

EEPLIANT

Energy Efficiency Compliant Products 2014

Project Newsletter No.4 / June 2017



EEPLIANT project summary

The EEPLIANT project, organised between 2015–2017, was designed to help deliver the intended economic and environment benefits of the Energy Labelling and Ecodesign Directives by increasing the rates of product compliance.

The EEPLIANT project team, which included twelve Market Surveillance Authorities (MSAs) and one national agency from across the European Union (EU), has organised coordinated **monitoring, verification** and **enforcement** activities, including product testing of **LED lamps, printers** and **heaters**. In addition to the product testing activities, the project has also ensured an inspection of the products' technical documentation.

EEPLIANT succeeded in defining and sharing good practices and market surveillance results with the competent authorities at national and regional level. Communication and awareness activities targeting professional stakeholders, civil society, governments, etc. continue to be undertaken on a regular basis.

More about the project at www.eepliant.eu and www.twitter.com/eepliant



Key activities

EEPLIANT focuses on the energy label and ecodesign compliance verification of the following product groups:

- **LED lamps:** document inspection and full-scale testing of LED lamps;
- **Imaging equipment:** product testing of the imaging equipment covered by the industry's Voluntary Agreement
- **Space heaters and combination heaters:** document inspection and product testing of space and combination heaters under 400 kW.

Each of the teams working on the above product categories carried out:

- **Document inspection** – verification of the technical documentation which the suppliers have to make available to authorities upon request – relevant for LED and boiler testing, imaging equipment is covered by ENERGY STAR requirements;
- **Coordinated compliance testing** – full scale testing of a selected number of models.

For more information, see: www.eepliant.eu/index.php/about-eepliant/description



Final news

The EEPLIANT project activities come to an end in June 2017. Find out more about our latest achievements:

MSA guidelines and training: the good market surveillance practices on energy label and ecodesign have been elaborated and updated throughout the project, and also made available to all other relevant authorities throughout the EU. This ensures that all authorities can benefit from the knowledge accumulated and the captured lessons learned within this EU-level collaboration effort.

In addition, the EEPLIANT coordinator, PROSAFE, has created an e-learning portal focusing on market surveillance best practice. It contains training materials mainly intended to support market surveillance officials and professional stakeholders who wish to learn and update themselves about certain product safety and compliance issues in line with the regulatory framework found within countries of the European Economic Area.

More info: **EEPLIANT Best Practice**
(www.eepliant.eu/index.php/work-packages/wp2-best-practices)

EEPLIANT Market Surveillance Authority Training
(www.eepliant.eu/index.php/work-packages/wp3-training)

PROSAFE E-learning Platform hosting an e-learning module for EEPLIANT
(www.e-learningwmb.com/hosting/prosafe/login.php)

Caution!

The testing results shown below are based on products that were sampled from the markets in the participating countries by experienced market surveillance inspectors that were trying to identify non-compliant products.

As in any routine market surveillance activity, the results represent the targeted efforts that authorities undertake to find non-compliant products. They do not give a statistically valid picture of the overall market situation.

LEDs

Information on the packaging has been checked, as well as the declaration of conformity. The models presenting a higher likelihood of non-compliance have been tested in a laboratory.

The document inspection for 134 models has been conducted, including a screening exercise for 117 models. Full testing of 86 LEDs took place, including the lifetime and other performance parameters, such as colour rendering, power factor, power, beam angle, etc.

The selection of lamp models to be tested followed a "risk based" approach with the goal to try to identify the products with a higher likelihood of being non-compliant. So far, 76 lamp models showed non-compliance concerning one or more of the EU regulations concerned.



Indicative levels of non-compliances found for individual parameters surveyed:

Information on packaging	45% non-compliant
Declaration of conformity:	37% non-compliant
Documentation availability and content:	54% non-compliant
Luminous flux:	59% non-compliant
Electric power:	19% non-compliant
Energy efficiency index:	20% non-compliant
Colour temperature:	13% non-compliant
Colour rendering:	5% non-compliant
Energy efficiency index:	7% non-compliant
Lamp Survival Factor:	23% non-compliant
Lumen maintenance:	17% non-compliant

The project partners have started formal actions with suppliers, based on the results obtained.

These enforcement measures included:

Result	Action
1 LED lamp non-compliant for some technical parameters and non-correct or incomplete information	A voluntary recall initiated by the Economic Operator took place.
23 LED lamps non-compliant for some technical parameters	For 10 lamps; a voluntary withdrawal initiated by the Economic Operator took place For 11 lamps; the Economic Operator informed that the products were no longer on the market as the products were sold out.* For 2 lamps; an Authority from another Member State has been asked to intervene.
14 LED lamps non-compliant for information on the packaging or for the technical documentation (i.e., missing or wrong information)	For 13 lamps; upon request from the MSAs, the manufacturers subsequently corrected the packaging or the technical documentation on paper or on the web to make it compliant with the legislation. For 1 lamp; an Authority from another Member State has been asked to intervene.
4 LED lamps for which the documentation was missing or not made available	For 2 lamps; a sales ban was imposed on the manufacturers together with the application of an administrative fine. For 1 lamp; a mandatory withdrawal from sales took place. For 1 lamp; an Authority from another Member State has been asked to intervene.

