

Annual Report 2012



Secretariat for
**Ecodesign and
Energy Labelling**
of Products

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Introduction and background

Pursuant to the EU framework directives on ecodesign¹ and energy labelling² for energy-related products, Denmark has to ensure that the requirements of the directives and related regulations are observed on the Danish market.

As the relevant authority, the Danish Energy Agency has been tasked to *supervise that energy-related products traded on the Danish market meet the requirements of the ecodesign regulations and regulations on energy labelling products.*

The energy labelling regulations classify products according to their energy efficiency and contain minimum information requirements for consumers. The ecodesign regulations stipulate minimum standards for energy efficiency and other environmental aspects, and force the poorest products out of the market.

There are also requirements in both areas that suppliers have technical documentation on compliance with the regulations. With regard to products subject to ecodesign, there are requirements that products must be CE-marked and that a CE declaration of conformity be prepared.

Performance of document inspection (inspection of technical documentation and CE declarations) is now a fully integrated tool in market surveillance by the Danish Energy Agency of energy-related products. Experience from 2011 has been brought forward and this type of market surveillance has received high priority in supervision of the Danish market.

The Secretariat for Ecodesign and Energy Labelling of Products (SEE) is responsible for practical implementation and coordination of market surveillance on behalf of the Danish Energy Agency. In addition to market surveillance, SEE also provides guidance on the current regulations. Among other things, the Secretariat responds to enquiries from producers, importers, dealers, consumers and other stakeholders such as the press.

This Annual Report describes the main activities of the Secretariat in 2012 and the overall results of these. For more information on market surveillance results, refer to www.ens.dk/energikrav.



¹ Directive 2009/125/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October 2009 establishing a framework for the setting of ecodesign requirements for energy-related products (Framework Directive on ecodesign).

² Directive 2010/30/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 May 2010 on the indication by labelling and standard product information of the consumption of energy and other resources by energy-related products (Framework Directive on energy labelling products)

Tasks of the Secretariat

The tasks of the Secretariat can be divided into the following main categories:

- Inspection of documentation that products comply with requirements
- Laboratory measurements of products' compliance with requirements (tests at independent test laboratories)
- Internet and advertisement inspection: Inspection of product information in advertising on the internet and in printed advertisements
- Inspection of shops: Inspection of whether products are correctly labelled in shops
- Guidelines and responses to enquiries as well as receipt of complaints

The Secretariat inspects technical documentation to ensure that products meet the requirements for both energy labelling and ecodesign. The Secretariat also inspects products at test laboratories with the same objectives.

Inspection is also carried out at shop premises. Dealers must ensure that all products subject to energy labelling have an energy label when they are displayed in the shop.

Advertising is another surveillance area. Therefore the Secretariat inspects printed adverts, e.g. magazines, as well as adverts on online shops in order to ensure that they contain the consumer information required.

Guidance on the regulations and how compliance of the product with current regulations can be documented has become a permanent part of the tasks of the Secretariat. Similarly the Secretariat responds to a large number of enquiries from dealers and suppliers in connection with market surveillance.

Completed market surveillance in 2012

In 2012 inspection of CE declarations and technical documentation was completed for six groups of products and laboratory measurements were taken for five product groups.

Table 1. Number of products selected for inspection in 2012

Product group	Number of inspections, by activity		
	Laboratory measurements	Technical documentation	CE declaration
Luminaires	-	15	15
Ballasts	-	10	10
Air-conditioners	7	14	
Household refrigerating appliances	10	25	25
Standby	-	20	19
TVs	-	20	20
Dishwashers	5	-	-
Electric motors	24	-	-
Non-directional household lamps	15	-	-
Total (no.)	61 (96)	104 (265)	89 (167)

The figures in brackets show the number of inspections in 2011.

Far fewer inspections were completed in 2012 than in 2011. The Danish Energy Agency had higher targets in 2011 for the number of document inspections by the newly established Secretariat.

In 2012 the Agency decided to prioritise other activities in parallel with completion of market surveillance, including inspection of information in printed advertisements and online advertising. The other activities are described later in this report.

