



Deliverable 2.1:

Report summarizing key information



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant agreement No 847043



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INTRODUCTION TO THE PROJECT

BELT – Boost Energy Label Take up – is a project funded by EU Horizon 2020 program which aims to promote the uptake of more efficient energy-related products .

BELT has the objective to facilitate the transition period from the old energetic label to the new one, informing and supporting all stakeholders, and to reduce to a minimum errors at all levels of the value chain from manufacturer to consumer.

Regulation (EU) 2017/1369 aims to promote the uptake of more efficient energy-related products, repealing Directive 2010/30/EU and the first Directive 92/75/EEC.

The EU energy label has been designed to provide consumers with accurate, recognizable and comparable information regarding energy consumption, performance and other essential characteristics of domestic household products.

It allows consumers to identify how energy efficient a product really is and how to assess a product's potential to reduce costs related to energy consumption.

Currently, products are labelled on a scale of A+++ (most efficient) to G (least efficient). In a consumer survey, it emerged that about 85% of European citizens always look at the energy label before buying a product, however, the current one (scale from A+++ to G) is difficult to understand considering that the higher classes are densely populated. Therefore, the label is to be 'rescaled' (scale from A to G): a product showing an A+++ energy efficiency class will, for example, become a B class after rescaling, without any change in its energy consumption. The most efficient class (class A) will initially be left empty to leave room for more energy efficient models. This initiative, combined with eco-design rules, could save 200 TWh of energy annually, which is equivalent to all the energy consumed by the Baltic countries in a year.

The BELT project has the following three main goals:

- to facilitate the transition period to the new rescaled label, informing and training all principal stakeholders and market actors
- to stimulate consumers to choose better energy performing products
- to stimulate manufacturers to research and to further improve their products, thus, stimulating innovation and investment.

The BELT project focus area is buildings a low carbon climate resilient future and shares common objectives with UN SDGs on Carbon Neutrality and Climate Resilience. On the supply side, BELT fosters a cleaner and more performant generation technologies which are better integrated in various levels of the energy system, and, on the demand side, enables consumers to play a more active role in the energy transition.



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Expected Results

- Thanks to BELT, the transition process to the new rescaled label will be more easily performed providing training and technical guidance to manufacturers, distributors and retailers. Confusion and errors among consumers and public and business procurement staff will be avoided through clear, bespoke and targeted communication campaigns.
- BELT will create targeted communication campaigns for all stakeholders, it will organize workshops and events and it will develop training activities.
- The excellence of BELT stems from its multidisciplinary expertise and geographical coverage, being able to reach 20 million European stakeholders and 4.400 market actors.

TARGET GROUPS

BELT has the ambitious mission to support all the most relevant stakeholders and market actor as described in Figure 1:

- Consumers
- Public procurement personnel (PPP) and business procurement personnel (BPP)
- Retailers and distributors
- Manufacturers



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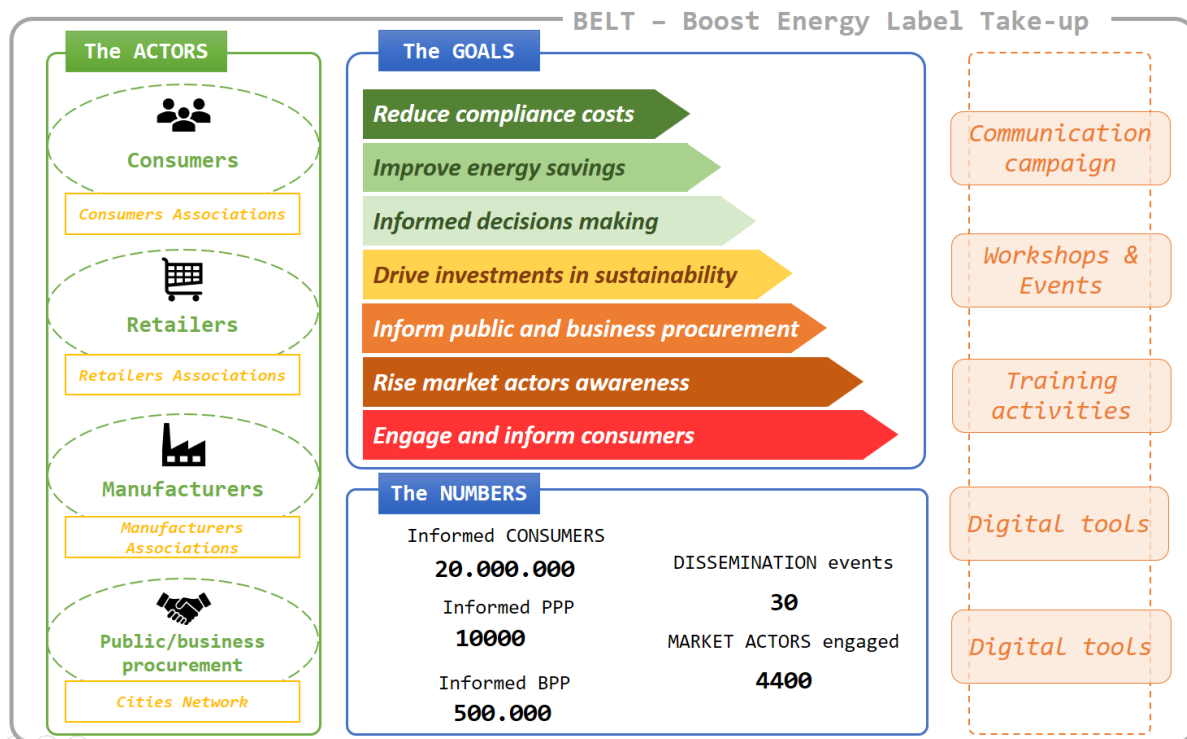


Figure 1 BELT in a nutshell

Five consumer organizations in the five primary target countries will assure this beacon role. BEUC and its linked third parties will assure maximum outreach to consumers in the secondary target countries and in Europe.

