecated VCX version, accessory, etc.) such as customized device.
    - The sponsor intends the test results to be private; irrespective of the device being public or tested with the default configuration.
    - The sponsor shall ensure that the prototype submitted for testing is safe and is fit for rigorous testing. The VFTL / VFCL that executes the private-device testing shares the result **only** with the sponsor.

- **In-market device**: A device that is available for the general public to buy, updated to the latest publicly available software at the point of testing. No special software or H/W accessories/peripherals are in the scope of testing. If the test device is shipped with an optical aid / camera accessory (Wide angle adapters, external flash, additional camera modules, separable bits and pieces of H/W that are connected wirelessly, etc.), the same will not be taken into account for testing. Deeming the test device as an in-market device implicitly indicates that the sponsor agrees that the device TLR may be published by VCX-Forum. A sponsor could request anonymity.
- **Pre-launch**: A device that is largely unknown to the public and whose launch is imminent. To qualify as a pre-launch device, the device must be the same in all respects to the one intended for launch. The sponsor will be requested to formally declare / confirm to VCX-Forum (via email) that the device (hardware & software) are identical to the one that is later launched. Any change in hardware or software between a pre-launch device submitted for VCX testing and the launch device *__may__* invalidate the results.
- **Device Donor**: any entity that supplies the device for testing
  - In case of Private testing, the sponsor must be the device donor without exception
  - For an in-market device testing, this entity is billed the cost of the device
  - A list named "devices to be tested by VCX-Forum" is periodically shared with the members. Additionally, VCX-forum may request members for help in sourcing the device
- **Licensing**: DTR from the VCX-Forum can be bought under the following licenses
  - Under NDA – Sponsors are welcome to share the DTR with their clients under NDA. The test result can be used for the sponsor's marketing/press activities on the premise that the detailed report and the images are not shared with third parties who have not signed an NDA with the sponsor
  - Publication – Sponsors are welcome to publish either part of DTR in any way they wish
- **DTR** – Detailed test report: follows the VCX-Forum DTR template that can be requested from the coordinator
- **Challenge test**: If there are objections/challenges/disputes to the score published on the VCX-Forum website, then the entity that objects or has concerns may request a re-run by sponsoring another test. The decision as to which result will be finally published on the VCX-Forum website will be in the remit of the VCX-forum board.

Website - www.vcx-forum.org

VCX test scores are published by the forum on this website. It serves as a point of contact between the VCX forum members and the general public; the content spans the following topics

1. Forum introduction with service list and guidance
2. Disclosure of documents at C0 level[1]

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[1] Please refer to VCX Confidentiality Levels document

3. VCX-Scores and images[2]
4. News
5. Contact Points
6. Othes

2. Publishing policy

2.1 VCX official scores are generated only by VCX trusted labs.
Test scores can be challenged and replaced; however, the VCX-Forum board will have the final say as to which test scores get published; the decision by the VCX-board is deemed final and immutable.

2.1.1 Exceptions

Case (A). If a particular device model is tested several times at trusted labs and the difference in score is greater than defined the tolerance limit, then a check made to assert if
- All tested devices have the same firmware and hardware,
    - a root cause analysis is triggered; analysed and results submitted to the VCX-Board
    - VCX-Board may, at its discretion, take the extraordinary step of contacting the vendor/manufacturer of the device to seek a technical explanation as part of the root cause analysis
    - final score is decided by the VCX-Forum board and is published
- Firmware is different: if yes, the score for the latest firmware version is published, and other scores prior to that are considered deprecated and are archived
- If due to a challenge, and the star rating differs negatively the original sponsor/manufacturer is given a 3-day notice to either act in the form of another challenge test or accepts the result therein. Challenge test sponsors may choose to remain anonymous.

Case (B). Damage

- If the device shows obvious signs of damage before the testing at the lab has begun, the lab will not initiate the test unless the sponsor confirms that the device is within tolerance limits and the testing can go ahead. The lab will notify the sponsor and communicate for further actions.

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[2] The score page will include: Official score and top level sub scores as well as rating details, Tested date, S/W and F/W version, Image comparison.

- If there is a suspicion of internal damage or unusual behaviour during the test, or if the intermediate results or end-result is not commensurate with general expectation, the testing is paused, and the sponsor alerted and a request for clarification sent. If the sponsor doesn't respond to the communication / clarification request from the lab within a working day. The testing is halted until there is a written clarification. A late response from the sponsor might result in delayed results and its publication consequently. (if the test is not private)

2.2 Order in the Score List page

The website VCX score page has two categories.
- Numerical scores
- Star Rating
They are sorted in different ways.

2.2.1 Numerical Scores Ranking order
The highest score is ranked first and then in descending order by default.

2.2.2. Star Rating ranking order
Each score has a corresponding star rating, and the score range of the star rating is described on the website.
The highest rank (5 stars) is displayed first and then in descending order, and within the same rank, the device tested last is shown first.

2.3 From the report to the website
All the scores are shown without the number after the decimal point on the website score list and the score detail pages.

For example)

71.013 will be presented as 71 on the score page.

71.999 will be presented as 71 on the score page.

However, the JSON report will present the details of scores, including decimal places.

3. Use of VCX Score on other websites (or parties)

VCX-Forum does not intend to influence or control how the score is used to express opinions on other websites/media not owned by VCX-Forum. In other words, VCX-Forum cannot be held responsible for the opinions expressed in other websites/media that may VCX-score as part of their opinion segment or review.

Images and content published on the VCX-Forum website are subject to copyright laws; an entity that is not a VCX-Forum member will need a license / written approval / permission to reproduce any part of the content generated/produced/published by VCX-Forum. This

includes but is not limited to the content on the VCX-Forum website, servers, publications, etc.,

Active VCX-Forum members are welcome to use the content with the following conditions

- The scores / values /numbers are not manipulated/changed
- VCX logo and direct link to the VCX-Forum is provided
- Misconstruing the score/numbers to mislead wilfully
- Star rating to be prioritized
- Subjective interpretation/opinion of the VCX-Score to be clearly mentioned as such and explicitly disassociated from the VCX-Forum.
- VCX-Forum holds its members with implicit trust that members will cause no harm to VCX-Forum; Nonetheless If a violation or breach is deemed to have been done (the VCX-Board takes a decision) by a member, the member may be requested to withdraw the content in part of full.

4. Press releases

Press releases are made available by the VCX-Forum from time to time whenever a significant change occurs in the forum activity or output. VCX-Forum may only use names, logos, images, and/or branding with the asset owners' the prior written and specific consent. The right to use assets may be withdrawn by the member/s at any time for any reason without liability.