

Energy Efficiency Compliant Products 2014 (EEPLIANT 2014)

Summary Overview of Imaging Equipment Testing

1 Introduction

An important activity of EEPLIANT Work Package 5 (WP5) is the testing of a number of printers and multi-functional devices (MFDs) to check compliance with the requirements laid down in the Industry Voluntary Agreement (VA) (version 5.2) which was published by EuroVAprint ASBL and endorsed by the European Commission. The Industry VA of imaging equipment was developed as an alternative to formal mandatory Ecodesign measures on imaging equipment.

The VA covers a subset of imaging equipment (printers and MFDs) that is designed for use in households and offices. The following types of imaging equipment within scope of the VA are shown in Table 1:

Product Category	Marking Technologies	Size Format and Imaging Speed Limitations
Printers	Electrophotography	Standard black & white format products with maximum speed < 66 A4 images per minute
Multifunction Devices (MFDs)		
Photocopiers	High performance Inkjet	Standard Colour format products with maximum speed <51 A4 images per minute
Fax machines	Solid Ink	
External Power Supplies (EPS) (where placed on market with imaging equipment)	N/A	N/A

Table 1 – Imaging Equipment within scope of the Voluntary Agreement (version 5.2)

The VA includes a wide range of environmental requirements on imaging equipment, across a wide range of impact categories. For energy in use, the VA requires that targeted percentages of manufacturers' products are compliant to many of the requirements in the ENERGY STAR specification for imaging equipment (v2.0).

The EEPLIANT activities will concentrate on confirming compliance to the VA requirements based on the ENERGY STAR v2.0 specification for imaging equipment. Products that are both known to be within scope of the VA and have been used by the VA signatories to meet their coverage targets have been selected. EEPLIANT WP5 activities will include both document inspections and laboratory testing.

12.10.2016

2 Number of Products

The EEPLIANT WP5 activities will cover the numbers and types of products shown in Table 2.

Product Type	Marking Technology	Low cost imaging equipment for domestic use	Medium speed and cost office imaging equipment	High speed and cost office imaging equipment	Totals
MFD	Inkjet	15	0	2	17
MFD	Laser	5	3	1	9
Printer	Inkjet	5	1	0	6
Printer	Laser	3	2	3	8
All		28	6	6	40

Table 2 – EEPLIANT WP5 Product Numbers and Type

There above product types have been chosen due to the following reasons:

- The product distributions are based on the distribution of products found in the market with alterations to account for products that are known to be used by the VA signatories to meet their coverage obligations.
- The document inspection will cover all products in the table.
- The final distribution of tested products will be dependent on whether any potential non-compliances are found. That is, if a product is shown to be potentially non-compliant with specific ENERGY STAR v2.0 requirements then additional units of the same model will be purchased and tested to confirm compliance status for that model.
- The total number of products to be tested will remain unchanged as budget limitations will not allow for more than 40 products to be tested.
- The testing of products will be conducted in an EU based laboratory.

3 Progress with Activities

So far the EEPLIANT WP5 activities have progressed in a number of areas:

- A list of products known to be used by manufacturers to meet their VA targets has been developed
- The products to be considered for documentation checks review have been selected
- WP5 members have requested the documentation from the relevant manufacturers
- Two WP5 members have purchased products ahead of testing (20 products total)
- Final contracts with the test laboratory have been signed

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The next steps in the EEPLIANT WP5 list of activities will be to:

- Start shipping products to the test house
- Continue with documentation checks
- Start to review results of testing for the first 10 products
- Continue with the purchasing and testing of the remaining 20 products.

Disclaimer

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12.10.2016

EEPLIANT project summary

The EEPLIANT project was designed to help deliver the intended economic and environment benefits of the Energy Labelling and Ecodesign Directives by increasing the rates of product compliance with them.

The EEPLIANT project team, consisting of 13 Market Surveillance Authorities from across the EU, organises coordinated **monitoring**, **verification** and **enforcement** activities, including product testing of **LED lamps**, **printers** and **heaters**.

In addition to the product testing activities, the project also ensures an inspection of the products' technical documentation, defines market surveillance best practices and shares these among the participating market surveillance authorities, but also the other national and regional authorities within the EU, and ensures regular communication and awareness activities, targeting e.g. the professional stakeholders, the civic society, governments, etc.

More about the project: www.eepliant.eu and www.twitter.com/eepliant

How EEPLIANT works

Each of the product categories selected by the project has the following set of activities undertaken throughout the project:

- **Document inspection** - verification of the technical documentation which the suppliers have to make available to authorities upon their request - relevant for LED and boiler testing, the imaging equipment is regulated by the Energy Star requirements;
- **Screen testing** - undertaking of preliminary tests to identify and assess the likelihood that a certain model would fail full compliance testing;
- **Coordinated compliance testing** - full scale testing of a selected number of models, in part preselected from the range of models failing the screen testing stage.

For more information, see: <http://www.eepliant.eu/index.php/about-eepliant/description>

Background information

This information is issued by PROSAFE and the market surveillance authorities representing 12 EU Member States in the EEPLIANT 2014 Action.

The Action is coordinated by PROSAFE (Product Safety Forum of Europe), a non-profit organisation that brings together market surveillance officers from all over Europe and across the world. Visit www.prosafe.org to learn more. On this website you will also find more information about the other Joint Actions coordinated by PROSAFE.

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