

Work Package 3 - TRAINING, Module C

Selecting and identifying products, inspection and testing procedures

TRAINING SLIDES v2

This is the 3rd of 4 training modules developed in the Energy Efficiency Compliant Products 2014 (EEPLIANT) programme.

EEPLIANT is a programme of coordinated activities being undertaken by market surveillance authorities across the EU.

Much more detail on EEPLIANT is available on www.eepliant.eu

The materials covered in the 4 training modules are based on the document Best Practice Guidelines. Users of these training materials need to download a copy of these from <http://eepliant.eu/index.php/knowledge-base> in order to maximise the benefit from using this and training modules A, B, & D.

Overview of this Module

- Selecting Products for surveillance
 - Sampling techniques
- Identifying product numbers and models
 - Overcoming issues with equivalent models
- Document inspection and procedure
 - Requirements Discussion
 - Example protocol
- Testing products and using laboratories Discussion



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by the European Union

Best Practice Guidelines Section 2.3

Selecting Products

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The following group of slides is covered in detail in Section 2.3 of the Best Practice Guidelines

How to Select Products for Inspection

- There are a **vast number** of products and categories requiring surveillance
- Two main sampling methods:
 1. random or statistical based approach
 2. targeted approach (mostly risk-based sampling)
- **Risk based sampling** is the most common, though examples of combined approaches do exist.

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Ecodesign and energy labelling MSAs have to deal with a wide range of product categories and brands and models. Therefore, it is necessary for the MSAs to carefully select products to be inspected. There are different techniques to use when selecting products. These have different benefits and effectiveness, depending on the specific objective of the inspections.

Risk-based sampling is a selection approach for products, brands and/or models based on a set of factors related to a perceived increased risk of failing the compliance requirements. In general, it is more common to select products according to a set of criteria rather than choose a random sample for testing – especially where resources e.g. budgets for testing, are constrained.

Selection parameters

1. History e.g. of that product sector or manufacturer
2. Special attention to:
 - Market share
 - Energy consumption claim
 - Origin
 - Price
3. New regulations or new tiers
4. When considering lab tests also review:
 - Outcome of document inspection and/or screening
 - Inspections in other MS
 - Complaints/information from markets players

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The selection criteria listed on this slide have been found to be frequently used by Ecodesign MSAs (and are expected to be equally applicable to energy labelling).

Risk Based Sampling

- **Risk factors** are used to select product categories, brands and specific models for compliance inspection. Important selection criteria for Ecodesign MSAs have been:
 - **High energy consumption & new legislation** on a product.
 - **High market share** and **history of non-compliance** for brands, along with **infrequent surveillance** involvement.
 - Other Member State or international **complaints**
 - Ambiguities in the **technical documentation** for a model

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When it comes to brand and model selection, the MSAs that worked together in the ECOPLIANT programme considered the following criteria to be of most importance:

- Brand with a history of non-compliance
- Brand involved in international complaints
- Brand with a high market share
- Brand in low price segment of the market.

And for models...

- Model highlighted by other Member State complaints
- Model highlighted by intelligence or complaints from consumer groups and/or individuals
- Model for which the technical documentation indicates possible risks for technical non-compliance
- Model highlighted from findings of other organisations i.e. environmental NGOs, EU projects, etc.
- Model with high market share, new technology, smaller size, unusual design features

Screening Tests

- A screening test is a **preliminary low cost** test
 - e.g. in-shop measurement of “Standby” consumption
- The test can indicate **likelihood of product failure** before going ahead with full laboratory testing
- Start informal **clarification dialogue** with manufacturer
- **Not full testing** - MSAs can only take full legal action after the two step EU verification is completed
 - test of 1 sample followed by test of 3 further samples

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A working definition for *screening tests* based on that used previously in the ECOPLIANT project is: “preliminary low cost test, used to assess the likelihood that a model will fail full compliance testing, before deciding whether to proceed with the full compliance testing in appropriately skilled/accredited laboratories. Screening tests can be carried out in the field or by MSA personnel, rather than in a sub-contracted laboratory where all relevant parameters could be controlled”.

