

Maryland Product Evaluation List Guide for Vendors & Vendor Representatives

VERSION 1.2

STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
STATE OF MARYLAND

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REVISION HISTORY

Version	Date	Author	Change Description
1.0	11/06/2013	D. Freed	Initial draft.
1.1	08/03/2017	D. Williams	Revised document based on MPEL system's new functionality.
1.2	11/07/2017	D.Williams, D. Wolin, & K. Krishna	Worked w/ team to finalize the document for upcoming training.



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

M	ARYLAND PRODUCT EVALUATION LIST OVERVIEW	1
	Accessing the MPEL Home Page	1
	Using MPEL Title Bar & Home Page Options	2
	Registering a Vendor and Creating a New Account	2
	Logging onto MPEL	
	Logging Off MPEL	3
FE	EATURE LIST AND OTHER OPTIONS	4
	Viewing a List of Qualified Products	6
	Viewing a List of State of Maryland Patented and Proprietary Products	7
	Viewing Policy and Procedure Information	
	Contacting MDOT SHA Via Email	8
	Contacting the MDOT SHA Office of Materials Technology	8
	Viewing the About MPEL Website Information	9
	Accessing the MPEL Guide for Vendors & Vendor Representatives	9
PF	RODUCT EVALUATIONS	10
	Searching From a List of All Evaluations	
-	Searching From a List of My Evaluations	
	Product Evaluation Requests	
	Open Product Evaluations	12
	Understanding Evaluation Screen Product Statuses	13
	Viewing Product Request Details	14
	My Evaluations Screen – Product Name Link	14
	All Evaluations/Search Evaluations Dialog - Details Link	14
	Submitting New Product Evaluation Requests	16
	Submitting a Detailed Product Evaluation Application	19
VE	ENDOR PROFILES, USERS/REPRESENTATIVES, AND PASSWORDS	25
	Adding a Vendor Representative Profile	26
	Editing a Vendor Representative Profile	28
	Editing Vendor Profile Information	30
	Changing User Passwords	31
	Managing External Logins	31

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MARYLAND PRODUCT EVALUATION LIST OVERVIEW

The Maryland Product Evaluation List (MPEL) application provides internal and external users with a repository of new and/or proprietary, engineered transportation products. MPEL is designed so all registered users can retrieve transportation product evaluation and testing information. This guide provides information relevant to vendors and vendor representatives.

ACCESSING THE MPEL HOME PAGE

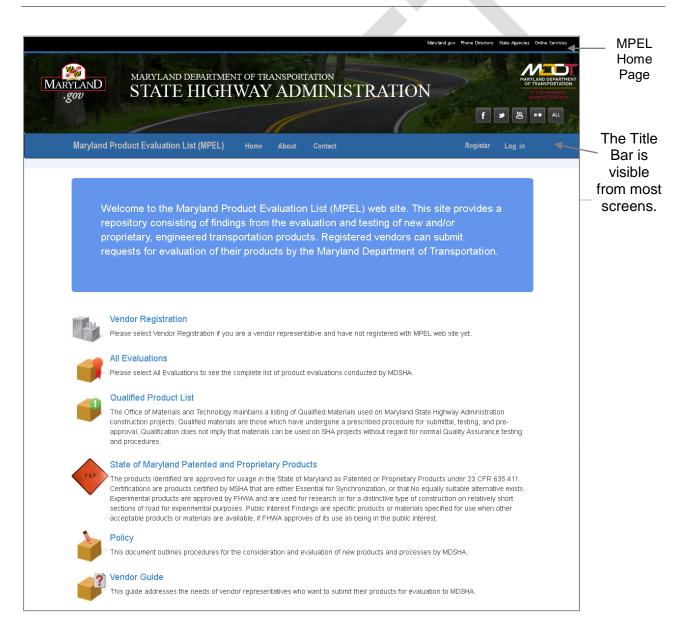
Users access the MPEL Home page to register a vendor, sign onto the system, or access features.



Open a web browser.



Click the http://apps.roads.maryland.gov/MPEL link or enter the address. The MPEL Home page appears.



USING MPEL TITLE BAR & HOME PAGE OPTIONS

The Title Bar contains menu options that are visible from most system screens.

- Returns a user to MPEL Home page from any screen. (**NOTE**: Users can also click the Request Details screen's **Home** button to return to MPEL Home page.)
- About Describes the purpose of the MPEL system's functionality.
- Contact Logged on users access the MDOT SHA contact information.
- Current User Shows user currently logged onto the system. (Only visible to logged on users.)
 - Register Opens the registration form used to enter vendor information and register users.
 - Log in Opens the Log in dialog used to log onto the system.
 - Log Off Logs a user off the system.
- Feature List Displays system features that are available to users from the MPEL Home Page.

REGISTERING A VENDOR AND CREATING A NEW ACCOUNT

Users cannot log onto MPEL unless vendors have completed the registration information.

- Access MPEL Home page from a web browser. (http://apps.roads.maryland.gov/MPEL)
- Click the Register link

click Log in link from MPEL Home and the **Register as a new user** link from Log in page. The Vendor Registration page appears.

- Enter the Vendor Information including the vendor name, address, country, phone number, fax number, and vendor/vendor representative's web address.
- Enter the Primary Representative Information including the name of the representative, and email address.
- 5 Enter the password to be used for this site and then re-enter the password to confirm.
- 6) Enter the representative's title and department.
- Click the Same as Vendor Information: □ checkbox to auto-fill the address, country, and phone/fax numbers with data provided in the Vendor Information area.
- Click the Register button (bottom of form) to process the new registration. An "Account Creation Success" message appears once the new user account is successfully created.

LOGGING ONTO MPEL

Once a vendor is registered and an account is created, users can log onto the system.

- Click the Log in link from the MPEL title bar.
- 2) Enter vendor's email address and password. Click Log in. The MPEL Home page re-appears.

LOGGING OFF MPEL

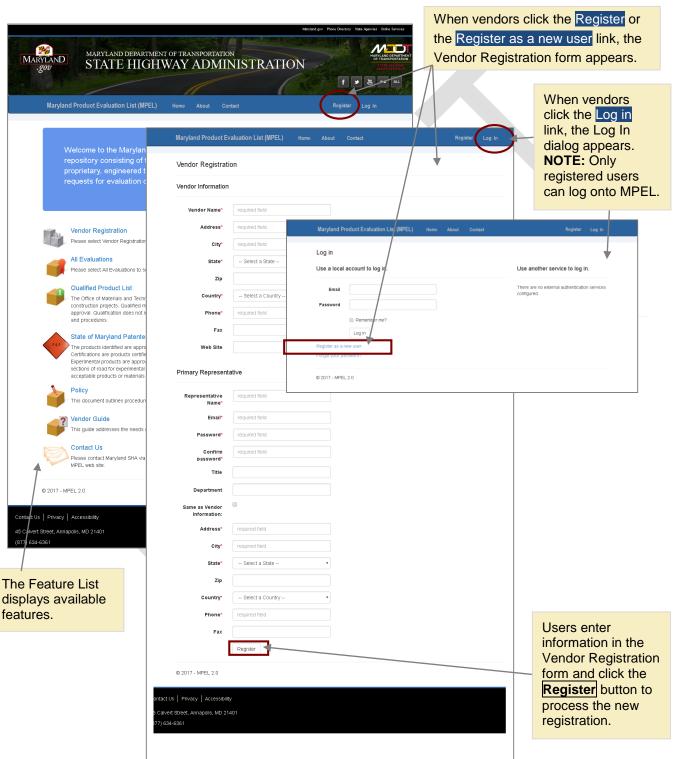
Vendor representatives can log off the system from any page containing MPEL title bar options.



