

THE NEW ENERGY LABEL

GUIDELINES FOR RETAILERS

Version 1.0, February 2020



LABEL2020 Consortium

LABEL2020 is an EU-Level initiative designed to support a smooth implementation of the new EU Energy Labels for products in the EU countries. The project will provide various tools and services for consumers, professional buyers, retailers and other stakeholders which will be available also for download from the project website.

The project is coordinated by the Austria Energy Agency (AEA) and includes organisations from 16 EU Member States. For further information you may contact the central project coordination or the responsible national contact point indicated on the project website www.label2020.eu

Content of this Guideline is not meant as a substitution for the Regulations, and in any case of doubt, the Regulations are applicable. Information given is not legally binding as a binding interpretation can only be made by the European Court of Justice.

The new Energy Label – Purpose and benefits?

The EU Energy Label for products has supported consumers and professional buyers in the search and selection of energy efficient products for more than 25 years. Furthermore the label has driven the development of innovative efficient products. Due to the supply and demand of energy saving products energy consumption and energy costs of appliances have dramatically been reduced.

The currently used A+++/G labelling scheme has become less effective. The mixed label scale involving many „+“ is no longer transparent and the majority of products are already in the 2 – 3 top classes today. Thus it makes it difficult for consumers to distinguish the most efficient products and manufactures are less inclined to develop new energy efficient products

The European Union therefore has revised and optimised the label according to user needs. The new rescaled label is introduced to consumers in physical stores and online shops on March 1st 2021 and will only include the energy classes A to G. Levels for classes will be updated on a regular basis.

The following guidelines shall support the implementation of the new labels. The guidelines provide an overview on major aspects and do not cover all detailed requirements specified in the relevant regulations. For detailed information on all legal requirements the reader is referred to the relevant EU-regulations cited in the references section of this document.

What are the essential new features of the new labelling scheme?

- There will be one common scale for all products including only class A to G. There will be no extension to A+ classes anymore.
- The label will be linked to a new EU product database via a QR-Code. The database provides additional product information for all labelled products for consumers, retailers as well as for market surveillance.

Which labels will be new in 2021?

The introduction of the new labels will be arranged stepwise depending on the specific EU regulations. In 2021 new labels will be implemented in physical stores and online shops for the following 5 product groups:

- Household refrigerators and freezers
- Washing machines and washer-dryers
- Dishwashers
- TVs and electronic displays
- Light Sources

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 are implemented as soon as the relevant EU regulations will be in force.

The introduction for these product groups is expected from 2022 onwards.

What are the main differences between the old and new label?

- A uniform A-G scale is used for all products
- In the upper right corner of the label a QR-Code is introduced which will provide a direct link to the label database of the European Commission supporting transparency and easier market surveillance by national authorities
- The energy consumption of the products is shown in a more prominent and uniform way in the middle section of the label
- The lower part of the label contains various pictograms which inform about selected product features. Several pictograms are the same as in the old label, some have been revised and a few have been newly introduced

Specific differences for the different product groups are indicated in the diagrams below.