Inspection of CE marking and technical documentation

Technical documentation has been inspected for 92 products and CE declarations for 78 products. In both cases the products inspected have been divided into six product groups. The results of inspecting CE declarations and technical documentation are in table 2.

Table 2. Results of inspection of technical documentation and CE labelling

Product group	Number of products covered by market surveillance		Number of products in compliance with requirements (no. and %)
	Technical documentation	CE declaration	Technical documentation
Luminaires*	12	12	12 (100 %)
Ballasts	4	4	4 (100 %)
Air-conditioners	14	-	8 (57 %)
Household refrigerating appliances	25	25	17 (68 %)
Standby	18	18	15 (83 %)
TVs	19	19	19 (100 %)

* 1 case is still in progress

Most products pass the inspection and can document that information on the product is correct and that it meets energy requirements. Some products do not comply with the requirements in the categories for air conditioners and household refrigerating appliances. This trend is the same as for 2011.

Furthermore, the Secretariat still has to contact many suppliers several times to chase up documentation or to request further documentation. Some of the suppliers the Secretariat is in contact with do not know about the regulations for their products.

Inspection measurements

Laboratory measurements have been completed for 61 products in five product groups. If there are both ecodesign requirements and energy-labelling requirements for products, compliance with both schemes has been checked in the tests.

Table 3. Results of inspection measurements at independent test laboratory

Product group	Number of products tested	o. which comply with ecodesign requirements (no. and %)	No. which confirm energy labelling (no. and %)
Air-conditioners	7	-	4 (57 %)
Household refrigerating appliances	10	4 (40 %)	4 (40 %)
Electric motors	24	24 (100 %)	-
Dishwashers	5	5 (100 %)	4 (80 %)
Lamps*	15	15 (100 %)	12 (80 %)

* With regard to lamps, only preliminary inspection for time to full luminescence has been completed. Three lamps did not meet the required luminous flux within the time limit. The full measurement will be concluded in March 2013.

As can be seen from the table above, the air-conditioners and household refrigerating appliances selected perform poorly compared with other products, as was also the case for documentation.

Inspection of advertisements

Inspection of information on dealers' websites:

In autumn 2012 advertisements for household appliances, TVs and air-conditioners were reviewed in inspections of 12 online shops. The aim of the inspection was to examine whether product advertisements contain the statutory information, including whether the energy-efficiency class is correctly stated in the advertisements. The inspection showed that the information requirements for advertisements were only met completely for 32% of the products, while the other 68% lacked one or more pieces of information. Restated as actual figures, 599 products out of 880 do not meet the requirements. However, on the positive side all the products inspected state the energy-efficiency class. Other information such as statement of annual energy consumption or climate class was missing from advertisements. All the dealers contacted have said to the Secretariat that they have corrected their advertisements.

Inspection of printed advertisements (catalogues with special offers)

In week 51 at the end of 2012, catalogues with special offers were collected from ten retail chains. Five of the catalogues did not contain advertising for products subject to energy-labelling requirements. In the other five catalogues, the advertisements met the information obligations for dealers. During the dialogue with the dealers, information was provided about the new requirements for information obligations following from the entry into force of the new energy-labelling regulations.

Inspection of shops

At the start of 2012 there was follow-up of the shops which, in the 2011 inspection, failed to comply with the regulations on energy labelling for products on display. Orders were issued to three dealers, representing a total of six shops. At a follow-up visit the shops had corrected the situation and now comply with the regulations.

In addition, there was follow-up of a complaint from the Ecological Council, which in December 2011 observed that energy labelling was missing from televisions in a number of shops in the Copenhagen area. Those responsible for the shops were informed about the infringement of the regulations. At follow-up inspection visits to the shops in spring 2012, the Danish Energy Agency could confirm that the energy-labelling regulations are now being observed.

Responses to enquiries

The Secretariat regularly receives enquiries from producers, dealers and consumers. In 2012 there were responses to 100 enquiries not relating to market-surveillance activities.

By far the majority of these enquiries were about energy labels. In particular, importers of air-conditioners asked about the new rules for the area which entered into force from 1 January 2013 (20% of enquiries) as well as enquiries from dealers regarding energy labelling TVs (16% of all enquiries).

