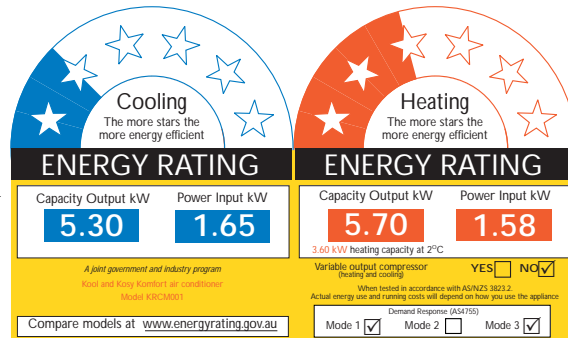
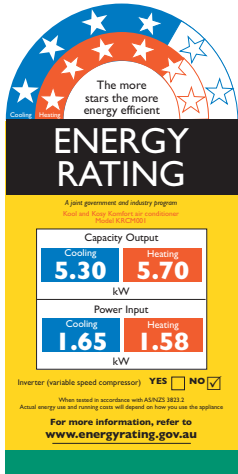


Transitional Arrangements Air Conditioners 2009-2011

Revised Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS) and New Energy Labels



Dates

New MEPS and energy labelling requirements for air conditioners with a cooling output up to 65kW come into force on 1 April 2010 with transitional arrangements commencing in October 2009. There will be further changes in 2011.

While the appearance and dimensions of the labels will be similar the revised algorithm will reduce the number of stars on the label for the same energy consumption. Once a rating exceeds 6 stars an additional crown will be added to accommodate 10 stars for super efficient appliances.

OCTOBER 2009

The new standard AS/NZS3823.2:2009 was published on 6 October 2009.

DECEMBER 2009

Two months following the publication of the standard regulators will only accept registrations against the new standard.

1 APRIL 2010

- > All Products manufactured or imported from 1 April 2010 have to be registered to the new standard (see registration requirements below).
- > New energy star rating labelling will be based on the revised algorithms specified in AS/NZS3823.2:2009.
- > The following changes will also be introduced:
 - o More stringent MEPS levels for most products in cooling mode;
 - o MEPS levels for heating mode for all products with a heating function;

- o Inclusion of standby power consumption and crankcase heater energy use in the new energy labelling algorithm; and
- o The requirement to report the presence of demand response capabilities at the time of product registration with regulators.

1 APRIL 2011

- > An upgrade of MEPS levels for heating and cooling with the inclusion of standby power and other non-operational power into the MEPS limits;
- > Inclusion of mandatory power factor requirements i.e. the degree to which an air conditioner increases the current required which in turn effects peak load.

Standard Availability

Full details of these labelling requirements and an explanation of products covered are provided in the standard "Performance of electrical appliances – Air conditioners and heat pumps: Energy labelling and minimum energy performance standard (MEPS) requirements" AS/NZS3823.2:2009. Details on the relevant methods of rating and testing are published in AS/NZS3823.1.1, AS/NZS3823.1.2, AS/NZS3823.1.3 and AS/NZS3823.3 (as applicable). These are available from:

- > Standards Australia – www.standards.com.au
- > Standards New Zealand – www.standards.com.nz
- > SAI Global – www.saiglobal.com

Inclusions

The scope of the Standard covers:

- > The energy labelling requirements for single-phase non-ducted air conditioners of the vapour compression type.

- > MEPS requirements for single-phase and three-phase air conditioners of the vapour compression type up to a rated cooling capacity of 65kW and that fall within the scope of the testing standards AS/NZS3823.1.1:1998 as amended, AS/NZS3823.1.2:2001 as amended, or AS/NZS3823.1.3:2005.
- > Water loop heat pumps as defined in AS/NZS3823.1.3:2005.
- > All commercial and residential systems are covered by MEPS.

Exclusions

- > MEPS for close controlled air conditioners, which are specified in AS/NZS4965.2, and for chillers, which are specified in AS/NZS4776.2 and which are separately regulated for energy efficiency from 1 July 2009 (see relevant fact sheets and requirements on www.energyrating.gov.au).
- > Multi-split systems (i.e. those having more than one indoor unit with an independent control for each indoor unit) pending the development of a suitable test method. MEPS levels are under consideration.
- > Evaporative coolers or any other cooling systems that are not of the vapour compression type.
- > Ground-water-sourced or ground-loop-sourced heat pumps within the scope of AS/NZS3823.1.3.
- > Unbalanced air conditioners and spot coolers (these include some portable types) pending the development of a suitable test method.
- > Single phase models that are designed for commercial applications, and where the requirements of (i), (ii) and (iii) below are met, are not required to display an Energy Rating label but are still required to be registered for MEPS.
 - o designed for and used only in non-residential applications; and
 - o not on display for sale through retail outlets; and
 - o not promoted in any catalogue or advertising material that could be interpreted as suitable for some residential applications.

MEPS Requirements

The revised MEPS requirements and the updated star rating algorithm for energy labelling will be covered in AS/NZS3823.2:2009.