Fig.1 Refrigerators and Freezers

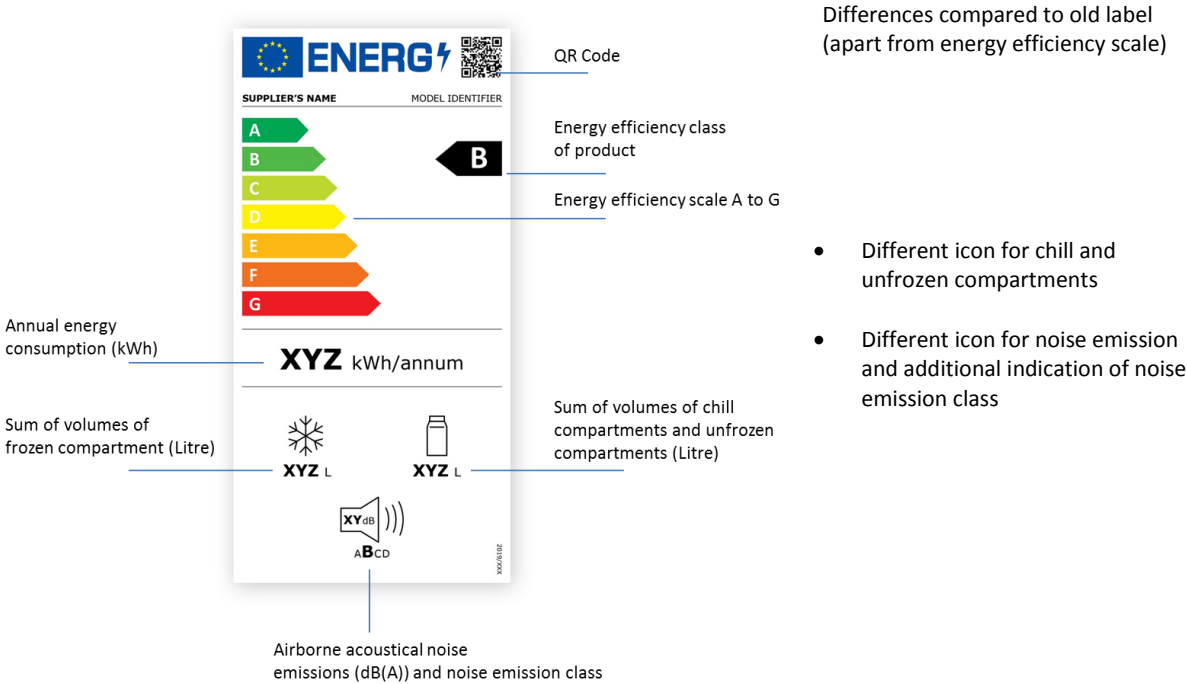
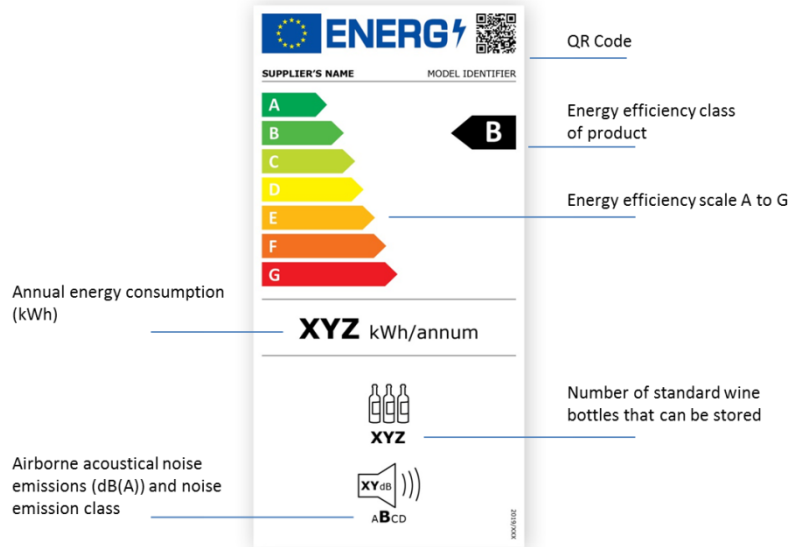