Rapid and accurate responses have high priority in the Secretariat. In 2012, 55% of all enquiries were replied to on the same day as the enquiry was submitted. For seven enquiries, the response time was between 10 and 20 days. These enquiries were all so complex that it was necessary to obtain a reply from an expert or from the Danish Energy Agency.

Follow-up on complaints

In addition to notifications about labelling in shops, the Ecological Council also submitted complaints about dealers infringing the regulations about advertising televisions. The complaints covered advertisements for sales through the internet and printed advertisements. The Secretariat has contacted the dealers notified and through constructive dialogue, the dealers have corrected the situation and now have the required information in their adverts. Furthermore, notifications have been about sales of illegal lamps by dealers.

Other activities

Ecopliant

The Danish Energy Agency is part of an EU project to prepare a best practice guide in order to ensure effective and uniform practice in managing and enforcing the regulations. The project is being financed by the Intelligent Energy Europe (IEE) programme under the European Commission, and besides Denmark, market-surveillance authorities from Sweden, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Ireland, Spain, Finland, Italy, Germany and Hungary are taking part in the project. The more overall aim of the project is to ensure realisation of the expected reductions in CO₂ emissions and fair competition on the market.

Denmark is heading a sub-project to develop and define best practice in the "document inspection" area. The project includes how document inspection can best be planned and conducted by examining whether the product meets the requirements for energy labelling and ecodesign, and how the results can be communicated rapidly and effectively throughout the EU. Furthermore, a laboratory test of 24 electric motors has been included as part of the Danish contribution to the project.

Administrative procedures

Energistyrelsen har i 2012 prioriteret at få udarbejdet et administrationsgrundlag for sekretariatets In 2012 the Danish Energy Agency prioritised preparation of administrative procedures for work by the Secretariat. On the basis of experience in 2011 regarding completion of market-surveillance activities, principles and procedures for the Secretariat have now been agreed and written down.

Information campaigns

In December 2012 the content of the Danish Energy Agency's website on ecodesign and energy labelling was updated. Moreover, the structure was changed so that access to the information is now via choice of product. By going into the site under a product you can now quickly read about the requirements which apply to it.

Guidelines

In 2012 a number of new technical guidelines for producers and importers were drawn up for products subject to ecodesign and/or energy labelling. Common guidelines have also been prepared for products covered by both ecodesign and energy-labelling regulations. The guidelines will be published on www.ens.dk/energikrav (in Danish). More guidelines are under preparation and will be published during 2013.

Annexes:

Annex A: List of products covered by regulation



Annex A

Products covered by ecodesign and energy labelling

(as at 31 December 2012)

Products covered by regulations on ecodesign

Household lamps (non-directional lighting sources)
 Tertiary lighting (street and office lighting)
 Standby (horizontal directives which stipulated requirements for standby consumption by electrical products)
 External power supplies
 Televisions
 Electric motors
 Household refrigerating appliances
 Household washing machines
 Household dishwashers
 Simple set-top boxes
 Circulators
 Ventilators
 Tumble driers (from 1 November 2013)
 Water pumps (from 1 January 2013)
 Directional lighting sources (from 1 September 2013)

Products covered by energy labelling regulations

"New" energy labelling³

Televisions
 Household refrigerating appliances
 Household washing machines
 Household dishwashers
 Air-conditioners (from 1 January 2013)
 Tumble driers (from 29 May 2013)
 Lighting sources and luminaires (from 1 September 2013)

"Old" energy labelling⁴

Household electric ovens
 Non-directional lamps (to be replaced by new energy labelling 1 September 2013)
 Household tumble driers (to be replaced by new energy labelling 29 May 2013)
 Household combined washer-driers

³ Implementing measures pursuant to Directive 2010/30/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council on the indication by labelling and standard product information of the consumption of energy and other resources by energy-related products.

⁴ Implementing measures pursuant to Council Directive 92/75/EEC of 22 September 1992 on the indication by labelling and standard product information of the consumption of energy and other resources by household appliances