Save your work as necessary.

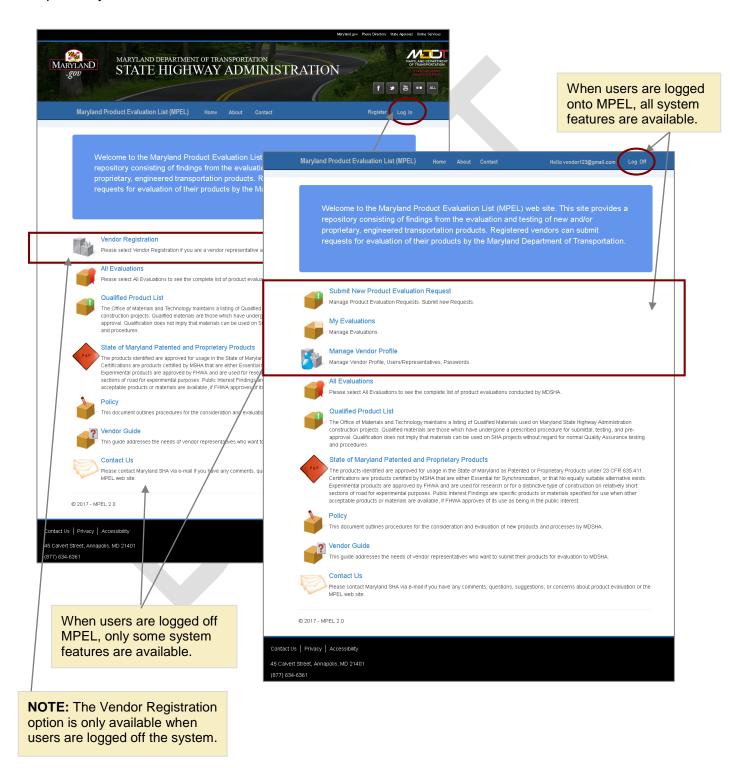


Click Log Off from title bar to exit application and click (X) to close browser window.



FEATURE LIST AND OTHER OPTIONS

MPEL provides users with methods for easy access to information. Users access the MPEL Internet Home page to submit New Product Evaluation Requests, manage Vendor Profiles, and access evaluations. In addition, vendor representatives can view the Qualified Product List, State of Maryland Patented and Proprietary Products, and Policy information. This section explores system features available to users, as well as identifies user roles and related tasks.



Users
must be
logged
onto
MPEL
to access
these
options.



Vendor Registration





My Evaluations



Manage Vendor Profile



All Evaluations



Qualified ProductList



State of Maryland Patented and Proprietary Products



- Click link to access the New Product Evaluation Request form where users enter manufacturer and product details and submit requests for new product evaluations.
- Click link to open the My Evaluations screen where users view product name, status, and action information and search for products.
- Click link to edit vendor account settings including vendor profile information, vendor representative information, vendor password, and external logins (if configured).
- Click link to access Search Evaluations dialog used to search from complete list of product evaluations conducted by MDOT SHA. Users search for evaluations by typing a few characters in the textboxes and selecting options from drop-down menus.
- Click link to access a comprehensive list of source materials (qualified products and producers of products) that have been submitted, tested, pre-approved for use on MDOT SHA construction projects. List includes links to contacts, material categories, and qualified products.
- Click link to open the State of Maryland list of Patented and Proprietary Products that have been approved for usage under 23 CFR 635.411. Please note the following information.
 - Certifications are products certified by MSHA that are either Essential for Synchronization or No equally suitable alternative exists.
 - Experimental Products are approved by FHWA and are used for research or for a distinctive type of construction on relatively short sections of road for experimental purposes.
 - Public Interest Findings are specific products or materials specified for use when other acceptable products or materials are available, if FHWA approved use for public interest.
- Click link to access the MDOT SHA New Products
 Committee Policy and Procedure document. Document
 outlines the procedures used to consider and evaluate
 new products and processes.
- Click link to view the MPEL Guide for Vendors and Vendor Representatives. The guide instructs vendors on how to submit products for MDOT SHA evaluation.
- Click link to email comments, questions, suggestions, or concerns about the product evaluation or MPEL Internet site to MDOT SHA.



Policy



Vendor Guide



Contact Us

VIEWING A LIST OF QUALIFIED PRODUCTS

Follow these steps to access the Department of Transportation State Highway Administration site and view a list of Qualified Producers and Products.



Access the MPEL Home page: http://apps.roads.maryland.gov/MPEL.



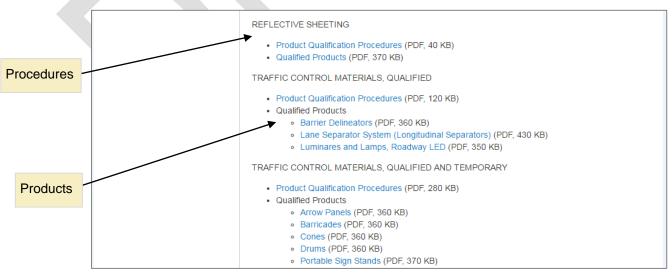
Click the **Qualified Product List** link. The Lists of Qualified Producers and Products information appears in a separate browser window.



Scroll down the page and click a **procedure** or **product** link to obtain more information.

NOTE: Be sure to close the tab (X) once you finish viewing procedure or product information.





VIEWING A LIST OF STATE OF MARYLAND PATENTED AND PROPRIETARY PRODUCTS

Follow these steps to open the State of Maryland Patented and Proprietary Products list. The list includes the Tracking Number, State, Basis of Approval, Product/Material, Product Category, Extent, Submittal Date, Approval and Expiration Date, and Comments fields.



Access the MPEL Home page: http://apps.roads.maryland.gov/MPEL.



Click the **State of Maryland Patented and Proprietary Products** link. A separate browser window containing a list of products appears.

NOTE: Be sure to click (X) to close window tab after viewing product information.