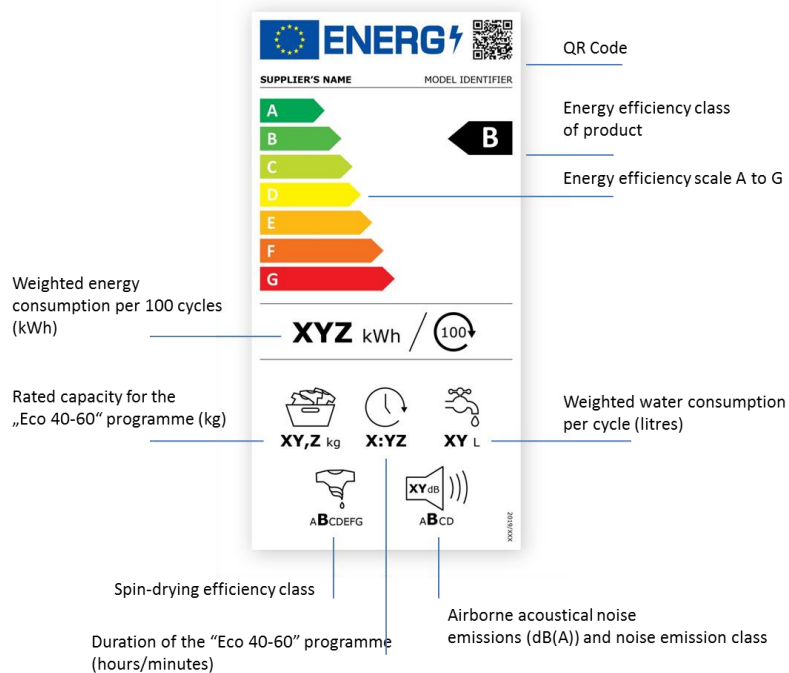
Fig.2 Wine storage refrigerators



Differences compared to old label (apart from energy efficiency scale)

- New icon for wine bottles
- Different icon for noise emission and additional indication of noise emission class

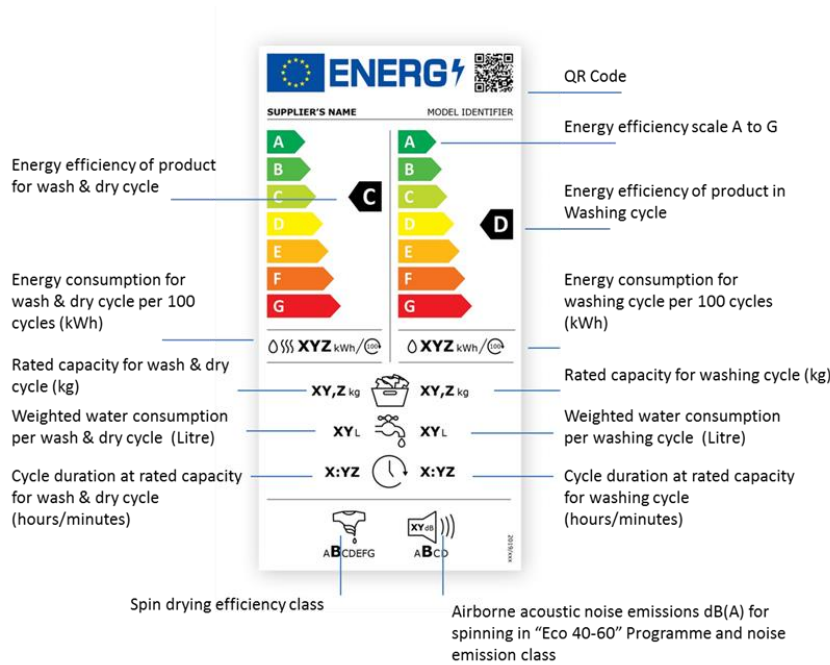
Fig.3 Washing machines



Differences compared to old label (apart from energy efficiency scale)

- Energy consumption specified as weighted consumption per 100 cycles
- Rated capacity for “Eco 40-60” programme
- Weighted water consumption per cycle
- Noise emissions only for spinning not for washing but additional information on noise emission class
- Duration of the “Eco 40-60” programme