This important objective will be carried out not only by consumer organizations but also by:

- retailers such as SONAE and energy providers A2A from whom the consortium has received letters of support. Retailers are in fact in daily contact with the end buyers of products. They are all committed to use their online and offline means to inform consumers.
- CMBO and other European cities together with ICLEI, that have the capacity to activate and inform millions of adult citizens and train public procurement networks.
- Manufacturers' repair and service networks are able to provide another angle to reach consumers: APPLIA Members can leverage more than 4.000 companies providing repair and after sales services across the EU.

BEUC will assure that the rescale implementation gets enough attention in the European and national political agenda and share best practices.





MAIN MESSAGES & CONTENT

In order to have an efficient communication plan, AE started gathering relevant information linked to products, norms, labels, calculation methods and previous experience.

AE also asked to all the partners involved in the BELT project to gather from their specific target the main FAQ's they had about the new energy label. This allows the project partners to have an initial point for their communication. Here below the key information gathered:

WEBSITES

<http://www.newenergylabel.com/index.php/start/>

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/homepage.html>

<https://www.theenergylabel.eu/>

NORMS

1. FIRST RESCALED PRODUCTS¹

1.1. Background and direct links to the regulations

In 2017, the EU institutions agreed on a new Energy labelling framework, or Regulation (EU) [2017/1369](#), going back to the close A-G scale. This framework provides the general line for the new label and request the European Commission to put forward delegated regulations in the future to detail product group by product group how this new label will be rescaled and implemented.

As a consequence, the European Commission adopted in 2019, a first batch of delegated regulations: 6 energy labelling regulations. Please find below the direct links to these regulations published in the Official Journal of the European Union:

- Regulation [\(EU\) 2019/2013](#) – energy labelling for displays
- Regulation [\(EU\) 2019/2014](#) – energy labelling for washing machines
- Regulation [\(EU\) 2019/2015](#) – energy labelling for light sources
- Regulation [\(EU\) 2019/2016](#) – energy labelling for fridges
- Regulation [\(EU\) 2019/2017](#) – energy labelling for dishwashers
- Regulation [\(EU\) 2019/2018](#) – energy labelling for refrigerated appliances with a direct sales function

Note:

¹ Dishwashers, washing machines, fridges, televisions, light sources.

Or meaning a revision of: Commission Delegated Regulations (EU) No 1059/2010 [\(15\)](#), (EU) No 1060/2010 [\(16\)](#), (EU) No 1061/2010 [\(17\)](#), (EU) No 1062/2010 [\(18\)](#) and (EU) No 874/2012 [\(19\)](#) and Directive 96/60/EC



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- *Adoption in the Official Journal means that it becomes law. The text therefore cannot be changed, and we can count on this information.*
- *In annexes, you'll find the actual requirements including the design of the label*
- *FYI - BEUC has not been working on the latter as these are commercial products, but I include it as well for the sake of comprehensiveness.*

1.2. Timeline

The Energy labelling framework, or Regulation (EU) [2017/1369](#), foresees a rescaling timeline in three waves of products, i.e. in shops by 2020, 2025 and 2030. First the first wave of products that you can see below, the European Commission encountered delays and the actual date (the one we as consortium need to take into account) is one year later. More specifically:

- Displays: 1 March 2021
- Washing machines: 1 March 2021
- Light sources: 1 September 2021
- Fridges (household): 1 March 2021
- Dishwashers: 1 March 2021
- Fridges (commercial): 1 March 2021

2. SECOND WAVE OF RESCALED PRODUCTS²

According to the Energy labelling framework, those products must be rescaled no later than February 2025 (in shops).

While we have clarity for the 'first wave' of products to be rescaled (see section 1), it is less straightforward for the 'second wave' of products as the European Commission is still working on it. Still, I provide you with an overview of the timeline – which should be taken with a pinch of salt as delays, etc might still appear.

- Tumble driers: 1 June 2022
- Vacuum cleaners: 1 Mars 2023
- Air conditioners and comfort fans: 1 January 2022

3. THIRD WAVE OF RESCALED PRODUCTS³

² The second wave of product are basically all those covered under the Energy label, except for those in the 'first wave' (fast track) or in the 'third wave' (slow track)

³ Space and water heaters, more specifically product groups covered by Delegated Regulations (EU) No 811/2013, (EU) No 812/2013 and (EU) 2015/1187

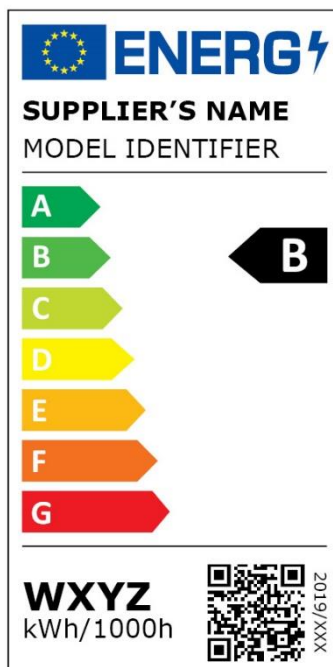




According to the Energy labelling framework, those products must be rescaled no later than February 2025 (in shops), those products must be rescaled no later than 2 August 2030 (in shops). The work has not yet started.

