

Energy Efficiency (Labelling of Regulated Machinery) Regulations 2017

One of the functions of the Energy Efficiency Management Office, under the Energy Efficiency Act 2011, is to devise labelling requirements and specifications for prescribed equipment, machinery and appliances which are imported, manufactured or sold in Mauritius.

Labeling of household electrical appliances started voluntarily in January 2014 and, in parallel, testing facilities on energy consumption for household refrigerators, electric ovens and dishwashers were being set up at the Mauritius Standards Bureau.

To reduce the number of energy inefficient appliances on the market, a 25% additional levy is being applied since January 2014 by the Mauritius Revenue Authority, at Customs level, on household electrical appliances with an energy consumption below a certain threshold worked out by the Energy Efficiency Management Office. This has resulted into a gradual decrease in the number of imported energy inefficient appliances.

The threshold was raised in the Budget 2016/2017 in an endeavour to have only energy efficient appliances on the market.

Energy Efficiency (Labelling of Regulated Machinery) Regulations 2017 (GN 11 of 2017) have been made under the Energy Efficiency Act 2011 for mandatory labelling of three household electrical appliances.

The regulations provide for the following:

- (i) that the regulations will cover, in the first instance, three household electrical appliances, namely refrigerators, electric ovens and dishwashers;
- (ii) that every dealer shall affix a label on the appliances when these are put on display for sale;
- (iii) that the labels shall be in accordance with the standards developed by the Mauritius Standards Bureau;
- (iv) the procedure for registration of dealers and the regulated appliances with the Energy Efficiency Management Office;
- (v) that a certificate issued by the Energy Efficiency Management Office attesting compliance of a regulated appliance with the Mauritian Standard will be valid for a period of two years; and
- (vi) that dealers will have a period of nine months, as from the effective date of the regulations i.e. July 01, 2017, to either sell their existing stocks of regulated appliances or to have labels affixed on these.

The label, also known as energy label, rates an appliance from dark green (most efficient) to red (least efficient) and shows the total annual energy consumption of that appliance. The label allows consumers to compare different models of an appliance, on the basis of its energy efficiency rating and energy consumption, and to make informed purchasing decisions.

The regulations may be viewed by clicking [here](#).

Note: while the present regulations concern only household refrigerators, electric ovens and dishwashers, consideration will be given for enforcing labelling of air conditioners and washing machines in 2019. Testing facilities for the measurement of the energy consumption of these two appliances will be set up at the Mauritius Standards Bureau in 2017/2018. This will be financed under the COI Energies project.

How to register dealers and appliances?

Note: a dealer can be an importer, a seller or a reseller of household electrical appliances

Dealers will first have to register themselves with the EEMO. An online system has been developed for that purpose. This can be accessed on eeims.govmu.org . Once the dealer has registered with the EEMO, the dealer may register its appliances on the online system.

Provision has been made on the online system for the submission of documents and test reports.

All documents and certificates submitted by dealers for the purpose of registration of a model of an appliance will be referred by the EEMO to the Mauritius Standards Bureau for verification. The cost of verification will have to be borne by the dealer.

Once the Mauritius Standards Bureau issues a confirmation to the EEMO to the effect that the appliance complies with Mauritian Standard for Labelling, the EEMO will issue a certificate to the dealer attesting of the compliance. The certificate will be valid for 2 years. Each model of an appliance will require a certificate.

Note: once the EEMO issues a certificate in respect of a model of an appliance, a dealer need not re-register that model with the EEMO when such model is being imported again. The certificate will be valid for 2 years except if there has been a change in the technology which changes the energy efficiency of that appliance.

The Mauritius Standards Bureau will, until further notice, be claiming a fee of Rs 700 for the verification of each certificate. Moreover, the lead time for the verification is estimated at 2-5 working days. For any clarification or additional information, the Mauritius Standards Bureau may be contacted on msb@intnet.mu

Where to get the Mauritian Standards for Labelling?

The Mauritian Standards for labelling of electrical appliances have been developed by the Mauritius Standards Bureau. These are copyright documents. As such copies of the standards have to be procured from the Mauritius Standards Bureau (email: msb@intnet.mu).

The following three standards are of relevance for the purpose of the regulations:

Household refrigerating appliances	MS 201
Household electric dishwashers	MS 205

Note that at all times, only the latest version of the standards will apply.