

Washing Machines and Professional Refrigerators on the EU Market:

HOW WELL DO THEY COMPLY WITH ENERGY-RELATED REQUIREMENTS?

The Joint Action JAHARP2022-01 Surveyed the Single Market to verify the compliance of household washing machines and professional refrigerated storage cabinets with the EU Ecodesign and Energy Labelling Regulations. The project, coordinated by [PROSAFE](#), started in April 2023 and will end in March 2025.

HOUSEHOLD WASHING MACHINES



Legislation:

Regulation (EU) 2019/2023
Regulation (EU) 2019/2014

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The MSAs selected **46 models of washing machines for document inspection and less than 30% of models proved to be fully compliant.**

There were errors in the Declaration of Conformity and the information for consumers and inspectors did not meet the requirements in the ecodesign and the energy labelling regulations.

The authorities are collaborating with the Economic Operators and many have taken voluntary measures bringing their products' documentation into compliance.

Eight models out of the 46 selected have been tested by an accredited laboratory for the washing performance, rinsing effectiveness, and, for some models, also the noise and low power mode requirements.

This is the first Joint Action which has included testing using the new requirements, including a combination of washing cycles of quarter, half and full loads and measuring the maximum temperature inside the wash.

All samples passed the noise and rinsing effectiveness tests. However, following the single tests, **5 out of 8 models had presumed technical non-compliances on a variety of other parameters of washing performance and one on low power mode.** One model is currently being triple tested.

test results

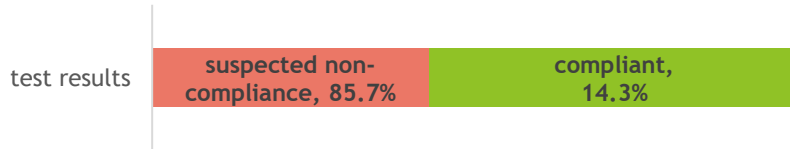
suspected non-compliance, 62.5%

compliant, 37.5%

Caution! The results are based on products that were sampled from the markets in the participating countries by experienced market surveillance inspectors. As in any routine market surveillance activity, the results represent the targeted efforts that authorities undertake to identify non-compliant products. They do not give a statistically valid picture of the market situation.

PROFESSIONAL REFRIGERATED STORAGE CABINETS

14 models of cabinets from seven different EU Member States were selected following a risk-based approach and tested in an accredited laboratory, with only two of them assessed as compliant after single testing.



The preliminary results show a wide range of issues:

- For only one third of the models, the test lab had confirmed the **declared volume** measurements, with the remaining two thirds having errors ranging from 6% to 35%
- Half of the models failed the **temperature attainment test**
- 57% failed due to **excessive energy consumption**, with one model consuming 80% more than the figure declared

One model was triple tested, and the test results are currently being evaluated by the responsible MSA.

Witnessing of testing

The participating MSAs had the opportunity to witness testing at the lab and discuss findings with the technical experts. This helped them understand the practical aspects of (non)compliance.

Documentation checks

Documentation checks were carried out on 60 models, a quarter of which were not found in EPREL, this being an instance of non-compliance. Out of those present in EPREL, 93% had included adequate data.

The main administrative non-conformities were:

- Failure to declare the Global Warming Potential (GWP) of the refrigerant, the refrigerant charge and the Energy Efficiency Index (EEI) in the instruction booklet.
- Only one third of the samples complied with the information requirements of the ecodesign regulation, though many were relatively minor failures (e.g., missing data).

The Energy Label requirements were met in 64% of the cases. Documentation checks showed substantial improvement over similar checks carried out in 2018 and 2019 as part of the EU-Funded Joint Action [EEPLIANT2](#), but further work is still necessary.



Legislation:

Regulation (EU) 2015/1095

Regulation (EU) 2015/1094

JAHARP2022

5 PROJECTS

25 MSAS

16 COUNTRIES

MAIN CHALLENGES

The participants have observed, for both product groups, that **small European suppliers tend not to be aware of their responsibilities** when rebranding a product originally manufactured by a different economic operator. By doing so they take on the responsibilities of being the manufacturer as far as the EU market is concerned. Administrative failures are in good amount caused by this lack of awareness.

Some washing machines are supplied without a specific programme with a maximum temperature of 20°C, even though this is required by the ecodesign regulation (EU) 2019/2023.

For professional refrigerators a technical failure of temperature attainment could lead to **food safety issues** and must be corrected.

THE WAY FORWARD

MSAs are now in the process of **assessing risks** from the non-compliances identified. So far, 10% of the evaluated professional refrigerators have non-conformities which are assessed as ‘serious’, meaning they missed requirements by large margins and are unlikely to be brought into compliance.

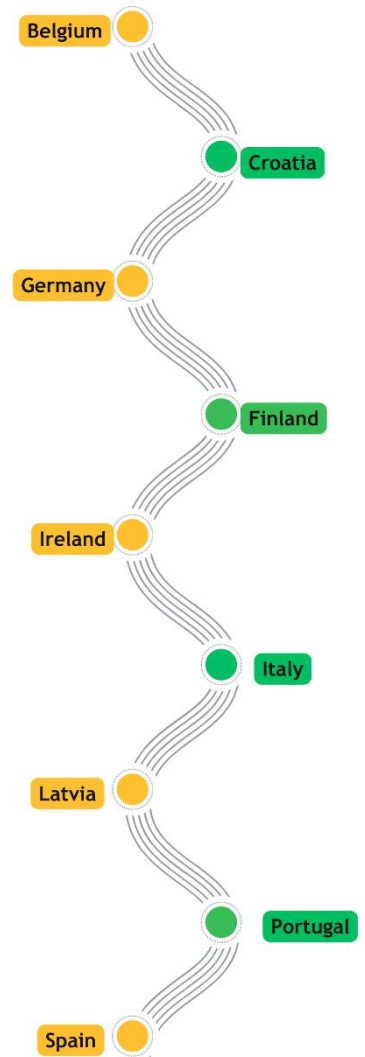
The MSAs are currently evaluating which **enforcement actions** they will take in relation to the observed non-conformities.

PROSAFE will draft **recommendations for MSAs, economic operators and the European Commission** to support the improvement of the compliance on the market and the efficient implementation of the European Green Deal.

FINAL CONFERENCE

The Final Conference of the Joint Action will be held on **12 March 2025**. The 9 participating Market Surveillance Authorities (MSAs) from 9 EU Countries will present the key results and lessons learnt to the European Commission and interested stakeholders. If you would like to join, please register at this [link](#).

JAHARP2022-01 Member States



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