Recommendations

- *Effective product targeting is very important when legislation deals with a vast amount of product categories, which may not all be subject to yearly market surveillance activities*
- *Well-thought-out targeting methods should be used to select product categories, brands and models for compliance inspection.*
- *Product targeting must be justified; to avoid criticism or bias, “guidelines” detailing the criteria used to target products for verification tests should be established by MSAs.*

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These RECOMMENDATIONS are those given at the end of Section 2.3 of the Best Practice Guidelines. They draw attention to the key topics that MSAs need to consider when developing their product sampling strategies.

Recommendations

Sampling methods

- *Random and targeted product selection can be successfully combined with a market share approach.*
- *Product documentation inspection can be used as a product targeting technique prior to a lab test.*
- *Complaints or reports about possible non-compliant products from outside parties can be an important targeting method.*
- *Screening tests can also be a tool for the selection of products that have a higher probability of being non-compliant.*

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Recommendations

Avoiding Misrepresentation

- *The specific samples selected for testing need to be randomly chosen and collected from a store. They should be representative of what is being supplied to the market.*
- *Thus if samples are obtained directly from the producer, MSA must see to that the samples chosen are indeed randomly selected and not a “premium” unit.*

Best Practice Guidelines Section 2.4

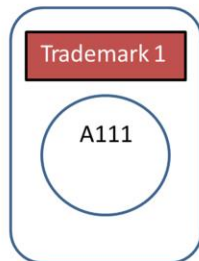
Identifying Product Numbers

TRAINING SLIDES v2

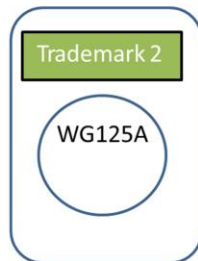
The following group of slides is covered in detail in Section 2.4 of the Best Practice Guidelines

How to Identify EEA-wide Product Numbers

- Specific product models are sometimes sold under different product model numbers and different trademarks, even if they are in technical terms the same product.
 - e.g. identical washing machines sold as different brands



Washing Machine A



Washing Machine A



**Equivalent
Products**

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Manufacturers' use of different trademarks and different model identification for equivalent products is a substantial barrier for increased coordination of market surveillance activities across the EU. The proposed EU Product Registration Database, if adopted, would be likely to remove this challenging aspect for the work of the MSA.

Identifying Equivalent Models

- Different trademarks and model identifications for equivalent products are often a problem for MSAs controlling national markets.
- They present a barrier for increased coordination of market surveillance activities across the EU.
- However, information that clarifies the situation for a certain product can be requested by MSAs, according to Annex VI of Ecodesign Directive 2009/125/EC and Article 4 of Energy Labelling Directive 2010/30/EU.

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As noted in the slide, the respective Directives place a clear requirements in this respect on “the manufacturer or its authorised representative”

- The Ecodesign Directive 2009/125/EC requires “a description of the model sufficient for its unambiguous identification”

- The Energy Labelling Directive 2010/30/EU says “where values are used for similar models, the references allowing identification of those models.”

Equivalent Models Declaration

**IDENTITÄTSERKLÄRUNG
DECLARATION OF IDENTITY**

Wir erklären, dass das elektrotechnische Erzeugnis Trockner
We declare, that the electrical product Dryer

Approbationstyp / Approval type: WDT66

Marke/Brand	Verkaufstyp / sales type				
Brand A	WT46Y...	WT46Y...			
Brand B	WTY96...	WTY96...			
Brand C	WD 26...				
.					
.					
.....					

for which the EC - Declaration of Conformity No. 29 / 12 was Issued and

für das wir die Genehmigung zum Benutzen ihres Konformitätszeichens (Prüfzeichens) beantragen von dem geprüften Muster, für das die Mitteilung von Prüfergebnissen (Notification of Test Results)

for which we apply for the licence to use your mark of conformity deviates from the tested specimen for which the Notification of Test Results.