The revised MEPS levels are as follows:

Product Description	MEPS 2006-07	MEPS 2010*	MEPS 2011*
Unitary – all types, <10kW, all phases	2.75	2.84	2.84
Unitary – all types, 10kW to <19kW, all phases	2.75	2.75	2.75
Split systems – all types, <4kW, all phases	3.05	3.33	3.33
Split systems – all types, 4kW to <10kW, all phases	2.75	2.93	2.93
Split systems – all types, 10kW to <19kW, all phases	2.75	2.75	2.75
Ducted systems – all types, <19kW, single phase	2.50	2.75	2.75
Ducted systems – all types, <10kW, three phase	2.50	2.75	2.75
Ducted systems – all types, 10kW to <19kW, three phase	2.75	2.75	2.75
All configurations, all types, 19kW to 39kW, all phases	3.05	3.05	3.05
All configurations, all types, >39kW to 65kW, all phases	2.75	2.75	2.75

*The EER levels 2010 will be based on operating EER, while the levels in 2011 will be based on annual EER.

Note: Unitary are mostly window wall units or packaged systems. Types refer to cooling only or reverse cycle. Air source only – separate MEPS levels are specified for water source heat pumps – refer to AS/NZS3823.2-2009 for details

Registration Requirements

Any air conditioner units within the scope of AS/NZS3823.2:2009 which are legally registered to the previous standard and imported into, or manufactured in Australia and New Zealand prior to 1 April 2010 may be held in stock and sold beyond this date without the need to re-register.

All products imported or manufactured after 1 April 2010 must hold a valid registration to AS/NZS3823.2-2009.

Registration Process Requirements

- > Registration of each model or family of models within the scope of AS/NZS3823.2:2009.
- > Payment of the registration fee in Australia of:
 - o \$150 per model/family (in NSW, QLD and SA) or
 - o \$293.40 in VIC
 - o Listing is free in New Zealand.

A supplier/product registration with any one of the Australian regulators is sufficient for an air conditioner within the MEPS and labelling program to be legally sold in both Australia and New Zealand.

Where registration takes place in New Zealand, the air conditioner can only be legally sold in Australia if manufactured in New Zealand, or if imported directly into New Zealand, and then exported to Australia.

- > All registrations require a test report in accordance with AS/NZS3823.1.1, AS/NZS3823.1.2 or AS/NZS3823.1.3 (as applicable), or a test report summary as specified in Appendix C of AS/NZS3823.2-2009.

All products are registered online at www.energyrating.gov.au

Registrations to the new standard will be available online from October 2009.

Compliance

Regulatory Authorities have commissioned external contractors to undertake regular ongoing audits of retail outlets to ensure that products are correctly labelled and are registered for MEPS with one of the Australian states or New Zealand. Any cases of non compliance are referred to regulators for further action.

Verification testing (checktests) by independent National Australian Test Authority accredited laboratories may be commissioned by regulators to see whether air conditioners comply with MEPS and energy labelling requirements.

The checktest process comprises an initial screen test, paid for by the Government. If the unit complies with MEPS no further action is taken. If the unit fails, the supplier has the option of:

- > choosing to request cancellation of the registration, or
- > verification testing of up to three randomly selected units at the supplier's cost.

Full details of this process are contained in the Administrative Guidelines available from www.energyrating.gov.au/admin-guidelines.html.

Regulatory Contacts

State and New Zealand contacts for MEPS applications are:

NSW

Department of Water and Energy,
Level 17, 227 Elizabeth Street
Sydney NSW 2000
(PO Box 3889, Sydney NSW 2001)

Tel +61 2 8281 7706
Fax +61 2 8281 7750

energylabelling@dwe.nsw.gov.au
Website: www.dwe.nsw.gov.au

Queensland

Electrical Safety Office,
Department of Industrial
Relations, LMB 2234
Brisbane QLD 4001.

Tel +61 7 3237 0280
Fax +61 7 3406 3808

equipmentsafety@dir.qld.gov.au
Website: www.eso.qld.gov.au

South Australia

Energy Labelling Section,
Office of the Technical Regulator
Level 8, 11 Waymouth Street
Adelaide SA 5000
(PO Box 1 Walkerville SA 5081).

Tel 08 8226 5530
Fax 08 8226 5529

robert.anderson@saugov.sa.gov.au
Website:
www.technicalregulator.sa.gov.au

Victoria

Equipment Efficiency
Section Energy Safe Victoria PO
Box 262 Collins Street West
VIC 8007

Tel 03 9203 9700
Fax 03 9686 2197

energyefficiency@esv.vic.gov.au
Website: www.esv.vic.gov.au

New Zealand

Manager Products – Product
Regulation,
Energy Efficiency and
Conservation Authority
PO Box 388 Wellington
NEW ZEALAND

Tel +64 4 470 2238
Fax +64 4 499 5330

terrycollins@eeeca.govt.nz
Website: www.eeca.govt.nz