

Household refrigerators: Commission proposal deserves support

A proposal from the Commission for the revision of the Energy Label and Ecodesign regulations for household refrigerators and freezer was discussed at a Consultation Forum meeting in December 2017. According to the revised framework Labelling regulation, the new Label will follow the A to G scheme (no more plusses), and new minimum efficiency requirements will be implemented. Topten has analysed the proposal and supports its key contents.

Label classes and Ecodesign tiers: no relaxation or delay

Analysis of best available technology (BAT) refrigerator models on Topten.eu shows that the proposed new A class (EEI = 41) can be reached with 21%, 35% or 41% efficiency improvement, depending on the category of the appliance. The combination of the proposed 'correction factors' alone can allow models to reach up to 25% higher efficiency levels. BAT models are up to 59% more efficient than proposed tier 1 (2020), and up to 48% compared to tier 2 (2023).

- → Label classes and Ecodesign tiers should not be relaxed or delayed. Otherwise the new measures are at risk of being soon outdated.
- → 'Correction' factors (CFs) should be further reduced, and no new CF for losses by multi-doors or glass doors should be introduced. CFs impair the Label's transparency and hide the energy consumption of inefficient extra features.

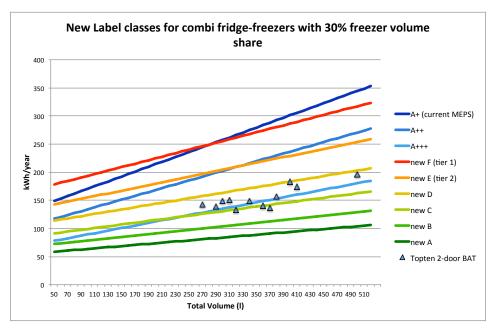


Figure: Current and new proposed classes with Ecodesign tiers, Topten BAT models

No loopholes

To allow consumers a fair comparison, it is key that all wine coolers and minibars are covered, including those with glass door.

More information

- Topten product lists of BAT refrigerators: www.topten.eu > Household
- Topten policy recommendations:
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