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More detailed information about these and other Eco-design Regulations are available on our website:

www.bis.gov.uk/nmo/eup

The Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) is the policy lead for the Eco-design of Energy Related Products Regulations in the UK:

<http://efficient-products.defra.gov.uk/eup>



External Power Supplies

The Eco-design requirements for external power supplies

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On 27th April 2010 the Eco-design requirements of Commission Regulation (EC) No 278/2009 for no-load condition electric power consumption and average active efficiency of external power supplies came into force.

Why External Power Supplies?

Office equipment and consumer electronics are often powered by external power supplies. The efficiency of external power supplies is an important aspect of the energy performance of such products. Therefore, external power supplies are one of the priority product groups for eco-design.

What is the Scope of the Regulation?

The Regulation applies to most domestic and professional external power supplies including mobile phone chargers, those built into plugs and separate power packs such as laptop power supplies etc. The scope of the Regulation refers to power supplies intended for the types of product identified in the annex of the standby and power off regulations 1275/2008, which includes but is not limited to products such as kitchen equipment, audio visual equipment, toys and IT equipment commonly found in the home or office.

There are some specific exemptions. These include but are not limited to: battery chargers that connect directly to removable batteries such as a charger for general AA batteries, the power packs used on building sites and uninterruptable power supplies.

Specific details of the scope of the Regulation are available from our website.

Requirements

The eco-design requirements for external power supplies will be implemented in two stages.

Each stage details specific requirements for both the power consumption and energy efficiency of external power supplies.

The first eco-design requirements will apply from 27th April 2010 and further, more stringent power consumption and energy efficiency requirements will apply to external power supplies from 27th April 2011.

Annex I of the Regulation details the specific eco-design requirements of external power supplies.

Responsibilities

The manufacturer, importer, or person who first places the product on the market, is responsible for:

- ensuring the product does not exceed the maximum energy consumption requirements
- producing a declaration of conformity and affixing a CE Mark (<http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/single-market-goods/cemarking/>)
- maintaining a technical file (see EC 278/2009)
- making the technical file available to the Market Surveillance Authority upon request.

Market Surveillance

The National Measurement Office (NMO) is the Market Surveillance Authority (MSA) responsible for the enforcement of this Regulation under the Energy Related Products (ERP) Directive.