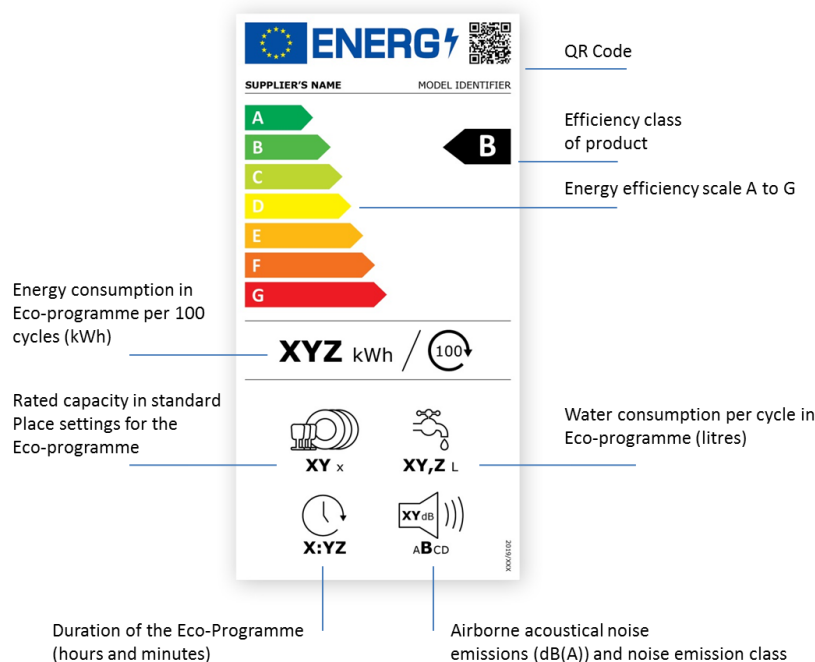
Fig.4 Washer-Dryers



Differences compared to old label (apart from energy efficiency scale)

- Energy consumption specified as weighted consumption per 100 cycles
- Rated capacity for “wash & dry cycle” and for washing cycle
- Weighted water consumption “wash & dry cycle” and for washing cycle
- Noise emissions for spinning including noise emission class
- Duration of “wash & dry cycle” and for washing cycle

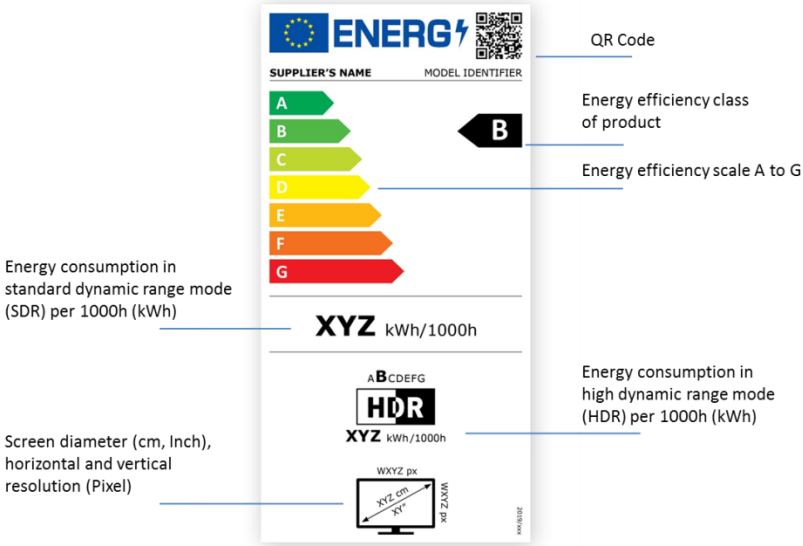
Fig. 5 Dishwashers



Differences compared to old label (apart from energy efficiency scale)

- Energy consumption specified consumption in Eco-programme per 100 cycles
- Weighted water consumption per cycle in Eco programme
- Duration of the Eco-programme
- Noise emission and noise emission class

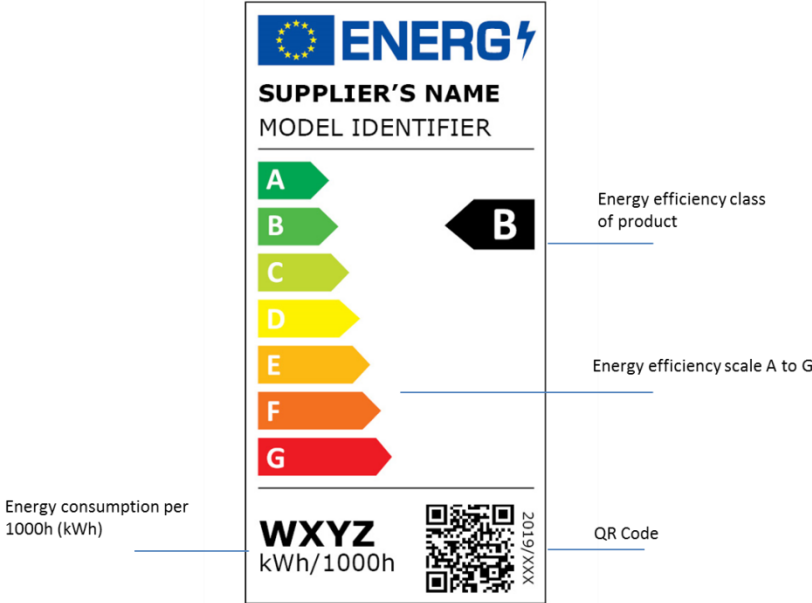
Fig. 6 TVs and electronic displays



Differences compared to old label (apart from energy efficiency scale)

