

ESTESC 3rd Plenary meeting Draft Minutes

Recipients: ESTESC group

Location: EHI premises, Brussels, Avenue des Arts 40, 5th floor

Chaired by: Christian Stadler

Minutes: Paolo Basso, Pedro Dias

Date: 22 February 2016

Welcome, competition law rules

Follow up documents: [ESTESC_03_22_Feb_2016_Attendance_list_signed](#)

The Convenor welcomed the participants in the meeting. The item 'Ecodesign and Energy Label' was moved to the morning session. H. Drück to present the StoScal project.

Update on the ESTESC activities

Special attention was dedicated to the activities of the task force on thermosiphons. Some manufacturers object that all systems with an electrical element should receive a label, as they believe that in some cases the resistance is present just for emergency cases. They believe that they should not label these products. Other manufacturers have a different approach.

Action point: after March, the task force will resume its work. Among the first issues to be examined, the TF will try to find a common agreement on the label. P. Basso will highlight this point among the members of EHI Dept. 9.

Standardisation

Follow up documents: [TC117_Report](#), [ESTESC 2016 02 22 – CEN TC 312 GvA, StoScal_ESTESC1](#)

Report from IEC/TC 117

The focus of this standard is on parabolic trough collectors.

H. Drück said that there could be some overlaps between IEC/TC 117 and the work being carried out at ISO/TC 180 and CEN/TC 312. This is why ISO/TC 180 wrote a letter to IEC/TC 117, with the request to leave the standardization of solar thermal products to ISO/TC 180, withdraw their work item and work within the framework of TC/180.

Report from CEN/TC 312

G. Van Amerongen reported on the progress of the work on mandates M 534 and M 535 (Ecodesign and Energy Label harmonization), M 480 (related to the EPBD), as well as the liaison with TC 164 (Drinking Water Quality). A comprehensive description of the reported activities is available with the presentation distributed.

Action point: participants are requested to draft a list of issues related to the energy label from a technical viewpoint, for internal discussion at first.

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StoScal project

The project aims to extend the procedure to scale tests for hot water storage tanks up to 2000 litres. The procedure is currently used for one standard and may be implemented in other standards. This would lead to savings where a company needed to perform these tests.

Ecodesign and Energy Label

Follow-up documents: [16022-ESTESC_Labelpack_A+](#)

Feedback from the market

Although it is early to have clear feedback from the market, there are some general signs:

- Many installers are not yet familiar with the package label and are not sure of how to implement it.
- While it took much effort to manufacturers to be ready for the label, the manufacturers at the meeting did experience market disruptions from the

label launch. However, the label did not seem to bring any market increase, either – at least so far.

- Some countries are more prepared to deal with package labels than other ones. seemingly, the best prepared country to deal with the package label for solar is Germany. In Austria, on the other hand, there seems to be resistance to the introduction of the package label, even from the local authorities.
- So far, market surveillance authorities have not been particularly active, especially on packages.
- While at the beginning some installers reported having difficulties sourcing some data needed for the package, the data for packages available is available on manufacturers websites.

Immer in plus

J. Budde provided some information on a campaign to promote solar thermal launched by BDH. The campaign aims at informing directly consumers on incentives available for solar thermal and at raising awareness on the package label. So far, more than 2.3 million people have been reached via regional newspapers and other via the BDH website.

Solar collector label

ESTIF has not given its support to the Solergy initiative, although some members were supportive of it.

A working group of ESTIF marketing experts will meet to decide whether to launch a label for solar thermal collectors. The label should not discriminate among ST technologies. On the contrary, it should promote solar thermal in the market.

Action point: P. Basso will extend the invitation to participate in this activity to the members of EHI Dept. 9.

Review of the energy label framework

P. Basso presented the status of the review. The European Commission proposed to move products down on the scale of the energy label, in order to get rid of the classes with 'plusses'.

Indeed, for certain product groups (e.g.: washing machines), too many products in the top classes prevent consumers from sorting them, based on their energy efficiency. The proposal is now undergoing first reading at the Parliament. P. Dias argued that the review would discourage especially planned modernisation of heating systems with – for example – solar thermal.

LabelPackA+ project update

The purpose of the project LabelPack A+ is to inform individuals about Energy Labelling with focus on the package label. It aims at supporting professionals in the heating market to approach better their responsibilities within this legal framework, thanks for example to a simple interface to calculate the package label, based on the European Commission tool.

The project has an Advisory Council, whose participation is open to members of the industry.

Action point: the ESTESC Secretariat invites ESTESC members to manifest their interest to participate in the Advisory Council. This invitation will be extended to the members of EHI Dept. 9.

Certification

Follow-up documents: [estesc-2016-02-Activities of SKN-Nielsen](#)

Activities of SKN

J. E. Nielsen gave a presentation, which includes the standards currently underpinning Solar Keymark.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting is going to take place in Stuttgart, being hosted at the University, on 26 January 2017.