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A case study example of how one MSA sends a template for the manufacturer to complete in order to identify the equivalent models

Recommendations

- *MSAs should request information of equivalent models from the manufacturer or importer.*
- *MSAs should request information of products whose technical documentation is derived from the same “basic model” from the manufacturer or importer (when relevant).*

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These RECOMMENDATIONS are those given at the end of Section 2.4 of the Best Practice Guidelines. They provide guidance on the key requirements for model identification that manufacturers are required to supply if requested by MSAs.

Recommendations

- *In order to identify the equivalent models and models whose technical documentation is derived from the same “basic model”, the following documents can be requested:*
 - *Identity declaration. To establish the appliances covered by the same technical file (equivalent models) and/or those derived by calculation from the same “basic model”.*
 - *Test reports. To identify the basic model.*
 - *Calculations. To justify the changes, if any, in the nominal values of some models with respect to the test report of the basic model.*

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Best Practice Guidelines Sections 2.5 & 2.6

Conducting Label and Document Inspection

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The following group of slides is covered in detail in Sections 2.5 & 2.6 of the Best Practice Guidelines

Inspecting energy labels on products

- Products regulated under the Energy labelling Directive 2010/30/EU need to have a label and a fiche in accordance with the Directive.
- The information that is required to be included on the label is defined in the corresponding regulations specific to that product's sector
- The label and fiche need to fulfil the applicable requirements; otherwise the product does not meet the requirements of its corresponding regulation.

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Most of the requirements can be checked by a visual examination of the information displayed on products at the point of sale or in catalogues, internet web pages and advertising materials.

MSA staff will need to travel in order to inspect products at the point of sale. However, as there can often be a range of products available for inspection at a single location, then this form of market surveillance can be a cost effective activity.

Recommendations

- *Label inspection is an important part of market surveillance and should be considered when establishing national inspection programmes.*
- *Label inspection can be a stand-alone activity: if the content of the label and fiche of a product do not meet the requirements of its corresponding regulation, then there is a non-conformance with the relevant implementing measure under the Energy labelling Directive.*
- *It can also aid the selection of models for further compliance verification through document inspection and laboratory testing.*
- *Before starting a label inspection, the required content of the label and fiche need to be clarified according to the relevant implementing regulation(s).*

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These RECOMMENDATIONS are those given at the end of Section 2.5 of the Best Practice Guidelines.

Document Inspection

- Document inspection is an important part of market surveillance and should be considered when establishing national inspection programmes.
- Document inspection is a stand-alone activity. If the documentation of a product does not meet the requirements of its corresponding ecodesign or energy labelling regulation, then the product is not compliant and enforcement action can be taken.

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Products regulated under the Ecodesign Directive 2009/125/EC and the Energy labelling Directive 2010/30/EU need to have a technical file, consisting of documents relating to the conformity assessment that has been carried out by the manufacturer, making it possible for an assessment of the conformity of the product with the requirements of the directive and the relevant product specific regulation.

The technical documentation file consists of a number of documents, depending on the type of product. Requirements on the content of the technical documentation can be found in both Directives and in the product specific implementing regulations.

Document Inspection

- An effective document inspection can lead to significant cost savings in market surveillance.
- It can also be very useful for selecting products for further lab compliance testing.
- It is essential to define harmonised rules for document inspection in all the MS.
 - Otherwise, with different rules and procedures, the same manufacturer/importer could send the same documentation to different national MSAs in the same or different countries and it could be accepted only in some of them.

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Document inspection is one of the most cost effective procedures for MSAs to use. Costs for document inspection are much lower than the costs for testing samples in laboratories - see next Slide for more details on costs. See later slides and the Best Practice Guide for some case studies for how some MSAs undertake document inspections.

Cost Comparison: Denmark

Costs per inspection of technical documentation compared to the costs per laboratory testing...

- The costs for inspection of technical documentation typically amounts to about 400 – 600 €
- The costs for laboratory testing vary considerably from 700 € up to 4,000 € - excl. the administration cost in this respect

Products	Costs for inspection of technical documentation as a percentage of the costs for laboratory testing	Remarks on test costs
Consumer electronics (TV, standby, external power supply)	25 – 30 %	Relatively low test costs.
Household washing machines and dishwasher	< 10 %	High test costs
Household refrigerators and freezers and motors	10 – 20 %	Medium test costs
Household driers and ovens	20 – 25 %	Medium test costs
Air conditioners	< 10 %	High test costs

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Document Inspection

- Before starting a document inspection, the minimum content of the documentation and the rated and measured values to be provided according to the relevant implementing regulation(s) need to be clarified.