KEY MESSAGES

- **Labels comparison (new and old) for each type of domestic appliance :**
 - **Common elements in all new labels**



The common elements in all labels are:

- **The scale from A to G:** The objectives of this legislation are in line with the Circular Economy policy, which aims to provide better information to consumers, thus enabling informed choices at purchase. The current review of the energy label mainly aimed to revert back to a simpler tool: the “A to G” energy label scale that is well understood by consumers. Very aggressive re-scaling A to G, with A class very difficult to reach (G class immediate phase out at time of introduction (2021); F class phase out three years later (2024), very impacting for all categories).

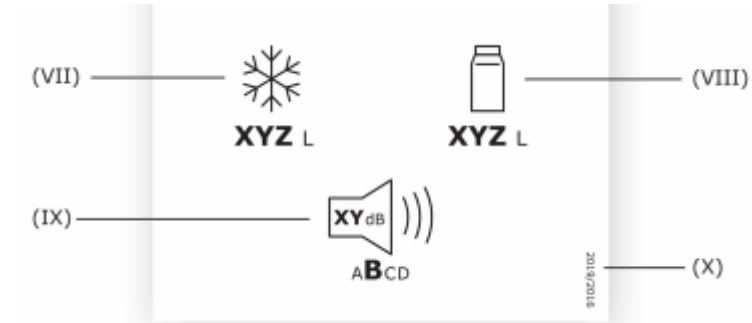
- **The indication of the Kwh**

- **The QR code:** the matrix bar code that appears on the energy label of a product model and which refers to the model information contained in the public part of the product database (ex. product registration number).

Consumers will be able to get additional, official (non-commercial) information by scanning the code with a common smartphone.

- **New symbols**
REFRIGERATORS APPLIANCES:
 - Symbols description





VII. — the sum of the volumes of the frozen compartment(s), expressed in litres and rounded to the nearest integer; 5.12.2019 EN Official Journal of the European Union L 315/113 — if the refrigerating appliance does not contain frozen compartment(s) the pictogram and the value in litres in VII shall be omitted;

VIII. — the sum of the volumes of the chill compartment(s) and the unfrozen compartment(s), expressed in litres and rounded to the nearest integer; — if the refrigerating appliance does not contain unfrozen compartment(s) and chill compartment(s) the pictogram and the value in liters in VIII shall be omitted;

IX. airborne acoustical noise emissions, expressed in dB(A) re 1 pW and rounded to the nearest integer.

X. the number of this Regulation, that is '2019/2016'.

- **Kwh**

VI. annual energy consumption (AE), expressed in kWh per year and rounded to the nearest integer.

(VI) — **XYZ kWh/annum**

DISHWASHERS:

- **Symbols description**

VII. rated capacity in standard place settings, for the eco programme;

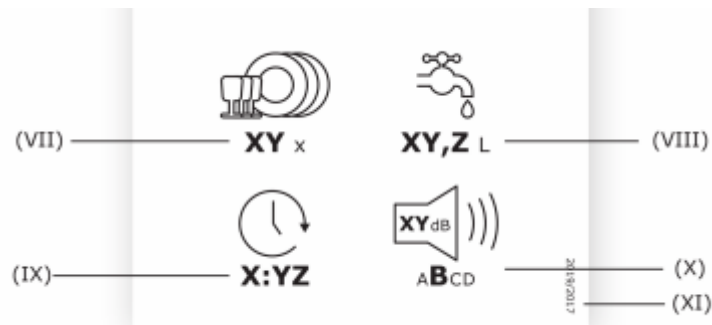
VIII. eco programme water consumption (EPWC) in liters per cycle, rounded to one decimal place;

IX. duration of the eco programme in h:min rounded to the nearest minute;

X. airborne acoustic noise emissions expressed in dB(A) with respect to 1 pW and rounded to the nearest integer, and airborne acoustic noise emission class

XI. the number of this Regulation, that is '2019/2017'.





- **Kwh**

VI. eco programme energy consumption (EPEC) in kWh per 100 cycles, rounded to the nearest integer;



WASHING MACHINES:

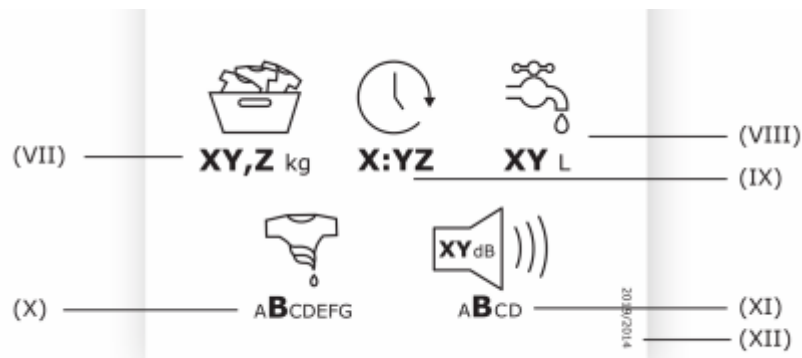
- **Symbols description**

VII. rated capacity, in kg, for the eco 40-60 programme;

VIII. weighted water consumption per cycle in litres, rounded to the nearest integer

IX. duration of the eco 40-60 programme at rated capacity in h:min rounded to the nearest minute;

X. Spin-drying efficiency class





- **Kwh:**
VI. weighted energy consumption per 100 cycles in kWh, rounded to the nearest integer