Tracking Number	State	Basis of Approval	Product/Material	Product Category	Extent	Submittal Date	Approval Date	Expiration Date	Comments
MD-1626	Maryland	Synchronization	Construction of the Bridge Replacement of Park Valley Road Bridge No.MPK-03	Bridge/Structural	Project Specific	11/30/2016	12/07/2016	End of Project	
MD-1625	MARYLAND	Synchronization	Gate Valves, double disc, sizes 16 inch through 48 inch for high working pressure applicationds	Equipment	Statewide	10/31/2016	11/10/2016	11/08/2019	
MD-1624	MARYLAND	Synchronization	Amerlock 2 Red Oxide Epoxy	Coating	Statewide	10/31/2016	11/10/2016	11/08/2019	
MD-1623	MARYLAND	Synchronization	Tnemec N 140-1211 epoxy	Coating	Statewide	10/31/2016	11/10/2016	11/08/2019	
MD-1622	MARYLAND	Synchronization	Mechanical Joint (Model No F-5067)	Equipment	Statewide	10/31/2016	11/10/2016	11/08/2019	

VIEWING POLICY AND PROCEDURE INFORMATION

Follow these steps to open the New Products Committee Policy and Procedure document. This document outlines the purpose and responsibilities of the office and committee members, and describes policies and procedures.



Access the MPEL Home page: http://apps.roads.maryland.gov/MPEL.



Click the **Policy** link. A page containing the New Products Committee Policy and Procedures appears.

NOTE: Be sure to click (X) to close window tab after viewing policy and procedure information.

MARYLAND STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION NEW PRODUCTS COMMITTEE POLICY AND PROCEDURE

PURPOSE:

The New Products Committee (NPC) provides a uniform procedure for the consideration and evaluation of new products and processes proposed for use in highways, bridges and incidental construction for the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA). The NPC will also recommend changes to the Administration's Specifications, Standards, Policies, and Procedures pertinent to the acceptance of new products and/or processes.

SCOPE OF AUTHORITY:

The NPC has authority to select, test, evaluate and make recommendations with respect to new products or processes as related to highways, bridges and incidental construction.

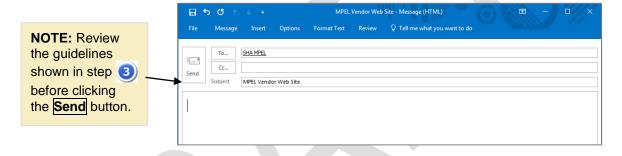
RESPONSIBILITY:

The NPC is responsible for deciding which new products and processes merit investigation and evaluation. The NPC will select the appropriate Office(s), Division(s), District(s) or Section(s) to carry out the investigation and/or evaluation of any products or processes to be considered, and coordinate the activities of these groups.

CONTACTING MDOT SHA VIA EMAIL

Users complete the steps below to email comments, questions, suggestions, or concerns about the product evaluation or the MPEL web site to the Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration.

- Access the MPEL Home page: http://apps.roads.maryland.gov/MPEL.
- Click the **Contact Us** link from the bottom of Feature List. A Microsoft Outlook email message addressed to SHA MPEL MPEL@sha.state.md.us opens in a new window.
- Follow these guidelines when contacting Maryland SHA by email.
 - Be sure to send your message to <u>SHA MPEL</u> < <u>MPEL@sha.state.md.us</u>>.
 - Include your name, position/title, office, and telephone number.
 - Take a minute to re-read your email for typographical errors and clarity of content before hitting the Send button.

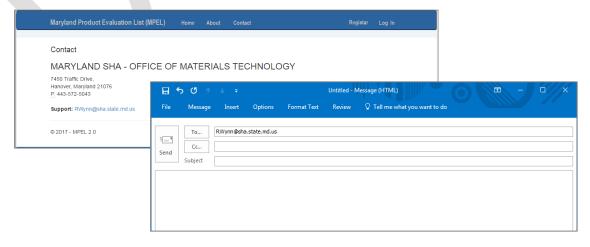


CONTACTING THE MDOT SHA OFFICE OF MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY

Users access this page to view Office of Materials Technology (OMT) information such as the contact's name, phone number(s), email and street addresses.

- Access the MPEL Home page: http://apps.roads.maryland.gov/MPEL.
- Log onto the system. Then, click the Contact link. The Contact page appears.

 Click the Support link to send an email to MDOT SHA Office of Materials Technology.



VIEWING THE ABOUT MPEL WEBSITE INFORMATION

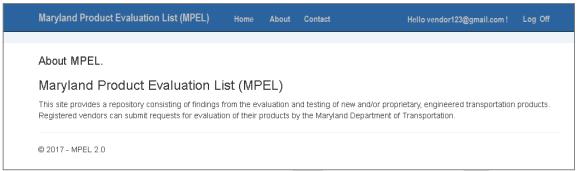
Users access this page to discover basic information about the MPEL website.



Access the MPEL Home page: http://apps.roads.maryland.gov/MPEL.



Click the About link. The About MPEL page appears.



Vendor & Vendor Representative Roles & Tasks

Users are granted access to MPEL system information based on their role. Once users log onto MPEL, they are authorized to perform various system tasks.

Vendors are companies that:

- Sell products developed by manufacturers.
- Access MPEL to register with MDOT SHA.
- Access MPEL to submit new evaluation requests, check the status of existing requests, and add or edit vendor representatives.

Vendor Representatives are company contacts who:

- Are liaisons between the vendors and the internal MDOT SHA users.
- Initiate the request process by submitting detailed Product Evaluation Applications.

ACCESSING THE MPEL GUIDE FOR VENDORS & VENDOR REPRESENTATIVES

A version of this guide is available online. The guide describes how to use routinely performed MPEL features. Follow these steps to view a copy of the vendor guide.

NOTE: Be sure to click (X) to close window tab after viewing the vendor guide.



Access the MPEL Home page: http://apps.roads.maryland.gov/MPEL.



Click the **Vendor Guide** link from bottom of Feature List. A PDF version of the guide appears in a new browser window.

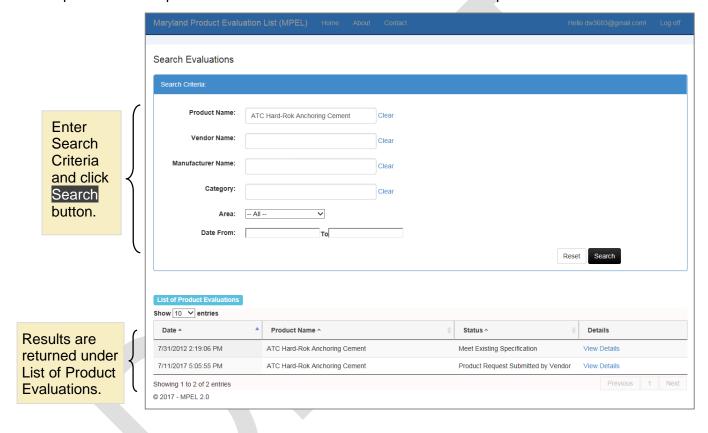


PRODUCT EVALUATIONS

This section describes the procedures users follow to search from a complete list of all product evaluations and view vendor evaluations. It also describes how to identify evaluation screen product statuses, access product request details, and submit new product evaluation requests.