*This information shall be evaluated taking into account the fact that for LED lamps, one of the most significant tests requires 6–7 months testing time. Considering that LED lamps market is still a high pace development market, the normal product life time can be between 6 months and one year.

More info: [EEPLIANT Work Package on LEDs](http://www.eepliant.eu/index.php/work-packages/wp4-led) (www.eepliant.eu/index.php/work-packages/wp4-led)



Printers

EEPLIANT is also testing a number of printers and multi-functional devices (MFDs) to check compliance with the requirements laid down in the Industry Voluntary Agreement (VA - EuroVAprint ASBL), endorsed by the European Commission, as an alternative to formal mandatory Ecodesign measures on imaging equipment.

The VA includes a wide range of environmental requirements for imaging equipment. For energy in use, it requires that targeted percentages of manufacturers' products are compliant with the requirements in the ENERGY STAR specification for imaging equipment (v2.0).

The project work plan includes full scale testing, and discussions with the manufacturers on results observed:

- A list of products known to be used by manufacturers to meet their VA targets has been developed and products for documentation checks have been selected
- Technical documentation from the relevant manufacturers has been requested and some models were purchased for testing purposes
- A test laboratory has been contracted based on a public tender to test a total of 40 models.

Preliminary results (as of May 2017): Potential non-compliance rate of 10% (3 of 30):

- One product confirmed not to have IPS nameplate needed for sleep allowance,
- One product failing to enter sleep mode.

More info: [EEPLIANT Work Package on imaging equipment](http://www.eepliant.eu/index.php/work-packages/wp5-printers) (www.eepliant.eu/index.php/work-packages/wp5-printers)

Heaters:

The compliance verification includes document inspections and laboratory testing. Regarding the bigger gas boilers (70–400 kW), the tests took place „in-situ“ on installed boilers for practical reasons.

- **Small boilers:** Ten products have been sampled and tested in a laboratory.
- **Heat pumps:** Seven products have been sampled and tested in a laboratory.
- **Large boilers (70-400 kW):** The test involves boilers in two countries (DK and UK). The purpose is to test the feasibility of a test method developed by a group of laboratories.

Project action includes not only document inspections and laboratory testing, but also a round-robin exercise ensuring that all results would be evaluated by the Authorities in a consistent way. As for LEDs, a “risk-based” approach has been followed with the goal to try to identify products with a higher likelihood of being non-compliant.

Some of the indicative results and actions taken so far are listed below:

Result	Action
4 out of 10 electrical heaters non-compliant for the technical documentation (i.e., missing or wrong information)	Upon request from the MSAs, the manufacturers subsequently corrected the technical documentation to make it comply with the legislation.
14 out of 19 small gas boilers non-compliant for technical documentation (i.e., missing or wrong information)	For ten cases, the manufacturers corrected the technical documentation to make it comply with the legislation upon request from the MSAs. Three cases are still in progress. For one gas boiler at the end of the product life-cycle, a sales ban took place with limited economic consequences for the manufacturer.



Result	Action
5 out of 10 gas boilers non-compliant for technical parameters	Manufacturers are in the process of changing the energy label and the product fiche.
15 out of 19 heat pumps non-compliant for technical documentation	Manufacturers are in the process of correcting the technical documentation as requested by the authorities.
5 out of 7 heat pumps non-compliant for technical parameters	Two cases are still in progress For the other three heat pumps, the producer agreed to change the energy label and the fiche.
2 large gas boilers tested in-situ and found compliant	Test method works.

More info: [EEPLIANT Work Package on heaters](http://www.eepliant.eu/index.php/work-packages/wp6-heaters) (www.eepliant.eu/index.php/work-packages/wp6-heaters)

National updates

Find below selected highlights of actions undertaken by the project's partners on the national level:

Austria

One of the national-level activities in Austria was the organisation of a national event, which included participants from the government, public and industrial institutions, individual manufacturers, and energy efficiency experts. Presentations for each individual product category were held and individual topics were discussed among the stakeholders, experts and policymakers. The usefulness of such project and an interest for future collaboration has been confirmed by the participants.