Flickr: Robert Couse-Baker

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Further guidance on the process of document inspection is provided in the following slides.

The starting point is to have copies of the relevant implementing regulation(s). All of these, for both the Ecodesign and Energy Labelling Directives, can be downloaded at no cost from

http://ec.europa.eu/growth/industry/sustainability/ecodesign/index_en.htm


Document Inspection

- The technical documentation file should include a list of all equivalent models of all the appliances covered by the same technical file (identity declaration). This should include all the appliances where the same basic model is used to derive compliance by calculation or interpolation.
- It is necessary to check that the manufacturer has not used the measurement tolerances prescribed in the regulations to achieve a more favourable score. (These tolerances have been prescribed for use by MSAs only.)

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Inspection Protocol

Two, perhaps three, options are available:

- a) National data logging scheme (perhaps using MS Excel or similar) 
- b) ICSMS
- ?) Reporting via ECO/EEPLIANT database




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Each of these three possible options is discussed in more detail in the following slides

Document Inspection: Excel Protocol (Denmark)

Kontrolskema_Opvaskemaskiner.xlsx

	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	
1	Dokumentkontrol opvaskemaskiner, Journalnr 1073																
2	Produktoplysninger																
3																	
4	Udtagne produkter				Kun skrive i orange felter												
5	Journalnr.	Producent	Modelbetegnelse	Kuvert antal	KWh N.prog.	Liter N.prog.	Minutter N.prog.	AEc kWh/år	AWc liter/år	EEl beregnet	E-klasse oplyst	E-klasse beregnet	Tærr- evne	Lyd dB(A)	Bredde	Modeltype	
6	Opvaskemaskiner																
7	1073-01	Producer (censored)	Model	15				239,00	3.080	49,5	A+++		A			Indbyg	
8	1073-02			12				257,00	2.800	55,6	A++		A				Indbyg
9	1073-03			14				266,00	3.640	55,9	A++		A				Indbyg
10	1073-04			12				258,00	2.800	55,8	A++		A				Indbyg
11	1073-05			14				237,00	2.716	49,8	A+++		A				Indbyg
12	1073-06			13				262,00	3.024	55,9	A++		A				Indbyg
13	1073-07			13				194,00	1.960	41,4	A+++		A				Indbyg
14	1073-08			13				230,00	2.380	49,0	A+++		A				Indbyg
15	1073-09			12				266,00	3.080	57,6	A++		A+		A		Indbyg
16	1073-10			14				263,00	3.080	55,3	A++		A		A		Indbyg
17																	
18																	


 Product information
 from manufacturer

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This and the next slide show how a MSA constructs their own Excel spreadsheet on which to collect the results of their document inspections. The energy efficiency measurements of most products is derived through calculations and the formulae for these can be embedded into the spreadsheet, making it very convenient to use once it has been set up.

However, it is difficult for different MSAs to have access to such files being held by individual MSAs, so this approach may not be ideal for collaborative projects.

Document Inspection: Excel protocol (Denmark)

Opvaskemaskiner.xlsx

Dokumentkontrol opvaskemaskiner

Kontrol af teknisk dokumentation (TD) - tekniske parametre

Udføge produkter Kun skrive i orange felter

Producent Model beregning Hvis de målte værdier afviger fra de deklarerede, anføres det i kommentar felt