SEARCHING FROM A LIST OF ALL EVALUATIONS

When non-logged on and logged on users click the All Evaluations link from the Home page, a Search Evaluations dialog appears. Users access this dialog to search for products and obtain product status information. If users type a few letters in either the product, vendor, manufacturer name, or category textboxes, a drop-down menu of options appears. Users can select an Area option from a drop-down menu and select Date From and Date To options from the calendar.



Follow these steps to search from a list of all available evaluations.

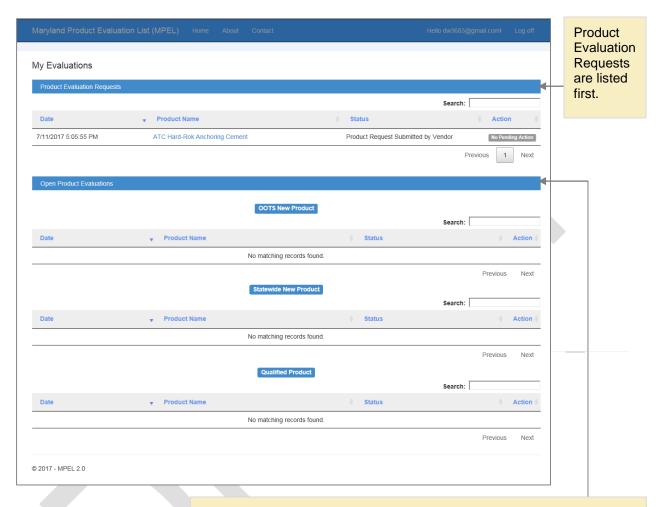
- Click the **All Evaluations** link from the MPEL Home page Feature List or
 - click the **All Evaluations** button from the Request Details screen.

The Search Evaluations dialog appears.

- Type a few letters of either the product, vendor, manufacturer or category name in text box and select an option from the drop-down menu.
- Select an option from the Area drop-down menu and Date From and Date To options from the calendar, if necessary.
- Click the Search button to process the search request. The results appear in the List of Product Evaluations located at the bottom of the Search Evaluations dialog.

SEARCHING FROM A LIST OF MY EVALUATIONS

When users click the My Evaluations link from the Home page, the My Evaluations screen appears. Users access the My Evaluations screen to view a list of their vendor's Product Evaluation Requests and Open Product Evaluations. Users also review status and action information, and can filter the list by searching for specific criteria.



The Open Product Evaluations are listed next and are categorized as OOTS New Product, Statewide New Product, and Qualified Product.

Follow these steps to access a list of vendor's evaluations, if available, after logging onto system.

NOTE: If a user is not registered or logged in, go to the <u>Registering a Vendor and Creating a</u> <u>New Account</u> section in this guide for information on how to register. Then, log onto MPEL.

- Click the **My Evaluations** link from the MPEL Home page Feature List, if registered and logged onto the system to view a list of vendor evaluations.
- Review the Evaluation Date, Product Name, Status, and Action information when the My Evaluations page appears.
- Type a few letters of either the product, vendor, manufacturer name, or category name in a Search text box to locate additional evaluations, as necessary.

Product Evaluation Requests

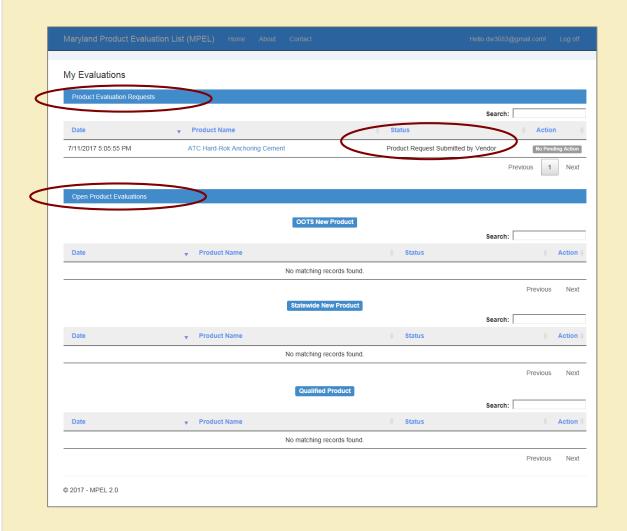
Logged on users view a list of Product Evaluation Requests that are displayed by date, product name, status, and action.

NOTE: Authorized users can accept or reject a vendor's Product Evaluation Request.

Open Product Evaluations

Logged on users view a list of Open Product Evaluations. The three subcategories of the Open Product Evaluations include OOTS New Product, Statewide New Product, and Qualified Product. Within the subcategories, products are listed by date, product name, status, and action.

- OOTS New Products have been evaluated by the Office of Traffic and Safety.
- Statewide New Products come from across the state of Maryland.
- Qualified Products have undergone the prescribed procedures including submission, testing, and pre-approval for use on MDOT SHA construction projects.



UNDERSTANDING EVALUATION SCREEN PRODUCT STATUSES

Product Evaluation Request and Open Product Evaluation statuses are listed below in alphabetical order.

Evaluation Statuses	<u>Description</u>
Additional Product Information Requested	 Product Sub-Coordinators have requested additional product information from the vendor representative.
Approved	- Request was approved by Product Coordinator.
Meet Existing Specification	 Request forwarded to Manager(s) for further processing.
Not Approved	- Request was not approved by Product Coordinator.
Awaiting Final Decision	 Request to perform field/laboratory evaluation assigned to Product Officer(s).
Product Request Accepted by Product Coordinator	- Product Coordinator accepted the Product Request.
Product Request Rejected by Product Coordinator	- Product Coordinator rejected the Product Request.
QPL Information Provided by Vendor	 Vendor submitted additional Qualified Product List (QPL) information.
Qualified Product Request Accepted by Product Coordinator	 Product Coordinator accepted the Qualified Product Request.
Qualified Product Request Rejected by Product Coordinator	 Product Coordinator rejected the Qualified Product Request.
Send Attachments to Vendor	- Vendor is mailed attachments.

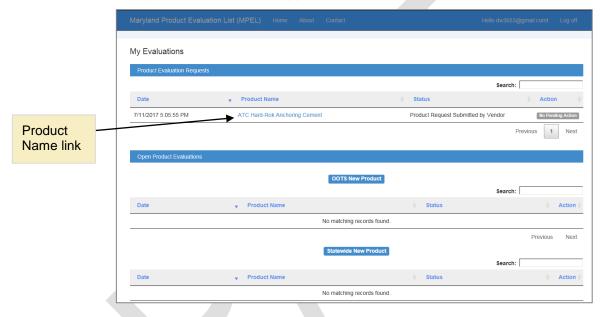
VIEWING PRODUCT REQUEST DETAILS

Users access the Request Details screen to view product information, evaluation status, and history information. Users open the screen from two areas within MPEL as described below.

My Evaluations Screen - Product Name Link

Users must be registered and logged on to access the My Evaluations screen.