(VI) ——— **XYZ kWh /** 



WASHER-DRIERS:

- **Symbols description**

(VIII) ——— **XY,Z kg**  **XY,Z kg** ——— (VIII)

(IX) ——— **XYL**  **XYL** ——— (IX)

X:YZ  **X:YZ** ——— (X)

(XI) ——— **A^BCDEFG**  **XY^{dB}**  **A^BCD** ——— (XII)
2019/2014 ——— (XIII)

- VIII. rated capacity for the complete cycle (on the left side) and for the washing cycle (on the right side);
- IX. weighted water consumption per cycle in litre, rounded to the nearest integer for the complete cycle (on the left side) and for the washing cycle (on the right side);
- X. cycle duration at rated capacity for the complete cycle (on the left side) and for the washing cycle (on the right side);
- XI. Spin-drying efficiency class,
- XII. airborne acoustic noise emission class of the spinning phase of the eco 40-60 programme and value in dB(A) re 1 pW and rounded to the nearest integer;
- XIII. the number of this Regulation, that is '2019/2014'

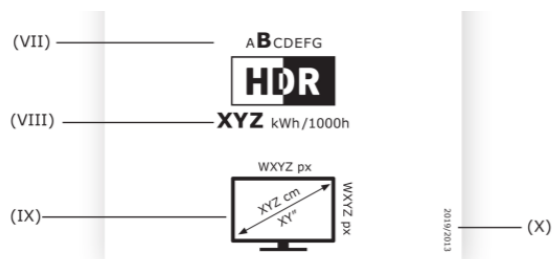
- **Kwh**
VI. weighted energy consumption per 100 cycles in kWh, rounded to the nearest integer, for the complete cycle (on the left side)
VII. weighted energy consumption per 100 cycles in kWh, rounded to the nearest for the washing cycle (on the right side)

(VI) ———  **XYZ kWh/**  | **XYZ kWh/**  ——— (VII)



ELECTRONIC DISPLAYS:

- **Symbols description**



VII. the energy efficiency class determined when using $P_{measuredHDR}$;

VIII. the on mode energy consumption in kWh per 1 000 h, when playing HDR content, rounded to the nearest integer;

IX. visible screen diagonal in centimetres and inches and horizontal and vertical resolution in pixels;

X. the number of this Regulation, that is '2019/2013'.

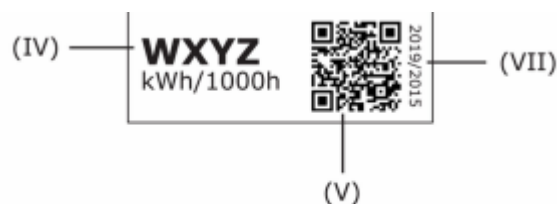
- **Kwh**



VI. on mode energy consumption in kWh per 1 000 h, when playing SDR content, rounded to the nearest integer;

LAMPS:

- **Kwh**



IV. the energy consumption, expressed in kWh of electricity consumption per 1 000 hours, of the light source in on-mode;

V. QR-code;

VI. the energy efficiency class in accordance with Annex II; VII. the number of this Regulation that is '2019/2015'.





B. GENERAL INFORMATION

- **What kind of product are covered by the label?**

The Commission has adopted the final format and visual identity of new energy efficiency labels for 6 product groups. Product groups of household appliances with "rescaled" labels:

- 1) dishwashers;
- 2) washing machines and washer-driers;
- 3) refrigerators, including wine storage fridges;
- 4) lighting source;
- 5) electronic displays, including televisions monitors and digital signage displays.

A new labelling product group for refrigerating appliances with a direct sales function used in shops and vending machines:

- 6) "commercial fridges"

- **When will customers see the new labels in stores?**

Reg. UE 2019/2016 shall enter into force 1st March 2021 for refrigerators, washing machines and washer-dryers, dishwashers and electronic displays. It shall enter into force also for lamps by 1st September 2021. Once the new labels are implemented, further rescaling will be triggered by a significant number of products falling into the 2-top classes: either 30% in class A or 50% in both classes A and B. A second criterion is further technological developments to be expected.

- **From when manufacturers have to apply the new label on domestic appliances?**

From November 2020 suppliers must ensure that each product including in the rescaling, is accompanied by a label printed in the new format (although having to present both labels, the new label must not be displayed), and that the parameters contained in the product information sheet are entered in the database products that is linked to the QR code printed on the new labels.

FAQ's

CONSUMERS

1. Why some products still have the "+" classes?

Firstly, there are products that will still be under the "old" energy label scheme (the one with "+"). This said, only five products (four appliances and LED lights) will be now evolved into the new A-G scheme, starting from the 1st of March 2021 onwards. Remaining products not contemplated by this change, at this point, will be evolved in a future timeframe. Secondly, or the four appliances under this energy label rescale operation, it is possible that products





display the old and the new label at the same time. For example, only products intended to be sold after the 1st of March 2021 onwards (and therefore to have a real market presence from that day onwards) will have the new label calculated and displayed after the 15-day transition period from the 1st March 2021. This means that after that date, one may find a “new” appliance with the new label and a remaining stock of “old” appliances with the old label, on store display.

