



Press Release

EU ENERGY LABEL - "A" is BEST AGAIN

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Yesterday, the European Parliament voted in favour of returning to the well-known A to G scale in its review of the EU Energy-labelling Directive.

Products that are required to carry a label, including washing machines, televisions and vacuum cleaners, will no longer be labelled using the confusing A+, A++ and A+++ classes. Key improvements have also been agreed for market surveillance.

Stephen Russell, ANEC Secretary-General, commented:

"Transparent and comparable information is essential in helping consumers assess the energy their products consume. "Buy A" was a clear message for consumers to follow that was lost when the various 'A plus' classes were introduced several years ago. "Buy A" is now a message to which we can return. Following the findings of ANEC and its partners in the Marketwatch project that [1 in 5 domestic appliances uses more energy than advertised](http://goo.gl/UmVfF3)¹, it is also welcome that MEPs have agreed to create a European database of labelled products to aid market surveillance authorities. We now urge a prompt start to the negotiations with Council in order to progress the legislation in the consumer interest".

¹ <http://goo.gl/UmVfF3>

About ANEC

ANEC is the European consumer voice in standardisation, defending consumer interests in the processes of technical standardisation and conformity assessment, as well as related legislation and public policies.

ANEC was established in 1995 as an international non-profit association under Belgian law and is open to the representation of national consumer organisations in 33 countries.

ANEC is funded by the European Union and EFTA, with national consumer organisations contributing in kind. Its Secretariat is based in Brussels.



Raising standards for consumers

**European association for the coordination
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