Opvaskemaskiner	Kuvert antal	AEC	AEC OK? Ja/nej	S4Ec	EEl	EEl OK? Ja/nej	Energi-klasse	Energi-klasse OK? Ja/nej	Et	Po	Pl	Tt	Ti	Etst	Alt	Wt	ID (bar) indeks	Ternede is OK? Ja/nej	Ternede ternene	Ternede klasser OK? Ja/nej	Lyd (dB(A))	Energi-klasse OK? Ja/nej	Opvaskescoreindeks, ic	Ecodesign krav overholdt?	TD ok? Ja/nej	Kommentar
Producent (censored) Model (censored)	15	280,49	ja	481	49,8	ja	A+++	ja	0,856	0,1	0,99	225	10	60	3,045	10,9	1,11	ja	A	ja	39	ok	1,16	ja	ja	Po ikke afr
	12	265,15	nej	462	57,4	nej	A+	nej	0,920	0,10	0,91	191	0	60	2,817	10,1	1,08	ja	B	nej	42	ok	1,12	nej	nej	AEC er ber
	14	268,28	nej	476	56,4	nej	A+	nej	0,930	0,09	0,96	198	0	60	3,662	13,1	1,10	ja	A	ja	42	ok	1,12	nej	nej	Opvaskeer
	12	258,45	ja	462	55,9	ja	A+++	ja	0,897	0,27	0,78	170	0	60	2,783	9,9	1,11	ja	A	ja	47	ok	1,14	ja	ja	Opvaskeer
	14	228,36	ja	476	48,0	ja	A+++	ja	0,81	0,19	1,43	190	10	60	2,688	9,6	1,13	ja	A	ja	43	ok	1,13	ja	ja	TD ok
	13	289,52	ja	469	53,2	ja	A+++	ja	0,88	0,38	1,32	145	10	60	2,744	9,8	1,09	ja	A	ja	45	ok	1,12	nej	nej	Et ikke afr
	13	193,49	ja	469	43,1	ja	A+++	ja	0,670	0,50	0,50	195	0	60	1,960	7,0	1,09	ja	A	ja	44	ok	1,13	ja	ja	TD ok
	13	222,78	ja	469	47,5	ja	A+++	ja	0,795	0,02	0,75	173	5	60	2,352	8,4	1,10	ja	A	ja	41	ok	1,15	ja	ja	TD ok
	14	265,79	ja	476	55,8	ja	A+++	ja	0,930	0,48	0,44	178	0	-	10,6	1,08	ja	B	nej	-	ok	1,13	nej	nej	Lyd ikke op	
	14	246,39	ja	476	51,8	ja	A+++	ja	0,869	0,40	0,70	235	3	60	2,604	9,3	1,12	ja	A	ja	-	ok	1,15	ja	ja	14 kuverte

CE-erklæring **Teknisk dokumentation** Oplysningskema Kontrolark til oplysningskema

Technical documentation check

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Document Inspection: ICSMS

- ICSMS is expected to be increasingly used by MSAs for recording the results of all their inspections. This will enable all results to be accessible to all MSAs.
- Currently (at January 2016), it just has generic and not product-specific templates for ecodesign and energy labelling.
- Data from MSAs can be uploaded to ICSMS via web service transfer. Note that uploading from Excel files is not the preferred route.
- At some time in the future, ICSMS is expected to include at least some product specific Directive Related Product Information (DRPI) templates for ecodesign and energy labelling.
- It is possible that further developments will be announced in respect of ICSMS and EEPLIANT during 2016. If so, these slides will be updated.

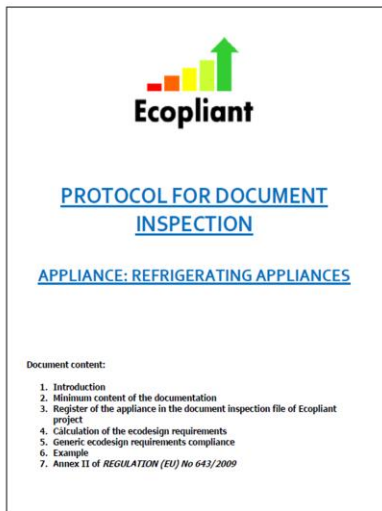
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More information regarding the use of ICSMS for sharing results is given in Module D and in Section 2.8 of the Best Practice Guidelines.

The EEPLIANT project is currently in discussion with the ADCOs and ICSMS management to explore whether DRPIs can be developed for 2 (LEDs and Heaters) of its product sectors in time for the DRPIs to be used on the project.

