Score Publication

VCX Forum Marketing DPT
[v 1.3.1]

The purpose of this document is to bring clarity on posting activities on the official website www.vcx-forum.org.

1. Terms and Definitions

1.1 Product Release and Publication Timing

Announcement Date
The date on which the OEM formally announces the product to the public through an official communication channel, such as an official website, press release, launch event, or equivalent public statement. Launch date is not necessarily known. A **Verifiable Source** can be used to confirm product announcement or launch information.

Examples include:

- OEM official website
- Official press release
- Official launch event material
- Written OEM communication
- Announcement on official social media accounts

Launch Date
The date on which the product becomes commercially available (market availability) for purchase by the public. This includes availability through pre-order, open sale, or equivalent commercial access.

For the purpose of this policy, the launch date shall be determined based on the earliest confirmed commercial availability in any market where the product can be officially purchased by the public.

Publication Date

The date on which the result of the device is published on the VCX-Forum website. The launch date must be confirmed before the publication date.

NOTE
Announcement date and the launch date are distinct and must not be treated as interchangeable.

1.2 Device Status Definitions

Pre-Launch Device
A device that has been officially announced by the OEM but has not yet made available to the market. To qualify as a pre-launch device within the VCX framework, the device must be identical to the final production version in both hardware and software.

Protype
A device that has **not** been announced by the OEM and by definition not yet available to/in the market.

In-Market Device
A device that is commercially launched and the first devices have been delivered to customers. Please refer to the sponsors handbook for more information.

1.3 Testing and Result Types

Testing Types
VCX testing is classified into two categories:
• Private Testing
• Published Testing

Private Testing
Testing requested by a sponsor under one or more of the following conditions:
• The device is not publicly available (e.g. prototype)
• The device is tested under non-default configurations (software, settings, accessories, etc.)
• The sponsor requests that the results remain confidential

Results from private testing are shared only with the sponsor.

Published Testing
Official VCX testing intended for publication, covering both in-market and eligible pre-launch devices.

1.4 Publication Context Definitions

Publication

The act of making VCX test results publicly available on the official VCX platform or associated communication channels. Refer to section 2 for publication eligibility.

1.5 Stakeholders and Deliverables

Sponsor
A legal entity that commissions and funds device testing at a VFTL or VFCL. The sponsor is typically also the device donor.

Device Donor
An entity that supplies the device for testing.
• For private testing, the sponsor must be the device donor
• For in-market testing, the donor will be billed for device acquisition or the donor supplies the device for testing.

TLR (Top-Level Result)
A high-level score summary published on the VCX website.

DTR (Detailed Test Report)
A detailed report generated by a VFTL or VFCL, delivered to the sponsor. The format follows VCX guidelines but may vary in presentation.

2. Publication Rules

2.1 for in-market device

Test results for an in-market device may be published at any time by VCX-Forum; it is the VCX-forum's prerogative. The device must be tested in accordance with VCX standard testing conditions

2.3 for Pre-Launch Devices

Publication of pre-launch devices is permitted only under controlled conditions.

- For pre-launch device, the device must be the final production version WRT both hardware and software
- For pre-launch device, the launch date must the known at the time of publication

Requirements:
• The device must meet the definition of a Pre-Launch Device (Section 1.2)

• The tested device must be identical to the final production version in both hardware and software
• Publication must be explicitly requested or confirmed by the OEM in written form (OEM Coordination, Section 1.4)
• The official launch announcement date must be verifiable (Section 1.6)
• The product must have a clearly defined and confirmed launch timeline

Pre-launch publication without OEM coordination is prohibited.

2.4 Timing Rule

For pre-launch devices, publication timing shall be governed by the Official Launch Announcement Date (Section 1.1).

Publication is permitted:
• on the official launch announcement date, or
• up to 3 calendar days prior to the official launch announcement date

The Launch Date / Market Availability Date shall not be used as the primary reference for pre-launch publication timing.

Where the announcement date and market availability date occur on the same day, the announcement date shall remain the governing reference.

2.5 Prohibited Publication Scenarios

Publication is prohibited under the following conditions:

2.5.1 Unannounced Devices

Devices that have not been officially announced by the OEM must not be published.

2.5.2 Pre-Launch Without OEM Coordination

Pre-launch devices must not be published without OEM coordination as defined in Section 1.4.

2.5.3 Unclear or Unverifiable Timeline

Publication is prohibited where:
• the official launch announcement date cannot be verified
• the launch timeline is undefined, inconsistent, or unconfirmed

• the device status cannot be clearly determined

2.5.4 Excessive Lead Time

Publication is not permitted if the official launch announcement date is more than 7 days in the future.