- Energy consumption specified per 1000h of operation
- Indication of energy consumption in high dynamic range mode per 1000h of operation
- No more indication of power (W)
- No more indication of hard switch
- Indication of horizontal and vertical number of pixels

Fig. 7 Light sources



Differences compared to old label (apart from energy efficiency scale)

- No differences compared to previous information

What else is to be considered for the new labels?

Efficiency classes

- There will be no „A“ class products at the time when the new label will be introduced in the stores. The intention was to keep the A-class empty in the beginning, to reserve some room for further product innovation
- The most efficient products currently labelled as A+++ will correspond approximately with the new label class B or C depending on product group.

Pictograms

- The majority of pictograms from the old label will also be used in the new version. However some pictograms were slightly adapted and a few were newly introduced (e.g. energy efficiency in HDR-Mode for TVs and electronic displays, washing time for washing machines)

EU-product database and QR-Code

- By law all energy labelled products shall be registered in the new EU-product database (EPREL) by manufacturers/suppliers. The database provides additional product information not included on the label and is divided into two sections for different target groups:
 - **Section for market surveillance:** This section is only accessible for market surveillance authorities. The data included here is mainly intended to support and facilitate market surveillance activities.
 - **Section for consumers, professional buyers, retailers and other users:** The public section is expected to be available from summer 2020 onwards. Until March 2021 product data related to the old (current) label will be provided. Data for the new label will be accessible from March 2021 onwards.
- Information in the product database will be accessible directly via the EU website and via a QR-Code included in the labels. App-software, currently developed by independent organisations will allow comparison of product data and cost calculations.

When will the new rescaled labels be provided by manufacturers/suppliers and when must they be used in stores and online shops?

Household appliances, electronic displays and TVs

Products placed on the market before and after 1st November 2020 and still placed on the market after that date

During a 4 months transition period between 1.11.2020 and 28.2.2021:

- Suppliers must re-register in EPREL a product which has a rescaled label on the basis of the reviewed regulation
- Suppliers must provide the old and new label and product information sheets with new units of products

- Suppliers, on request by the retailers/dealers, must provide the new labels for products in the retailers/dealers stock.

During a 14 working days period between 1.3.2021 and 18.3.2021

- Old labels on display have to be replaced by rescaled labels.
- Special requirements for electronic displays: the supplier shall either print the label on the packaging or stick a rescaled colour label to the packaging. If a product model at the point of sale is only displayed in the packaging (not taken out of the packaging for display) the dealer must ensure visibility of the label for the consumer.
- Special requirements in case of distance or internet selling: An arrow with the energy efficiency class and the range of energy efficiency classes must be placed next to the product model for any product information provided on the web. The product information sheet must be provided to the consumer on paper or via the supplier`s websites.

New products placed on the market from 1.11.2020 onwards but sold to end-users only after 1.3.2021

From 1.11.20 onwards:

- Suppliers have to register the product only on the basis of the reviewed regulation in EPREL and must provide the rescaled label and related product information sheet to retailers/dealers.

As of 1.3.2021:

- New products with new rescaled label are shown in stores and online shops
- In case of internet or distance selling see additional requirements as specified above
- For electronic displays see additional requirements specified above

Products sold on the market already before 1.11.2020 but no longer placed on the market after 1.11.2020 or when a supplier has ceased its activities (this point applies for all product groups where the re-scaled label involves new testing methods)

1.3.2021 to 30.11.2021

- Products may still be sold with the old label during a 9 months transition period.
- No new information to be provided by suppliers.