2. How do I compare an old product from in class A+ with the same product on sale from 2021 in class C?

The revised framework reverts to an “A to G” labelling scale, thus doing away with the additional A+ and higher classes. Comparing both the old and the new energy label is, however, not possible: the way the overall energy efficiency level is determined for all of the involved products differs, rendering a direct comparison between the two labels impossible. However, comparability remains possible within the same energy label generation and product specification – for example, it is still possible to compare the energy labels for the appliances with the same technical specifications.

3. How does the normative calculate the different classes?

Using the old energy label scheme as a starting point, the new energy label refines the testing procedures and calculation algorithms, being more up-to-date with the current and future product’s capabilities, features and operating modes. All of this using harmonised standards, or other reliable, accurate and reproducible methods.

4. How are the savings calculated?

Products are tested on laboratorial controlled conditions, under specific and well determined operating conditions and several variables are measured: inventory items, energy and water consumption, noise... These variables are then fed into mathematical algorithms that calculate a “combined” energy efficiency index that will translate in energy efficiency classes.

5. What’s happening in my country?

Reg. UE 2019/2016 shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

6. How much do I save with an appliance in class A compared to an A+, A++ or A+++ product?

It’s impossible to clearly say how much one would save if moving from an energy class on the old to another on the new energy label scheme – remember that the calculations behind each energy label generation are dramatically different. On the other side, one





should compare each energy label (old and new) and extract the necessary information to help supporting the simulations for yearly consumption for each appliance.

7. When will customers see the new label in stores?

Reg. UE 2019/2016 shall enter into force 1st March 2021 for the four appliances. After the 1st of November 2020, appliances made available on the market need to have the new energy label provided inside the package. LED lights will be in full force by the 1st September 2021.

8. What additional information will the new labels provide?

Depending on the product, the energy labels will display not only electricity consumption, but also other energy and non-energy information, with intuitive pictograms, to compare products and perform a better-informed purchase choice: information about water used per washing cycle, storing capacity, noise emitted, etc. A new element in these labels is a QR code with which consumers will be able to get additional, official (non-commercial) information by scanning the code with a common smartphone.

9. Why the move towards a single 'A to G' energy label?

The objectives of this legislation are in line with the Circular Economy policy, which aims to provide better information to consumers, thus enabling informed choices at purchase. The current review of the energy label mainly aimed to revert back to a simpler tool: the "A to G" energy label scale that is well understood by consumers.

10. What are the benefits of the Energy Labelling?

Measures from the Ecodesign working plan have an estimated potential to deliver in total in excess of 260 TeraWatt Hours (TWh) of annual final energy savings in 2030, which is equivalent to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 100 million tonnes per year in 2030. With regard to one of the most impactful products on the climate, the refrigerating appliances, is estimated in the Ecodesign working plan an annual final energy savings in 2030 of 10 TWh (Recital 4 Reg. UE 2019/2016). The Commission has analysed the technical, environmental and economic aspects of refrigerating appliances as well as real-life user behaviour. The review was carried out in close cooperation with stakeholders and interested parties from the Union and third countries. The results of the review were made public and presented to the Consultation Forum established by Article 14 of Reg. EU 2017/1369 (Recital 7 Reg. UE 2019/2016). The labels and standards will bring a yearly energy saving of around 150 million tonnes of oil equivalent (Mtoe) by 2020, roughly equivalent to the annual primary energy consumption of Italy. For consumers, this





means an average saving of up to €285 per year on their household energy bills. Moreover, energy efficiency measures will create €66 billion in extra revenue for European companies.

11. I want to buy a new appliance and I was happy with A+++. Which is the corresponded class with the rescaled system? (How can I compare performances of an old appliance I have in A+++ with a new in A?)

There is no direct correspondence between the actual energy label scheme and the rescaled one. This means that the products will be tested under the rescaled energy label protocol and that the overall energy efficiency performance will be calculated under the new guidance imposed by the new Regulations. It's impossible to clearly say how much one would save if moving from an energy class on the old to another on the new energy label scheme – remember that the calculations behind each energy label generation are dramatically different. On the other side, bear in mind that the energy label comparison for similar products, within each generation of energy label, is possible.

12. Are the performances parameters the same?

According to Article 16.2 Reg. UE 2017/1369 the new performances parameters for refrigerating appliances are determined by annexes IV and V Reg. 2019/2016 (Measurement methods and calculations and the figures inside Product information sheet). For each of product, a specific regulation dictates the way products are tested and the overall energy efficiency level is determined. Due to the rescale process, the new scheme is based on revised testing and calculation procedures.

13. Is it just a rescaling: A+++ becomes C? Or there are other parameters added?

The revised framework reverts to an “A to G” labelling scale, thus doing away with the additional A+ and higher classes. This said, there is not a direct conversion between classes from the old to the new label. The energy efficiency index is calculated for the products based on their individual performance on the test protocol. This means that each product's individual performance under the test protocol may lead to different final results under the new energy label scheme.

14. I bought an appliance that had an A++ energy label affixed at the shop. Inside the box there's a label with a C class. Have I been hoaxed?