- Olick the **My Evaluations** link from the MPEL Home page.
- Click the **Product Name** link on the row of the evaluation request or evaluation to be viewed. The Request Details screen appears.



All Evaluations/Search Evaluations Dialog - Details Link

Users can access the All Evaluations screen whether they are logged onto the system or not.

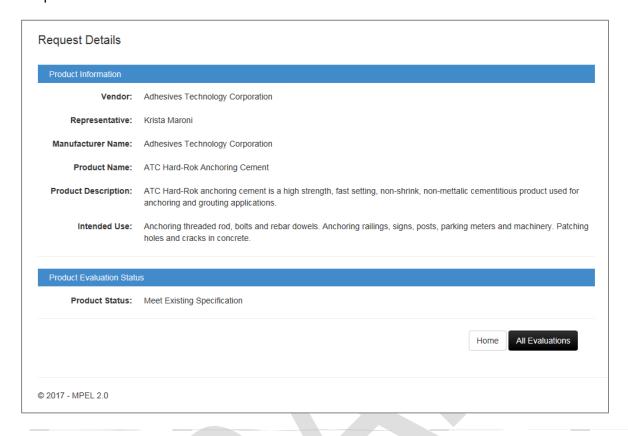
- Click the All Evaluations link to access the Search Evaluations dialog.
- Enter the Search Criteria in the textboxes, if necessary, and click Search to process the search request.
- Under the List of Product Evaluations Details column, click the **View Details** link on the row of the evaluation to be viewed. The Request Details screen appears.

 NOTE: Click All Evaluations to return to the All Evaluations page.



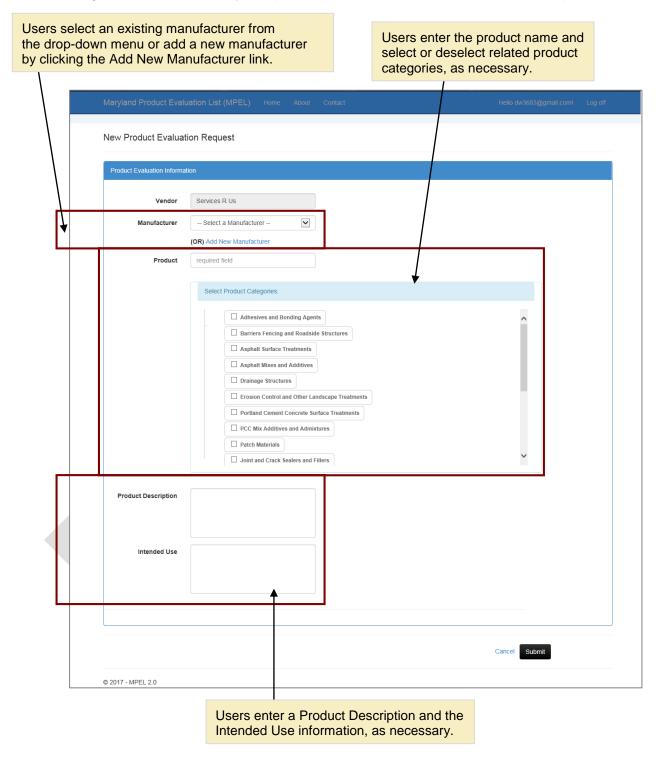
Maryland Product Evaluation List Guide for Vendors & Vendor Representatives

Request Details Screen



SUBMITTING NEW PRODUCT EVALUATION REQUESTS

When vendors want to add new product evaluation requests for existing or new manufacturers and existing or new products, they complete the online New Product Evaluation Requests Form.



Follow these steps to complete a new product evaluation request.



Access the MPEL Home page: http://apps.roads.maryland.gov/MPEL.

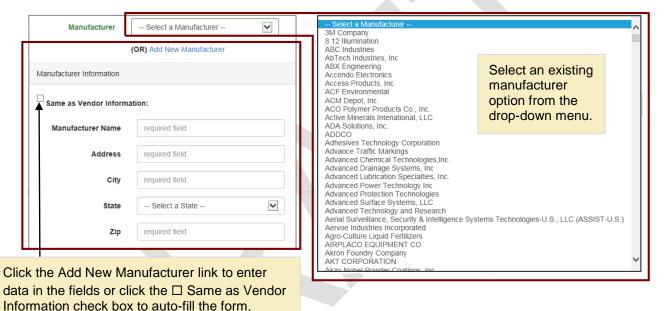


Click the **Submit New Product Evaluation Request** link. The New Product Evaluation Request form appears.



Choose an existing manufacturer by clicking the -- Select a Manufacturer – which down arrow and selecting an option from the list or

click the **(OR) Add New Manufacturer** link to enter manufacturer information by either completing all the Vendor Information form fields or clicking the ☑ Same as Vendor Information checkbox to automatically fill the form with vendor's name, address, country, contact, and website information.

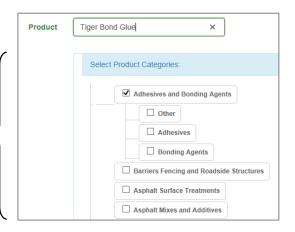


- 4
- Enter a product name in the **Product** text box.
- 5

Select or deselect options from the Select Product Categories list.

When users select a product category, subcategories are selected automatically.

NOTE: Be sure to deselect unneeded Product subcategories on the list.





Enter the Product Description and Intended Use information, as necessary.

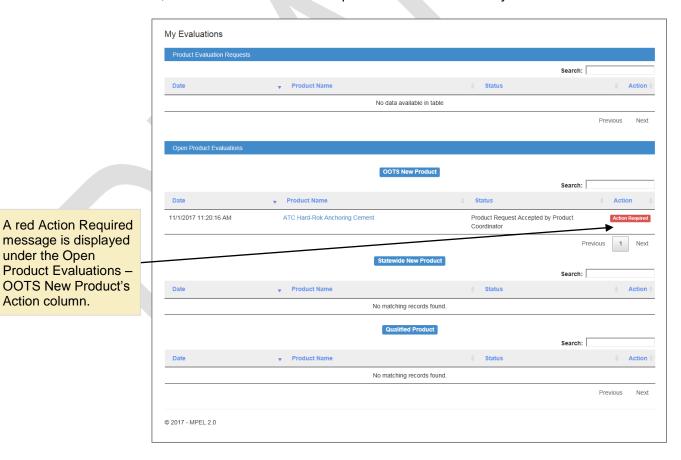
The Product Description and Intended Use textboxes are Required fields.

NOTE: Required fields are outlined in red when input is required. Unless users enter information in all Required fields, the form will not be saved. Once users enter information in Required fields, the textboxes are outlined in green.



Click Submit to process the New Product Evaluation Request form.

NOTE: Once the new product evaluation request is reviewed and accepted by a product coordinator, vendors can review the request's status from the My Evaluations screen.