2.6 Content Withholding and Removal

Content must be withheld, suspended, or removed if:

• the official launch announcement is delayed beyond the permitted publication window
• the OEM requests withdrawal due to timing or communication changes
• the previously confirmed timeline becomes unclear or unverifiable
• the tested device is no longer confirmed to match the final production version

When there is uncertainty regarding publication eligibility, publication must be withheld until sufficient confirmation is obtained.

2.7 Evidence and Traceability

For pre-launch publication, the basis for publication eligibility must be supported by verifiable evidence (Section 1.6).

Such evidence must be retained for internal reference and traceability.

2.8 Governance

In cases of ambiguity or dispute, the VCX Board retains final authority over publication decisions.

3. Score Publication and Presentation

3.1 Source of Published Scores

Only test results generated by VCX Trusted Labs (VFTL) are eligible for publication on the official VCX platform.

Results generated by VFCL may be used for validation or internal purposes but are not directly published unless verified and confirmed through a VFTL.

3.2 Final Authority on Published Results

In case of multiple test results for the same device:

- If results are consistent → latest valid result is published
- If results differ beyond acceptable tolerance → root cause analysis is required
- The VCX Board retains final authority to determine which result is published

3.3 Firmware and Version Control

If multiple results exist due to different firmware versions:

- The result corresponding to the latest publicly available firmware shall be published
- Previous results shall be considered deprecated and archived

3.4 Score Representation

Scores displayed on the VCX website shall follow standardized formatting:

- Scores are displayed as integers (decimal values are not shown)
- Detailed scores (including decimals) are retained in underlying data (e.g. JSON reports)

3.5 Ranking Methodology

Devices are ranked based on:

- Numerical score (descending order)
- Star rating (descending order)

Decimal values shall be truncated
Within the same score or star rating, the most recently tested device is displayed first.

4. Use of VCX Scores and Content

4.1 Use by VCX Members

VCX members may use published scores and content under the following conditions:

- Scores must not be modified or misrepresented
- The VCX logo and a direct reference to VCX must be included
- Any subjective interpretation must be clearly identified as such and not attributed to VCX

4.2 Use by Non-Members

Non-members must obtain prior written permission or a valid license to use any VCX-generated content, including scores, images, or reports.

4.3 Misuse and Enforcement

If misuse or misrepresentation is identified:

- VCX may request correction or removal of content
- The VCX Board determines whether a violation has occurred
- Members may be required to withdraw content partially or entirely

5. Testing and Validation Governance

5.1 Device Condition and Integrity

Testing must not proceed if:

- the device shows visible damage prior to testing
- abnormal behavior suggests internal issues

In such cases:
- testing is paused
- sponsor is notified
- further action is determined based on clarification

5.2 Sponsor Responsibility

The sponsor must ensure that:

- the submitted device is fit for testing
- the device reflects the intended configuration
- any required declarations (e.g. pre-launch equivalence) are accurate

5.3 Communication and Response Time

If clarification is requested during testing:

- the sponsor must respond within a reasonable timeframe
- delayed response may result in testing delays or suspension

6. Challenge and Re-Test Policy

6.1 Challenge Requests

Any entity may challenge a published score by sponsoring a re-test.

6.2 Outcome of Challenge

Following a challenge test:

- results are evaluated by the VCX Board
- the Board determines which result is published
- previous results may be replaced or archived

6.3 Anonymity

Challenge test sponsors may choose to remain anonymous.

7. Licensing and Report Usage

7.1 Licensing Options

VCX reports (DTR) may be used under different licensing conditions, including but not limited to:

- NDA-based usage (restricted sharing)
- Publication license (broader usage permitted)

Detailed terms and conditions are defined in the VCX-Forum Sponsors Handbook, which serves as the governing reference for licensing and usage rights.

7.2 Usage Restrictions

Regardless of license type:

- raw data and images must not be redistributed without authorization
- third-party sharing requires appropriate agreements

8. Use of VCX Content and Assets by Third Parties

8.1 General Principle

VCX content, including scores, reports, images, and branding elements (e.g. logos), is the property of VCX-Forum.

8.2 Use by Third Parties

Any use of VCX content or assets by third parties requires prior written permission or a valid license from VCX-Forum.

This includes, but is not limited to:
- reproduction of scores or reports
- use of images or visual materials
- use of VCX logos, branding, or trademarks

8.3 Conditions of Use

Authorized use must comply with the following conditions:

- VCX content must not be altered, manipulated, or misrepresented
- Proper attribution to VCX must be provided
- Any use must not create misleading or false association with VCX

8.4 Enforcement

VCX reserves the right to request modification or removal of content that does not comply with these conditions.