Belgium

Belgian authority, among other EEPLIANT benefits, appreciates that the project structure enables them to obtain timely advice and experience sharing with fellow-colleagues from the other national authorities dealing with the energy label and ecodesign related legislation. The project framework has enabled the sharing of experience on both the general methodologies and approaches, as well as on the observations related to individual product surveillance performed within the project. A continuation of such European cooperation is highly appreciated and welcomed.

Bulgaria

EEPLIANT activities were presented to participants and relevant national stakeholders at a National Metrology Conference "Measurements and light" in 2015, organized by State Agency for Metrological and Technical Surveillance (SAMTS) and the Bulgarian Institute of Metrology.

A national information campaign was held by SAMTS together with Commission for Consumer Protection, which included inspecting boilers and storage water heaters at retailer outlets.

A meeting, to which the economic operators were invited, focusing on lighting included a topic on LED compliance. This resulted in a voluntary action to stop distribution and a withdrawal of non-compliant lamps from the market.



The Netherlands

The partner focused on the obligatory requirements concerning the technical documentation belonging to products. The international cooperation in the EEPLIANT project has contributed considerably to the strengthening of the national market surveillance activities.

Germany

Hessische Eichdirektion has invested, as a result of EEPLIANT, into laboratory equipment to broaden its light source testing capacities and capabilities. The project also helped to improve the experience with detecting potentially non-compliant products based on the inspection of technical documentation, thereby increasing the effectiveness of their market surveillance actions.

Another activity, based on the project experience with testing LED lamps, was the organisation of a successful round-robin test between laboratories. In addition, simplified pre-check test conditions have been defined, enabling the screening of a higher number of models for possible non-compliance.

Lithuania

The Lithuanian State Consumer Rights Protection Authority has organized a seminar on legal requirements imposed on electrotechnical products, including their marking, safety requirements, energy efficiency compliance, etc. EEPLIANT project has been presented there along with an overview of the energy label and ecodesign requirements, an overview of the project activities and implications for the national suppliers and distributors. Participants of the event showed an interest for the organisation of market surveillance efforts and an agreement was reached about the continued cooperation and communication on related issues.

Malta

The project organiser in Malta, the Competition and Consumer Affairs Authority, has benefited from the project surveillance activities by identifying products from its own market and removing the models found non-compliant by the project's surveillance procedure, as well as communicating with the suppliers concerning the need not to import such products to the European market.

Given the need to inform end-consumers about the energy efficiency benefits and requirements, numerous television, radio, newspaper and electronic media outcomes have been ensured, which have informed consumers about the EEPLIANT market surveillance activities and achievements.

Slovenia

The EEPLIANT project was a great opportunity for the Market Inspectorate of Republic of Slovenia (MIRS) to organise market surveillance activities and tests without increasing their national budgetary requirements. LED models tested by the project, available on the Slovenian market, and proved non-compliant, were withdrawn from the market by the economic operators as a result of the common negotiations.

MIRS also informed the stakeholders and raised their awareness over their ecodesign and energy label related duties, e.g. by organising "open doors" events and exhibiting at the International Trade and Business Fair, Celje.

Sweden

The Swedish Energy Authority has not only acted as a lead partner for the project communication and dissemination activities, it was also actively engaged in screening lamps in its own laboratory, as well as checked documentation for lamps, imaging equipment and heat pumps from the Swedish market.

A project meeting was also held in its own premises, sharing experience with laboratory testing with market surveillance partners from the other participating countries.



UK

EEPLIANT was given prominence within the greater BEIS family by way of a report and presentation submitted to BEIS deputy directors following attendance by a number of RD staff at the EEPLIANT training event held in Stockholm during January 2017. The outcome of the report supported building RD capability towards product testing to assist market surveillance activities. The same training event and EEPLIANT was highlighted in a BEIS government newsletter used to promote RD activities to a greater audience within other government institutions.



Stay in touch!

Stay updated with the project activities, get in touch with the team for more details and do contact us for more information!

The **Final conference** of the EEPLIANT 2014 project takes place on 20 June 2017 in Brussels. The project's final outcomes, achievements and lessons learned will be presented here. Presentations from the event will be available upon request, please, contact the project organisers.

EEPLIANT continues! Given the continuous need to ensure products placed on the market meet the energy efficiency requirements, market surveillance authorities continue their cooperation within the EEPLIANT platform. An EEPLIANT2 project is expected to start in July this year.

Follow us!

Stay updated with the project activities, get in touch with the team for more details and do contact us for more information!



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Background information: This information is issued by PROSAFE and the market surveillance authorities representing 12 EU Member States in the EEPLIANT 2014 Action. The Action is coordinated by PROSAFE (Product Safety Forum of Europe), a non-profit organisation that brings together market surveillance officers from all over Europe and across the world. Visit www.prosafe.org to learn more. On this website, you will also find more information about the other Joint Actions coordinated by PROSAFE.

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