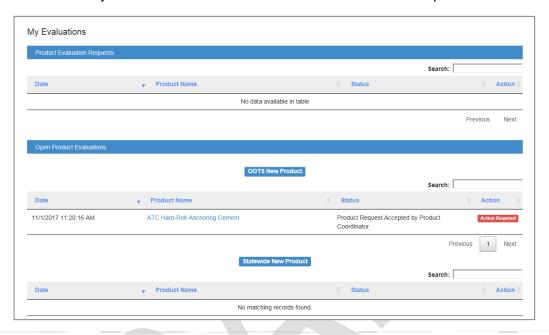


SUBMITTING A DETAILED PRODUCT EVALUATION APPLICATION

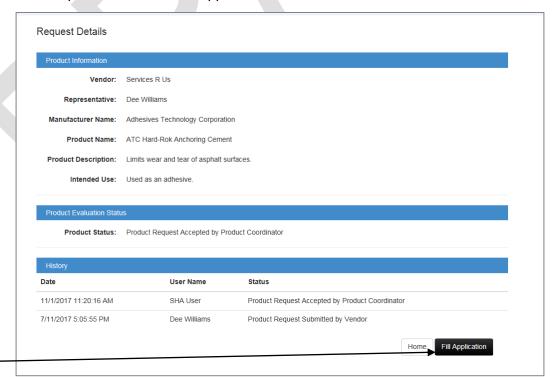
Once the new product evaluation request is reviewed and accepted by a product coordinator, vendor must complete and submit a Detailed Product Evaluation application. Follow these steps to complete a Detailed Product Evaluation Application.



Access the My Evaluations screen to determine if an action is required.



Click the **Product Name** link on the row of the open product. The Request Details screen appears.

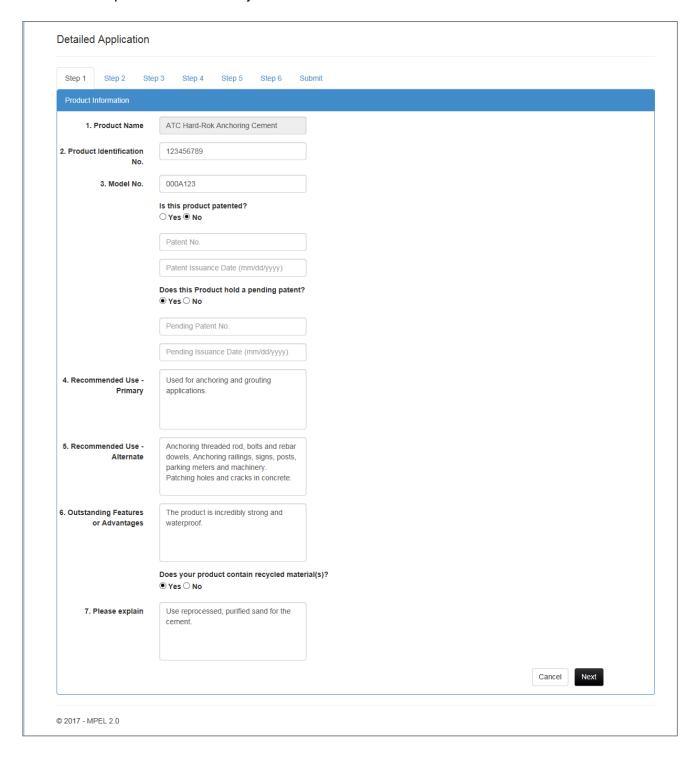




Click the Fill Application button to open the Detailed Product Evaluation Application form. The first page of the six-page form displaying the Product Information Tab appears.

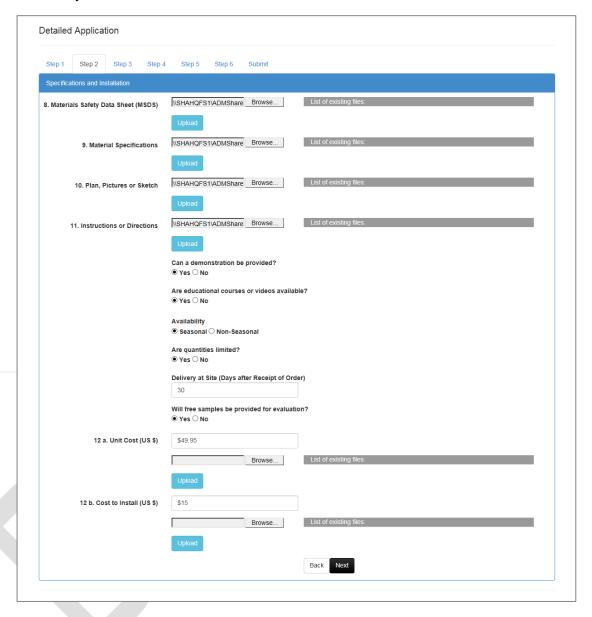


Enter product information including product name, ID#, model, patent, and recommended use content, if applicable. Enter outstanding features or advantages information and indicate if the product contains recycled materials.



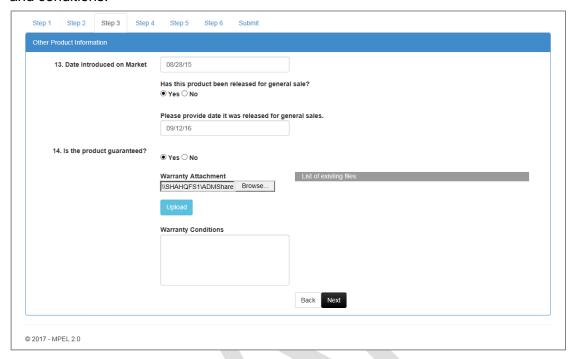


Select the Step 2 Specifications and Installation tab to open the next page of the application form. Upload material and specification information; images of plan, picture, or sketch; and instructions and cost information. Answer questions as necessary.



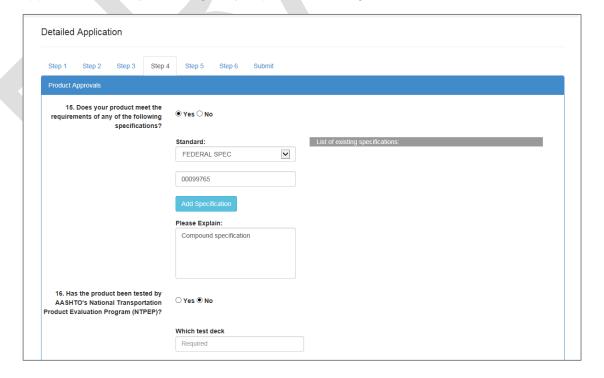


Select the Step 3 Other Product Information tab to open the next page of the application form. Enter and upload other information to describe how and when the product was introduced to market, as well as information on the product guarantee and conditions.

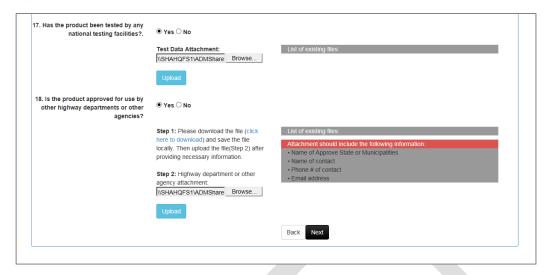


Select the Step 4 Product Approvals tab to open the next page of the application form.