As of 1.12.2021

- Products with the old label must not be sold anymore

Fig. 8 Label replacement for household appliances, TVs and electronic displays



Additional requirements

1. In case of distance or internet selling:

- An arrow with the efficiency class of the product and the range of energy efficiency classes to be placed next to the product model for any product information provided on the web. The product information sheet to be provided to the consumer on paper or web-based. The detailed requirements concerning implementation of the label for distance and internet selling are extensive and should be taken from regulations (see also references below).

2. Specific requirements for electronic displays:

- the supplier shall either print the coloured label on the packaging or put a sticker with the label on the packaging ;
- if a product model at the point of sale is not displayed in the packaging (i.e. not taken out of the packaging) the dealer must ensure visibility of the label for the consumer (i.e. the side of the packaging with the label must be visible).

Light sources

New light sources placed on the market after 1. September 2021

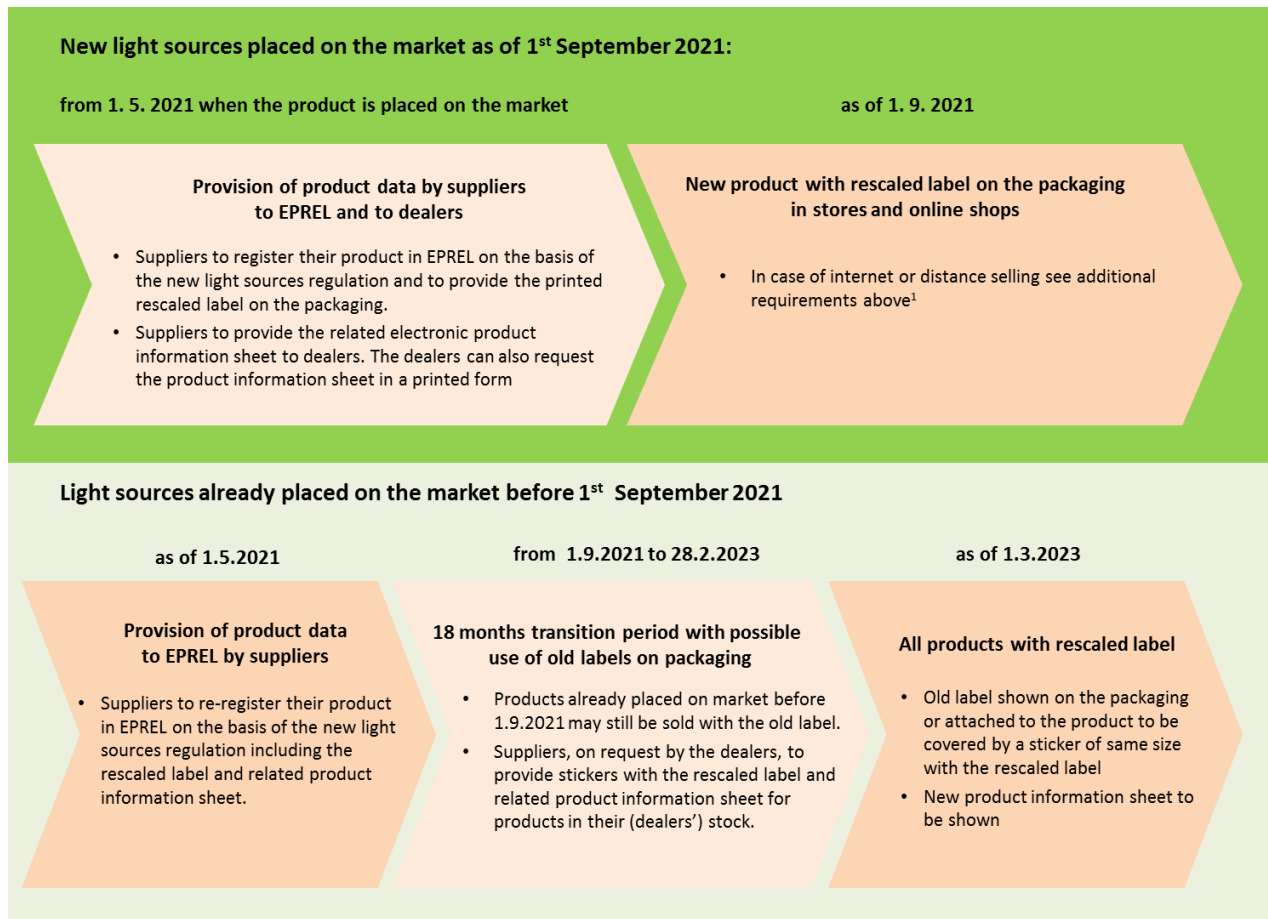
- From 1. 5. 2021 when the product is placed on the market**
 - Suppliers must register their product in EPREL on the basis of the new light sources regulation and must provide the printed rescaled label on the packaging.