No you haven't. From the 1st November 2020 one can eventually find, inside the packaging, the new energy label alongside the old one – specially for products made available on the market after that date. However, during the transition period from the 1st November 2020 to the 1st March 2021, only the old label is authorized to be affixed on products.

15. With the new rescaling does this mean that the appliance is less efficient?

No. Products should, in theory, maintain their performance level – unless they undergo any type of upgrade by manufacturers. The difference lies on the fact that the energy efficiency index and the way products are tested differ for the new label, when compared to the old version.

16. On the new scheme there are no A appliances? Why?

The rescaled energy label aims to start with the A class almost empty of products. This is why it is expected, during some time after the deployment, that the most efficient energy classes have a very low population of products.

17. Are appliances expected to reach the A class on the new energy label scheme? If yes, what will happen then?

Yes, they are. At the beginning of the implementation of the rescale process, the A class is intended to present no or a very limited number of products. Once the new labels are implemented, further rescaling will be triggered by a significant number of products falling into the 2-top classes: either 30% in class A or 50% in both classes A and B. A second criterion is further technological developments to be expected.

18. On the new energy label schemes, are the energy efficiency gains quite significant from one class to the other?

For this new energy label rescale process, the difference between the different energy classes are not as dramatical as in other energy labelling schemes – in part, due to very high levels of energy efficiency that products are achieving and to some technological limitations on achieving even higher energy efficiency levels.

RETAILERS

1. Is the new label mandatory for all types of appliances with existing energy labels?

The introduction of the new labels will be progressively implemented by the EU in groups of products. The first group of affected products, with rescaled labels in 2021, are:





- Household refrigerators and freezers
- Washing machines and washer-dryers
- Dishwashers
- TVs and Displays
- Light Sources
- Refrigerating appliances with direct sales function

For the product group refrigerating appliances with direct sales function (also known as commercial refrigerators and freezers) a completely new label will be implemented which however will only be relevant for the professional retail sector. This label will not be visible for domestic consumers.

For other labelled product groups like air conditioners, tumble dryers, vacuum cleaners, water heaters etc. the new rescaled labels is expected from 2022 onwards.

2. Is there a correspondence between the old label and the new label?

A direct correspondence is not available as the formulas, parameters and value intervals that enable the determination of the new scale classification are different from the ones used to calculate the classification in the existing label.

This means that an appliance which now displays a A+++ classification can be reclassified into a C and another appliance can be reclassified into a D, even within the same product category.

3. When should I display the new labels in my store/website?

The specific timings, transition periods and conditions for the introduction of the new labels depend on the product type and other additional conditions:

For household appliances, TVs and displays:

- New labels should only be displayed starting from the 1st March 2021 (both in physical stores and in online shops)
- There is a transition period of 14 working days (until the 18th March 2021) for retailers to replace the existing labels with the new rescaled labels

The only exception is for the appliances already on the market before 1st November 2020 but no longer placed on the market after that date, or when a supplier has ceased its activities. Thus, during a 4 months transition period (1st Nov 2020 and 28th Feb 2021) only the current energy label can be showed to the consumers.





For 9 months (1st Mar 2021 and 30th Nov 2021), these products may still be sold with the old label and no new information needs to be provided by suppliers. Starting from the 1st Dec 2021 products with the old label must not be sold anymore.

For light sources:

- New labels should only be displayed starting from the 1st September 2021 (both in physical stores and in online shops)
- There is a transition period of 18 months (until the 18th March 2023) for the inclusion of the rescaled label on the product packaging

4. Should I display the two labels (old and new) in store per each model of appliance?

No, only one label should be displayed at a time per each model of appliance.

5. Are the new labels mandatory only for new models of appliances introduced in the market or for all models (old and new)?

The new labels are mandatory for all the models, both existing and new, for the product categories included in this first wave of energy label rescaling (household appliances, TVs and displays and light sources).

Exceptions are:

- for household appliances, TVs and displays no longer brought on the market after 1st March 2021, there is a 9 months transition period when the products still can be sold by retailers without any relabelling

6. When are manufacturers obliged to provide the new labels?

For household appliances, TVs and displays:

- manufacturers must start providing the new labels in the product packaging, together with the new technical information) starting from the 1st November 2020

For light sources:

- manufacturers must start providing the new technical information starting from the 1st May 2021
- manufacturers must start providing the new label on the product packaging starting from the 1st September 2021





MANUFACTURERS

1. Is there a contact point for having more information?

Since 1 January 2019 manufacturers, importers, and authorised representatives must register all products - requiring energy labels - in the European Product Database for Energy Labelling (EPREL) before being able to sell them on the EU market ().

If you placed any products (requiring an energy label) on the EU market:

- between 1 August 2017 and 31 December 2018, their registration had to be completed until 30 June 2019.
- before 1 August 2017 (and have since stopped marketing it), their registration is on a voluntary basis.
- Directorate-General for Energy - European Commission (Commission department responsible for the EU's energy policy: secure, sustainable, and competitively priced energy for Europe)

URL: https://ec.europa.eu/info/departments/energy_en

- Labelling contact form URL: <https://ec.europa.eu/energy/en/contact-dg-energy>
- Contact a local business support partner URL: https://europa.eu/youreurope/business/een-form/index_en.htm

2. Is there communication materials available for the rescaling (flyers, normative text,...)?

Information on energy savings, energy labelling and ecodesign requirements can be found on each product page on European Commission website. The products are grouped by categories. Moreover, as a tool for the implementation of the European Commission's strategy for the development of Single Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs a section of the official website was dedicated to harmonized standards in Ecodesign and Energy Labelling. Additional information will be available on the Sustainable Procurement Platform (19).