The 3rd product sector in EEPLIANT, imaging equipment, is expected to use the ECO/EEPLIANT database (see next slide)

Document Inspection: Ecopliant database protocol



1. Introduction
2. Minimum documentation requirements
3. Registering appliance in ecopliant inspection file
4. Calculation of requirements
5. Generic ecodesign compliance
6. Example appliance
7. Annexes from regulation

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The ECOPLIANT database was developed during that earlier project because, at that time, ICSMS did not include any provision for ecodesign. The ECOPLIANT database has been custom designed to support all data entries for ecodesign product inspections by MSAs and includes embedded calculations to maximise convenience of use. As such, it is the equivalent of what ICSMS would become once the product DRPIs have been developed.

It is available for use (request access via info@prosafe.org) by all MSAs though, currently, none are continuing to use it.

The database will be further developed under the EEPLIANT project for imaging equipment.

Example: Finland Checking CE & DoC

 **tukes**

- Finnish Safety and Chemicals Agency (Tukes) has limited funds for market surveillance - prefer document control over expensive tests.
- Easiest document inspection is to check the markings of physical product and ask for the EU Declaration of Conformity (DoC) required by the Ecodesign Directive.
- If no CE marking and/or DoC, the economic operator is clearly unaware of EU regulations, and product needs to be banned without any other proof of non-conformity.
 - However, if minor flaws, Tukes notifies economic operator and asks to be fixed.
- Tukes also educates the Finnish manufacturers, importers and retailers. Different guides and examples of DoCs are available on their website.

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A case study example of document inspection carried out by a MSA

Example: Denmark Document Inspection

- Denmark uses document inspection to target models for lab tests.
- Inspection begins with document inspections of several models.
 - When clearly non-compliant, actions can be taken directly.
 - In many cases formal non-compliance cannot be established, but MSA has a well-founded suspicion to carry out further enforcement activities.
- When selecting models for lab tests based on document inspection, the following factors are taken into account:
 - Models which were clearly non-compliant are excluded from lab tests.
 - The brand's performance in previous inspections
 - Overall impression of the presented documents (credibility, transparency, issuer of documents)

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A case study example of document inspection carried out by a MSA

Example: Spain (FFII) Document Inspection

- Procedure: Inspector visits shop and selects appliances.
 - In the shop he photographs appliance and energy label then requests from the seller the documentation available to the consumer
 - If product specific complaint made to the authority (FFII), the inspectors look for this product in the market and proceed as above
- FFII writes to manufacturer asking for minimum documentation (test report, declaration of conformity, etc.), defining values required in documents.
- FFII analyses documentation, checking rated values match the measured values.
- Manufacturer is officially asked about all the models covered by the same documentation in the Spanish market to ask for solutions for all of them when necessary.

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A case study example of document inspection carried out by a MSA

Discussion

Document inspection protocols

Does your MSA identify non-compliant products by document inspection?

Will these protocols and case study examples be useful?

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This slide encourages you to reflect on the information provided in the preceding slides and to discuss the content and main topics with colleagues.

Best Practice Guidelines Section 2.7

Conducting Compliance Verification Laboratory Tests

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The following group of slides is covered in detail in Section 2.7 of the Best Practice Guidelines

Testing Products

The Ecodesign Directive states that:

“Measurements of the relevant product parameters should be performed using reliable, accurate and reproducible measurement methods, which take into account the recognised state-of-the-art measurement methods including, where available, harmonised standards adopted by the European standardisation bodies...”

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The technical product compliance is determined through measurements done in test laboratories following harmonized EN standards or transitional method(s) published by the European Commission.

Testing products can be very expensive and usually would only be considered only when all other MSA inspection processes have been completed without identifying a non-compliance.

Choosing Testing Labs

Selection of well qualified testing labs is important. Accreditation to EN17025 for the relevant test method gives a specific indication of quality.

Define the content and design of the test reports.

Mutual recognition of test results across Europe is important for maximising sharing of results.

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The importance of accurate measurements in relation to the Directives is stressed throughout the product specific implementing measures.