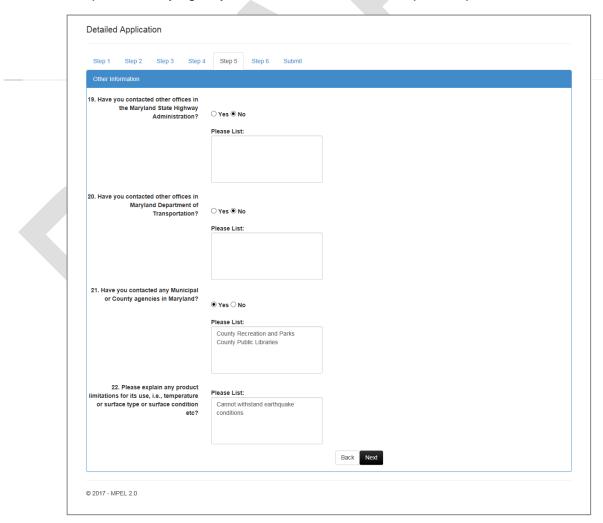
Enter product approvals information on specification requirements, testing, and approval for use by other highway departments or agencies.



(Step 4 - continued)

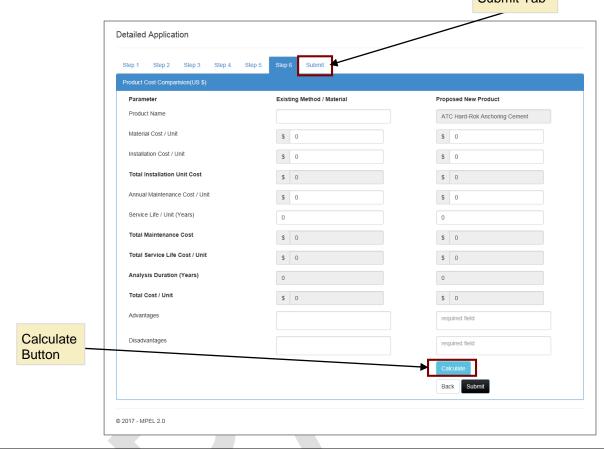


Select the Step 5 Other Information tab to open the next page of the application form. Enter company information such as the names of other MDOT, MDOT SHA, Maryland municipal or county agency office contacts, and a description of product limitations.

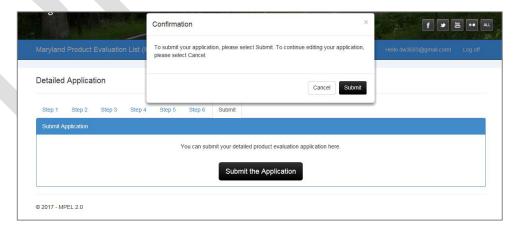


Select the Step 6 Product Cost Comparison (US \$) tab to open the next page of the application form. Enter the product cost comparison (US \$) between existing methods or materials and the proposed new product.

Submit Tab



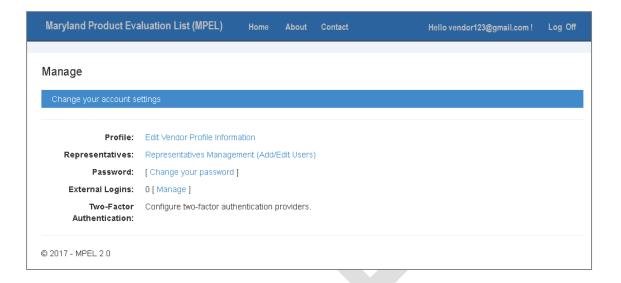
- Click the Calculate button to compare the products and then click the Submit tab to process the Detailed Product Evaluation Application.
- Click the Submit the Application button. A submit confirmation dialog appears.



Click Submit. The Maryland.Gov page appears. or click Cancel to continue editing the application.

VENDOR PROFILES, USERS/REPRESENTATIVES, AND PASSWORDS

Vendors click the Manage Vendor Profile link to modify profile information, add and edit user representatives, and change user passwords.



Profile: Edit Vendor Profile Information

Users click the link to change vendor name, address, phone, and web information.

Representatives: Representatives Management (Add/Edit Users)

Users click the link to access the List of Users dialog used to search for and view user information, add a representative, and edit existing representative information.

Password: [Change your password]

Users click the link to access the Change Password form used to modify user passwords.

External Logins: 0 [Manage]

Users click the link to access the Manage your external logins message that notifies users of the configured external authentication services status.

Two-Factor Authentication: Configure two-factor authentication providers

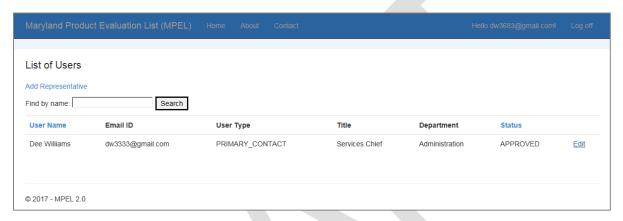
NOTE: This option is not applicable to users.

Adding a Vendor Representative Profile

Follow these procedures to enter vendor representative profile information.

- Access the MPEL Home page: http://apps.roads.maryland.gov/MPEL.
- Click the **Manage Vendor Profile** link. The Manage screen appears.
- Click the Representatives Management (Add/Edit Users) link.

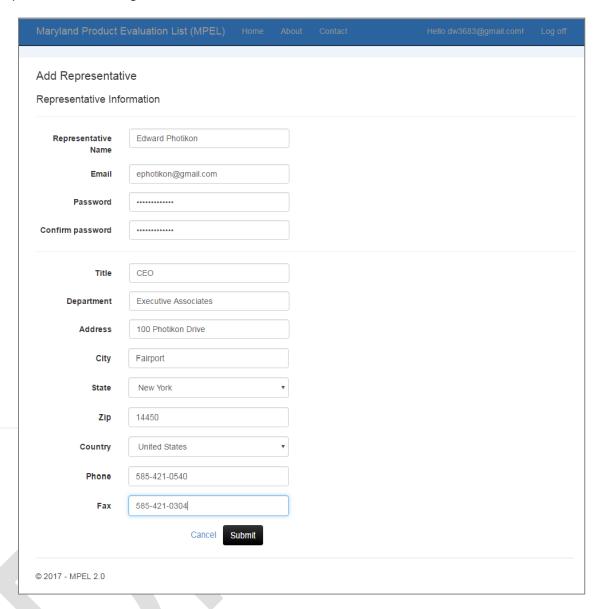
The List of Users screen appears.



- Click the Add Representative link.
- Enter the representative's name, email address, and password. Then, re-enter the password to confirm.
- 6 Enter the representative's title and department.
- Enter the address, city, and zip code.
- 8 Select the state and country from the drop-down menus.
- Enter the phone and fax numbers.
- Click Submit to process the changes.