- Suppliers must provide the related electronic product information sheet to dealers. The dealers can also request the product information sheet in a printed form
- **From 1. 9. 2021**
 - Dealers must show the new products with rescaled label on the packaging in stores and online shops

Light sources already placed on the market before 1. September 2021

- **as of 1.5.2021**
 - Suppliers must re-register their product in EPREL on the basis of the new light sources regulation including the rescaled label and related product information sheet.
- **18 months transition period from 1.9.2021 to 28.2.2023**
 - Products already placed on market before 1.9.2021 may still be sold with the old label.
 - Suppliers, on request by the retailers/dealers, must provide stickers with the rescaled label and related product information sheet for products in their (retailers') stock.
- **As of 1.3.2023**
 - Old label shown on the packaging or attached to a product must be covered by a sticker of same size with the rescaled label.
 - New product information sheet must be provided.

Fig. 9 Label replacement for light sources



What else has to be considered?

- The requirements regarding the concrete placement of the new label are the same as for the current label.
- The replacement has to be arranged within the 14 days period as indicated above. The 14 days are specified as working days only including Monday to Friday but no Saturdays, Sundays and national holidays. The new labels must not be shown in physical stores and online shops before 1.3.2021.
- The requirements concerning timing of the replacement are the same for physical stores and for online shops.
- Any visual advertisement for a specific rescaled product containing its new energy efficiency class, may not become public before the application date of the new regulation (1 March or 1 September 2021 depending on the product). Catalogues can be prepared but not disseminated before these dates. The same applies for advertisement on the Internet.
- The dealers need only to display the rescaled label in shops and online from the date the new label starts to apply. No modification of the content of packaging is requested for units already in the retailer's stock (thus labels in packages of stored products do not have to be replaced). However, concerning light sources, the dealer shall replace the existing label by a sticker with the rescaled label of the same size on the packaging or attached to the package, within 18 months after 1 September 2021, i.e. by 28 February 2023.
- Dealers will also be able to download the information from EPREL from the date the new label starts to apply.

References

Framework regulation for energy labelling

Regulation (EU) 2017/1369 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 July 2017 setting a framework for energy labelling and repealing Directive 2010/30/EU (Text with EEA relevance.) *OJ L 198*, 28.7.2017, p. 1–23

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2017/1369/oj>

Refrigerators and Freezers

Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/2016 of 11 March 2019 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2017/1369 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to energy labelling of refrigerating appliances and repealing Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1060/2010 (Text with EEA relevance)

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1575537791838&uri=CELEX:32019R2016>

Washing machines and washer-dryers

Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/2014 of 11 March 2019 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2017/1369 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to energy labelling of household washing machines and household washer-dryers and repealing Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1061/2010 and Commission Directive 96/60/EC (Text with EEA relevance)

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1575536811417&uri=CELEX:32019R2014>

Dishwashers

Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/2017 of 11 March 2019 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2017/1369 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to energy labelling of household dishwashers and repealing Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1059/2010 (Text with EEA relevance)

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1575537989799&uri=CELEX:32019R2017>

TVs and Electronic Displays

Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/2013 of 11 March 2019 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2017/1369 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to energy labelling of electronic displays and repealing Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1062/2010 (Text with EEA relevance)

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L_.2019.315.01.0001.01.ENG&toc=OJ:L:2019:315:TOC

Light sources

Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/2015 of 11 March 2019 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2017/1369 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to energy labelling of light sources and repealing Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 874/2012 (Text with EEA relevance)

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1575537561243&uri=CELEX:32019R2015>



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 847062.

The sole responsibility for this content lies with the authors. It does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the European Union. Neither the EASME nor the European Commission are responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.