The verification of product compliance through laboratory testing and the function that laboratories play in delivering reliable and accurate results is therefore central to the effective enforcement and success of these Directives. When selecting laboratories for testing, many MSAs base their choice on criteria such as established expertise, reliability of results, accreditation, available budget and services offered.

Recommendations

- *When selecting laboratories, consider accreditation, competence and reliability of test results.*
- *The following practical considerations should also be made:*
 - *Clear objectives, including e.g. the applicable verification procedure*
 - *Legal considerations, e.g. handling of evidence in line with national processes*
 - *Financial planning*
 - *Commercial incentives, e.g. when some laboratories require guarantees of work to ensure that acquiring accreditation is commercially viable*
 - *Mutual recognition of the test results by other MSAs in other Member States*

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These RECOMMENDATIONS are those given at the end of Section 2.7 of the Best Practice Guidelines. They highlight topics that MSAs need to consider when selecting laboratories for testing samples.

Example: testing of motors

- DEA (DK), SEA (SE) and NMRO (UK) wanted to test new electric motors together
- No accredited lab in either Sweden or UK
- The joint testing was done at D.T.I., Danish Technological Institute
 - UK, Sweden and Denmark tested 30+ motors
 - Selection of brands and models was co-ordinated
 - All motors passed the tests

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This example highlights another challenge faced by MSAs when selecting a laboratory for testing. It is that there may be no suitable laboratory in that MS.

In this case it will be important to ensure that the test report from the non-national laboratory is acceptable within the national legal system.

Some MSAs manage this problem by commissioning the testing through a national laboratory of high repute who then sub-contracts and supervises the testing done in the laboratory in another MS. The originally contracted laboratory then prepares a test report in the correct national language that is suitable for use within the national legal system.

Example: Motor test report

Compliance to:
COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No. 640/2009 of 22 July 2009.
Implementing Directive 2005/32/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council
with regard to eco-design requirements for electric motors.

Compliance result:

PASSED

Test result:

Measured Efficiency	Corresponding class (IEC 60034-30)	Requirement for Compliance:	Requirement for IE2 (IEC 60034-30)
77,0%	IE2	72,3%	75,9%

Energy and Climate
Centre for Energy Efficiency & Ventilation

60034 report 2012 ver B

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Discussion

Choosing testing labs

What are your experiences of working with testing labs?

What problems have you encountered?

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This slide encourages you to reflect on the information provided in the preceding slides and to discuss the content and main topics with colleagues.

Third Party Funding

- Verification, monitoring and enforcement of these Directives has time, financial and human costs.
- These costs can be higher than nationally available resources.
- Third party funding is an option for laboratory testing
 - e.g. funding or support from trades association, industry or grants, other initiatives

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In some cases, MSAs may not have all such resources making market surveillance almost impossible and as consequence putting at risk the Directives' intended economic and environmental benefits. Some MSAs consider funding by third parties as a way to enlarge the available economic resources for their work.

A third party can be described as any private or public subject not directly involved in market surveillance e.g. trade associations, industry or grants, and other funding initiatives including European Commission's funded projects, such as EEPLIANT.

Third Party Funding

- **Regulatory**
 - Some MSAs have, for example, powers which allow for the recovery of testing and other costs. This regulatory process can be considered as a reactive form of third party funding.
- **Industry Cooperation**
 - Cooperation forms: direct funding (subsidies), indirect funding (access to human or laboratory resources) and shared work.
- **EU Programmes**
 - initiatives such as the Horizon 2020 programme that has funded this EEPLIANT project.

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Recommendations

- *Different third party funding models exist and can be used by MSAs as part of a balanced approach to raise financial resources for national market surveillance actions.*
- *Regardless of the model used, it is essential that MSAs retain the following characteristics to maintain the operational effectiveness and efficiency of market surveillance:*
 - *Independence*
 - *Transparency*
 - *Impartiality*
 - *Objectivity.*

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These RECOMMENDATIONS are those given at the end of Section 2.7.2 of the Best Practice Guidelines. They highlight topics that MSAs need to consider when considering the possibilities for third party funding.