Maryland Product Evaluation List Guide for Vendors & Vendor Representatives

Add Representative Dialog

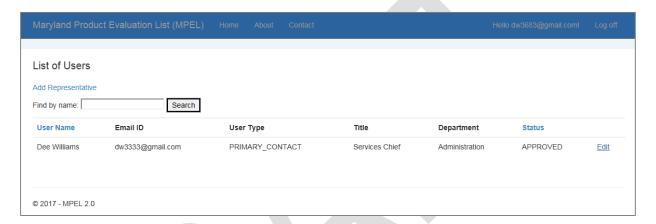


EDITING A VENDOR REPRESENTATIVE PROFILE

Follow these procedures to change vendor representative profile information.

- Access the MPEL Home page: http://apps.roads.maryland.gov/MPEL.
- Click the **Manage Vendor Profile** link. The Manage screen appears.
- Click Representatives Management (Add/Edit Users) link.

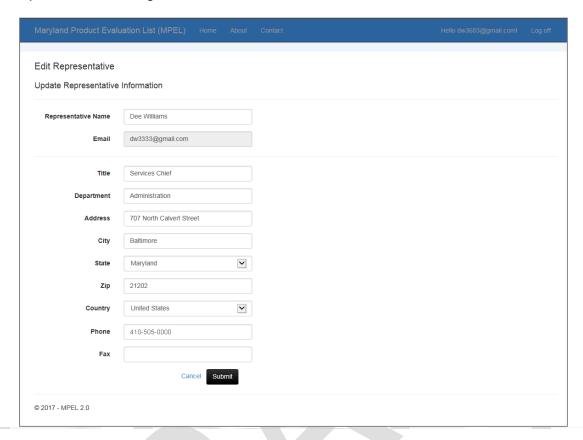
The List of Users screen appears.



- Click Edit link on the row of the representative's profile to be updated.
- Update the representative's name and email address, if necessary.
- Update the representative's title and department, if necessary.
- Update the address, city, and zip code, if necessary.
- 8 Select the state and country from the drop-down menus, if necessary.
- Update the phone and fax numbers, if necessary.
- Click Submit to process the changes.

Maryland Product Evaluation List Guide for Vendors & Vendor Representatives

Edit Representative Dialog

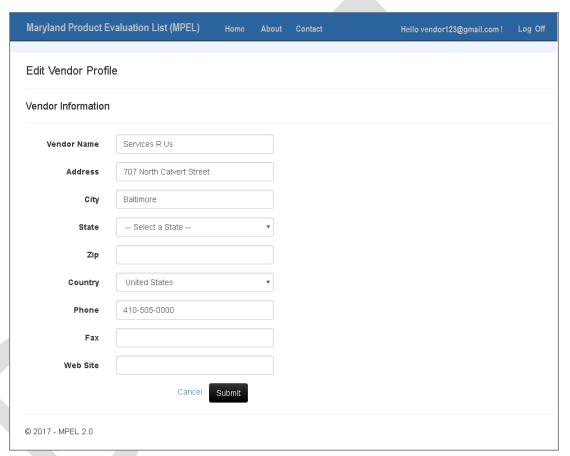


EDITING VENDOR PROFILE INFORMATION

Follow these procedures to edit vendor profile information.

- Access the MPEL Home page: http://apps.roads.maryland.gov/MPEL.
- Click the **Manage Vendor Profile** link.
 The Manage screen appears.
- Click the Edit Vendor Profile Information link.

The Edit Vendor Profile dialog appears.



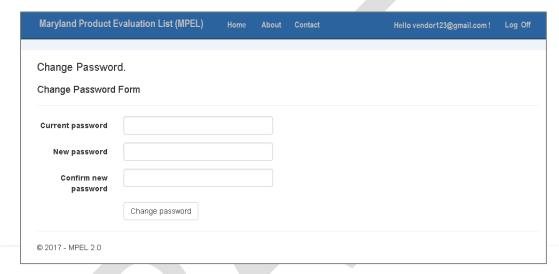
- Change the vendor's name, if necessary.
- Change the address, city, and zip code information, if necessary.
- 6) Select the state and country from the drop-down menus, if necessary.
- Change the phone and fax numbers, and web address, if necessary.
- (8) Click Submit to process the changes.

CHANGING USER PASSWORDS

Follow these procedures to modify user passwords.

- Access the MPEL Home page: http://apps.roads.maryland.gov/MPEL.
- Click the **Manage Vendor Profile** link. The Manage screen appears.
- Click the Change your password link.

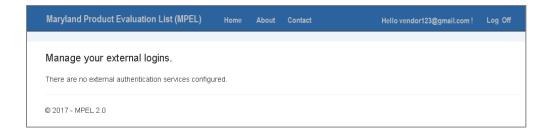
The Change Password dialog appears.



- Enter your current password.
- Enter the new password.
- 6 Re-enter the new password to confirm.
- Click the Change password button to process the new password.

MANAGING EXTERNAL LOGINS

This option is not applicable to users.



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Index

A	1				
About MPEL, 9	List of Patented and Proprietary Products, 7				
Access	List of Qualified Products, 6				
All Evaluations, 11					
MPEL Home Page, 1	M				
Product Request Details, 14, 19	MD Patented & Proprietary Products, 7				
Vendor Guide (Online Version), 9	MPEL				
C	About, 9				
Contact/Contact Us	Guide for Vendors & Vendor Reps, 9				
MDOT SHA Office of Materials	Log Off, 3				
Technology (OMT), 8	Log On, 1, 2				
Via Email, 8	Online Vendor Guide, 9 Overview, 1				
Create New Account, 2	Title Bar Options, 2				
D					
Detailed Product Evaluation Application, 19	P				
Step 1 Product Information, 20	Patented & Proprietary Products List, 7				
Step 2 Specifications & Installion, 21	Policy & Procedure Document, 7				
Step 3 Other Product Information, 22	Product Evaluations				
Step 4 Product Approvals, 22	Access Product Request Details, 14, 19 Product Statuses, 13				
Step 5 Other Information, 23	Submit Product Evaluation Requests, 17				
Step 6 Product Cost Comparison, 24	Product Request Details, 14, 19				
E					
Evaluations	Q				
All Evaluations, 11	Qualified Product List, 6				
My Evaluations, 14	R				
Open Product, 12	Registering a Vendor, 2				
Requests, 12	т				
F	Title Bar, 2				
Features	U				
List of Qualified Producers & Products, 6	User Roles & Tasks, 9				
Policy and Procedures, 7					
Sending Comments, 8	V				
State Patented/Proprietary Products, 7	Vendor Guide, 9				
Н	Vendor Profile Information, 25				
Home Page	Add Vendor Representative, 26				
Access, 1	Change User Password, 31				
Components, 1	Edit Representative, 28 Edit Vendor Profile, 30				
	Manage External Logins, 31				
	Mariage External Logins, 51				

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