

For the attention of manufacturers and importers

Placement on the market of refrigerating appliances,
dishwashers, washing machines and washer dryers from
the 1st March 2024

February 2024

Introduction

The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) is the Market Surveillance Authority for the enforcement of legislation relating to energy labelling and ecodesign of energy-related products in Ireland.

Most of the requirements in the following Ecodesign Regulations came into force from 1st March 2021 - Regulation (EU) 2019/2019, Regulation (EU) 2019/2022, and Regulation (EU) 2019/2023.

However, some updated maximum energy efficiency index (EEI) values and functional requirements are to be applied from the **1st March 2024**.

The MSA is reminding manufacturers and importers to ensure they understand these new requirements and how they will affect existing and upcoming supply chain arrangements.

Products concerned

These changes will impact manufacturers and importers of refrigerating appliances, dishwashers, washing machines and washer dryers of certain energy efficiency classes.

These requirements apply to the placing on the market or the putting into service of the above appliances from the 1st March 2024. 'Placing on the market' means making a product available for the first time on the European market with a view to its distribution or use within the EU, whether for reward or free of charge and irrespective of the selling technique;¹

¹ As per definitions set out in Article 2 of Directive 2009/125/EC (Ecodesign Directive):

*"Placing on the market' means making a product available for the first time on the Community market with a view to its distribution or use within the Community, whether for reward or free of charge and irrespective of the selling technique;(...)
'Putting into service' means the first use of a product for its intended purpose by an end-user in the Community;"*

You can find more information on and examples of “placing on the market” and “putting into service” in sections 2.3 to 2.6 of the ‘Blue Guide’ on the implementation of EU product Rules 2022 ². The document can be accessed here:

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:C:2022:247:FULL&from=EN>

Summary of the new requirements, applicable from 1st March 2024

Changes from 1st March 2024 include the following:

Commission Regulation (EU) 2019/2019 of 1st October 2019 laying down ecodesign requirements for refrigerating appliances

Annex II, Point 1 on energy efficiency requirement

“(b) From 1 March 2024, the EEI of refrigerating appliances shall not be above the values set out in Table 2.

Table 2 - Maximum EEI for refrigerating appliances, expressed in %

	EEI
<i>dedicated low noise refrigerating appliances with fresh food compartment(s)</i>	312
<i>low noise refrigerating appliances with transparent door(s)</i>	300
<i>other low noise refrigerating appliances, with the exception of low noise combi appliances with a frozen compartment</i>	250
<i>wine storage appliances with transparent door(s)</i>	172
<i>other wine storage appliances</i>	140
<i>all other refrigerating appliances, with the exception of low noise combi appliances with a frozen compartment</i>	100

”

Annex II, Point 2(a) and (b) on functional requirements

Additionally, from the 1st March 2024, the functional requirements laid down in points 2(a) and (b) of Annex II of Regulation (EU) 2019/2019 will apply to “combi appliances with one electromechanical thermostat and one compressor which are not equipped with an electronic control board”.

“(a) Any fast freeze facility, or any similar function achieved through modification of the temperature settings in freezer compartments, shall, once activated by the end-user according to the manufacturer’s, the importer’s or authorised representative’s instructions, automatically revert to the previous normal storage conditions after no more than 72 hours.

(b) Winter settings shall be automatically activated or de-activated according to the need to maintain the frozen compartment(s) at the correct temperature.”

² 2022/C 247/01 Commission Notice The ‘Blue Guide’ on the implementation of EU product rules 2022.

Commission Regulation (EU) 2019/2022 of 1st October 2019 laying down ecodesign requirements for household dishwashers

Annex II Point 2 on energy efficiency requirements

***“From 1 March 2024, household dishwashers shall meet the following requirement:
(...) (b) the EEI shall be less than 56 for household dishwashers with a rated capacity equal to or more than 10 place settings.”***

Commission Regulation (EU) 2019/2023 of 1st October 2019 laying down ecodesign requirements for household washing machines and household washer- dryers

Annex II Point 3 on energy efficiency requirements

“From 1 March 2024, household washing machines with a rated capacity higher than 3 kg and household washer-dryers with a rated washing capacity higher than 3 kg shall meet the following requirements:

(...) (3) the EEIW for household washing machines and the washing cycle of household washer-dryers shall be lower than 91.

(...) (4) the EEIWD for the wash and dry cycle of household washer-dryers shall be lower than 88.

(...) The EEIW and EEIWD shall be calculated in accordance with Annex III.”

Other information

It should be noted that if a product's declared values (including the EEI) do not meet all the requirements laid down in the applicable regulation(s), or if the energy efficiency or functional requirements are not met, the model and all equivalent models are considered to be non-compliant.

This notice has been issued for information purposes only, please refer to the regulations and to the 'Blue Guide' to access the full extent of the requirements.

For further information, please contact info@seai.ie.