

Day 2 International Whitegoods Workshop

Australian efforts at copying US refrigerator MEPS

October 2013

thinkchange



Overview

- History of refrigerator MEPS in Australia
- Process to align with 2014 MEPS levels
- Overview of consultation process over past 2 years
- Ongoing work towards implementation

Background 1

- Australia first introduced MEPS levels for refrigeration in 1999
- Levels were locally developed, based on initial market analysis in 1993 (George Wilkenfeld and Associates)
- Some industry input and adjustment in 1996 before finalised
- US announced their 2001 MEPS levels in the late 1990s
- Australia announced that it would adapt these levels as being world best practice regulation of one of our major trading partners

Background 2

- Work was undertaken in 2000 to set equivalent levels
- No products complied with proposed levels in 2000
- RIS was completed in 2001
- New edition of AS/NZS4474.2 with these MEPS level published in 2001
- MEPS came into force in 1 January 2005
- Test method revised in 2007 (small adjustments)

New US MEPS 2014 announced in 2011

- US started work on new MEPS levels in about 2009
- Final levels announced in 2011, come into force in 2014
- US also announced new test procedure in 2010/2011 – largely aligned with forthcoming IEC (some discrepancies)

Australia announces it will follow latest US MEPS levels

- Whitegoods forum in October 2011, Australia announced that it would adopt US 2014 MEPS levels
- Australia would also adopt forthcoming IEC62552 Edition 2 as the test method
- Released Paper 1: Summary of New MEPS Levels for Refrigerator in the USA
- Released Paper 2: Road Map for MEPS3 in Australia and NZ – Issues for Stakeholders in the Alignment with US MEPS 2014
- In 2011 fewer than 20% of local models would meet new MEPS levels

Ongoing Discussions in 2012 - papers

- Paper 3: MEPS3 – Preliminary Impact Assessment of New MEPS Levels in 2015, May 2012
- Paper 4: Technical Support Document on MEPS and Labelling for 2015 for Energy-using Refrigeration Equipment, May 2012
- Regulatory Discussion Document: Government agency proposed pathway to regulate refrigeration equipment, August 2012
- Proposal to move energy labelling value closer to typical use
- Industry submissions on these papers received in August 2012

Whitegoods Forum in March 2013

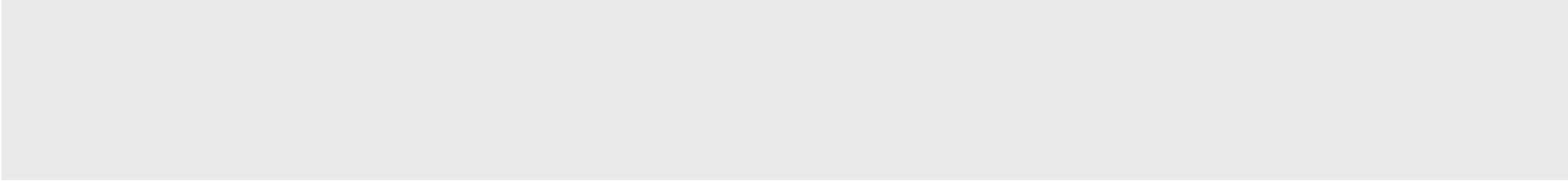
- Release of a draft Part 2
- Release of a draft determination
- Initial proposal for energy label algorithm adjustment
- Revision of timetable to be 1 January 2017 after industry consultation
- Invitation for further submissions in April 2013
- Workshop on 31 July 2013 to map out next steps

Further work

- Round robin of 6 test laboratories commenced in August 2013
- Detailed review of IEC test method with a review to making a final submission to the IEC SC59M meeting in December 2013 on key issues
- Regulatory Impact Statement in preparation
- Determination in preparation

Conclusions

- New refrigerator MEPS levels in 2017 (based in US2014) will result in significant energy reductions
- Some small adjustments made to MEPS levels to take account performance requirements
- Adoption of the new IEC test procedure will put new policy in an international context
- Small countries like Australia and New Zealand rely on major economies setting world best practice requirements
- Ongoing dialogue with industry on technical issues
- Regulatory processes proceeding



The End