- Brochure Learn how to read the energy label URL https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/dgenergy_energylabel_200319.gif
- Belt project official website <https://www.belt-project.eu/>

PUBLIC PROCURERS

1. Is it mandatory to apply the rescaled energy label in tenders?

As far as European legislation is concerned, it was declared as early as 2012 as a desirable objective for the central governments of the member states to purchase only products,





services and buildings with high energy efficiency performance (Article 6 of Directive 2012/27/EU of 25 October 2012 on energy efficiency). The Directive indicates what these items are and what level of performance they must meet by referring to criteria established under a number of EU legislative measures such as the Energy Labelling Directive 2010/30/EU and the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive 2010/31/EU. Referring to the Energy Labelling Directive 2010/30/EU on 2014 the Directive 2012/27/EU repealed the provision that requires contracting authorities to endeavour to procure only products belonging to the highest efficiency class, where such products are covered by delegated acts under this Directive. Art 6.3 Directive 2012/27/EU replacing it with the provision for which “Member States shall encourage public bodies, including at regional and local levels, with due regard to their respective competences and administrative set-up, to follow the exemplary role of their central governments to purchase only products, services and buildings with high energy-efficiency performance. Member States shall encourage public bodies, when tendering service contracts with significant energy content, to assess the possibility of concluding long- term energy performance contracts that provide long-term energy savings”. In 2018, as part of the 'Clean energy for all Europeans package' (), the new amending Directive on Energy Efficiency (2018/2002) () was agreed to update the policy framework to 2030 and beyond. On this provision the following legislative evaluation were carried out:

(2019) COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT Evaluation of the 7th Environment Action Programme to 2020 "Living well, within the limits of our planet", Brussels, 15.5.2019 SWD(2019) 181 final PART 2/2, pp. 154-158; p. 243 [<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1578558266721&uri=CELEX:52019SC0181>];

(2016) COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT EVALUATION of Articles 6 and 7 of the Energy Efficiency Directive (2012/27/EU) Accompanying the document Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2012/27/EU on Energy Efficiency SWD/2016/0402 final - 2016/0376 (COD), section "Evaluation of Article 6 on public procurement", pp. 7-21 [<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52016SC0402>];

(2014) European Parliament resolution of 15 January 2014 on reindustrialising Europe to promote competitiveness and sustainability (2013/2006(INI)), p. 98; pp. 101-102; p. 107 [<https://eurlex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1578558266721&uri=CELEX:52014IP0032>];





(2013) Decision No 1386/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 November 2013 on a General Union Environment Action Programme to 2020 'Living well, within the limits of our planet' Text with EEA relevance, Whereas (28); Annex "THE 7th ENVIRONMENT ACTION PROGRAMME TO 2020 – 'LIVING WELL, WITHIN THE LIMITS OF OUR PLANET'", (38); (43) (vii) [<http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2013/1386/oj>]

MEMBER STATES OVERVIEW ()

AUSTRIA General obligation at federal level. Figures available on GPP between 40% and 60%

BELGIUM Regional rules for specific products. Figures available on GPP between 40% and 60%

BULGARIA Target defined by product. Figures available on GPP less than 20%

CZECH REPUBLIC Minimum criteria on environmental impact reduction developed in national legislation. Figures available on GPP 40% and 60%

CYPRUS Target defined: 50% of purchases. Figures available on GPP less than 20%

CROATIA Target defined: 50% purchases at 2020

DENMARK Non-compulsory rules for 50%. Figures available on GPP between 20% and 40%

ESTONIA 15% at 2018. Figures available on GPP less than 20%

FINLAND Targets for specific products. With regard to the use of environmental criteria on Green Public Procurement in the countries of the European Union, Finland is in first place. Figures available on GPP over 80%

FRANCE Target defined: 30%. Figures available on GPP less than 20%

GERMANY LCC (Life Cycle Costing) obligation

GREECE Figures available on GPP less than 20%

IRELAND Target defined: 50% purchases. Figures available on GPP less than 20%

ITALY Compulsory rules for 100% purchases with minimum criteria on environmental impact reduction developed in national legislation. Figures available on GPP 40% and 60%

LATVIA 30% at 2017 e 100% GPP mandatory for receive funding from the European Union's programmes. Figures available on GPP between 40% and 60%

LITHUANIA Target defined: 50% purchases at 2020. Figures available on GPP between 40% and 60%

LUXEMBOURG Did not provide sufficient responses for classification

MALTA High standards for 14 group of products. Figures available on GPP less than 20%

NETHERLANDS Target defined: 50% purchases at 2020. Figures available on GPP between 40% and 60%

POLAND Target defined: 25%. Figures available on GPP less than 20%

PORTUGAL 60% and 40% for GPP. Figures available on GPP less than 20%

ROMANIA Figures available on GPP between 40% and 60%





SLOVAKIA 50% purchases with a centralized governance. Figures available on GPP less than 20% SLOVENIA Target defined: 50%. 20 Criteria on environmental impact reduction have been developed in national legislation. Figures available on GPP between 20% and 40%

SPAIN Depending on groups of products between 25 and 100 %. Figures available on GPP 40% and 60%

SWEDEN Figures available on GPP between 20% and 40%

HUNGARY Figures available on GPP between 60% and 80%

UNITED KINGDOM Figures available on GPP less than 20%

2. Will there be a transition period between the two energy scales?

As from 25 December 2019 until 28 February 2021 () the product fiche required under Article 3.1 (b) of Delegated Reg. EU 1060/2010 may be made available through the product database instead of being provided in printed form with the product. Reg. UE 2019/2016 shall enter into force 1th March 2021.

