



The EC Energy Star programme

Explanation Screening meeting

Chapter 15 – ENERGY

16 May 2006, Brussels





The EC Energy Star Programme for office equipment

- aims at fostering the energy efficiency of office equipment being traded worldwide – without introducing trade barriers
- covers office equipment only, i.e. computers, computer monitors and «imaging equipment» (printers, copiers, fax machines)
- is a voluntary labelling programme for products complying with certain energy efficiency criteria («technical specifications»)
- is carried out jointly by the EC and the USA since 2001 on the grounds of an Agreement expiring in June 2006
- is also implemented by other main trading partners worldwide (e.g. Japan, Canada, Australia, South Korea)





Why office equipment ?

Because ...

- office equipment has a significant share (approx. 5%) of the electricity consumption in the EC
- without measures the share is likely to rise due to more and more powerful functionalities and increasing stock in homes and offices
- it has to be taken into account for reaching the EC's goals regarding sustainable energy, cf. Green paper on energy efficiency (COM(2005) 265 final)



Acquis Energy Star: currently undergoing revision

- Agreement with the USA (OJ L 172/3) – expiring 7 June 2006
- New Agreement is currently being negotiated
- Commission Decision 2005/42/EC (revision of monitor technical specifications): Tier 2 levels will be included in new Agreement

To be renewed on basis of new Agreement:

- Council Decision 2003/269/EC: conclusion of current Agreement
- Regulation No 2422/2001: programme implementation in EC
- Commission Decision 2003/168/EC: EC Energy Star Board





The EC Energy Star Board

- consultative forum consisting of member state and stakeholder (industry, consumers, retailers, NGOs ...) representatives
- «... shall review the implementation within the Community of the Energy Star programme and shall provide advice and assistance to the Commission, as appropriate, to enable it to carry out its role as management entity» (Regulation 2422/2001, Article 8)
- In practice: EC Energy Star Board is convened 1-2 times per year to discuss e.g. new technical specifications, work plan ...



Principal tools for programme implementation I

- logo for products complying with the technical specifications
- complying products registered on a voluntary basis by manufacturers

Current:



Foreseen in draft new Agreement:





Principal tools for programme implementation II

- continuously updated database of registered products (access via internet portal):
 - market transparency
 - allows to select particular energy efficient product (relevant for procurement and private purchasing decisions)
 - public domain, i.e. may be used for national actions



Principal tools for programme implementation III

- Internet portal www.eu-energystar.org managed by the Commission
 - information for home and business users, e.g. how to use equipment efficiently (energy calculator)
 - tools for manufacturers (registration forms etc.)
 - Transparency of programme implementation: minutes of EC Energy Star Board meetings, process for revision of technical specifications etc.



Proposed «core» amendments in respect to the current Agreement:

- demanding new technical specifications to be included in the new Agreement for the equipment covered
- It is expected that Energy Star levels will be met by large part of the market in a few years → large energy savings may be achieved



Current Status of renewal of Agreement with the USA

- the EC Energy Star Board, the Commission and the US Environmental Protection Agency are in favour of renewing the Agreement for a second period of five years
- in April Council has granted mandate to the Commission to negotiate new Agreement
- it is planned that the new Agreement is initialled in June

After new Agreement has been signed: associated acquis is going to be revised