3. Will I have limitations to participate in public tenders if I don't use the new scale for my products? If yes, since when?

As from 25 December 2019 until 28 February 2021 () the product fiche required under Article 3.1 (b) of Delegated Reg. EU 1060/2010 may be made available through the product database instead of being provided in printed form with the product. Reg. UE 2019/2016 shall enter into force 1th March 2021.

4. Are there contributions to incentivize the new energy scale?

The European commission is financing several projects that have the objective to facilitate the transition period informing and supporting all stakeholders and to reduce to a minimum errors at all levels of the value chain from manufacturer to consumer. National incentives are granted within the limits of European rules on State aids.

5. Where can I find an official guide for applying the new energy scale?

Information on energy savings, energy labelling and Ecodesign requirements can be found on each product page on European Commission website. The products are grouped by categories. Moreover, as a tool for the implementation of the European Commission's strategy for the development of Single Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs a section of the official website was dedicated to harmonized standards in Ecodesign and Energy Labelling.



PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE

BEUC Factsheet:



Good for consumers and good for the environment

A 1992 EU Directive requires retailers to provide information – through a label – about the energy efficiency of household appliances. The EU Energy Label helps consumers choose the most energy-efficient products, thus helping to lower both their energy bills and their impact on the environment.

Initially, the label rated the energy efficiency of appliances on an energy class scale ranging from A to C, with class A indicating the most efficient products. Research¹ has shown that the clarity and straightforwardness of this scheme made it very popular among consumers.



Victim of its own success: addition of plus classes

Over time, many products started to meet - or exceed - the original class A. The EU consequently decided² to add 'A+' classes in to recognise further energy efficiency improvements in products. Three new categories were added: A+, A++ and A+++.



However, research³ shows that consumers are less motivated to opt for the top class appliances without a clear "buy A" message. Consumer organisations resisted this change and drew attention to the risk of undermining the energy label's value.

Back to the well-known A to G scheme

As plus classes became confusing, the European Commission proposed to return to the well-understood A-G scale. After months of negotiations, the EU institutions agreed in March 2017 on a deal to revise the energy label.



¹ <https://ec.europa.eu/energy/en/topics/energy-efficiency/energy-efficient-products>

² ANEC, BEUC, Consumer Focus(UK), the UK Energy Saving Trust and the UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs(DEFRA) asked Spain MDR to carry out empirical research concerning consumers' perception of the A-G Energy Label

³ Directive 2002/95/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 May 2002 on the indication by labelling and standard product information of the consumption of energy and other resources by energy-related products⁴

⁴ Stefania Hristova and Ralf Wälchli/Hagen, Consumer survey on the new format of the European Energy Label for televisions: Comparison of a 'A-G classed' versus a 'beyond A scale' format. University of St. Gallen, August 2009.

What does this mean for consumers?

What's good for consumers?

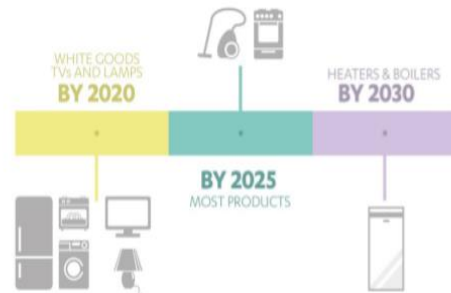
- No more confusion:** misleading "+" labels to be deleted.
- The top class A to be left empty⁴:** when introducing the new A-G label, to promote innovation. When a new label is introduced for a type of product, no model performs well enough to fall under A class. As technology evolves, better performing products will start filling up the A class.
- Meaningful choice guaranteed:** the label is to be rescaled: once there is an excess of products in the top classes which meet or exceed Class A efficiency performance.
- More information thanks to a new public database.** Consumers will be able to browse all the product models which have to carry an EU Energy label. The database will also support market surveillance authorities to enforce rules.
- More compliant products** thanks to improved cooperation between Member States and the Commission.
- Prohibition of defeat devices** used to make appliances look more energy efficient than they actually are.

What's bad for consumers?

When considering to buy boilers and heaters, consumers will still have to **make purchase decisions based on the unclear "+" classes until 2030**. This is despite studies⁵ highlighting that consumers' understanding of the Energy label for such heaters is currently limited, if not wrong. The new label should swiftly appear in shops to improve consumers' understanding of the label.

Consumers will be confronted to a confusing situation where **different energy labelling scales co-exist in shops**.

So when will consumers see the new label in stores?



⁵ Both top classes A and B should be left empty in cases where technology is expected to develop more rapidly. See for TVs:

⁶ Further rescaling will be triggered once there is a surplus in the top classes, namely 20% in class A or 20% in classes A+B.

⁷ <http://www.necresearchcentre-tp.eu/media/40554.pdf>

