

Dishwashers: innovative capacity should not be underestimated

Efficiency development revived by new Label classes

Before the last revision of the dishwasher Energy Label in 2010 nearly all dishwashers were in class A. For almost ten years the efficiency development stopped. After 2011 the added '+'-classes induced new market dynamics: already in 2012, the first year of the new classes, these accounted for the majority of the EU sales.

A+++ threshold exceeded after two years

Topten.eu product lists show the best Dishwashers: A+++ (built-in) and A++ (freestanding) models with low water consumption and hot fill capability. The figure below shows the Energy Efficiency Indices (EEI) of the Topten models. Thanks to an integrated heat pump the most energy efficient dishwasher model reaches an efficiency which is 40% better than the A+++ threshold. The model is available in Switzerland and will enter the international market in autumn 2014.

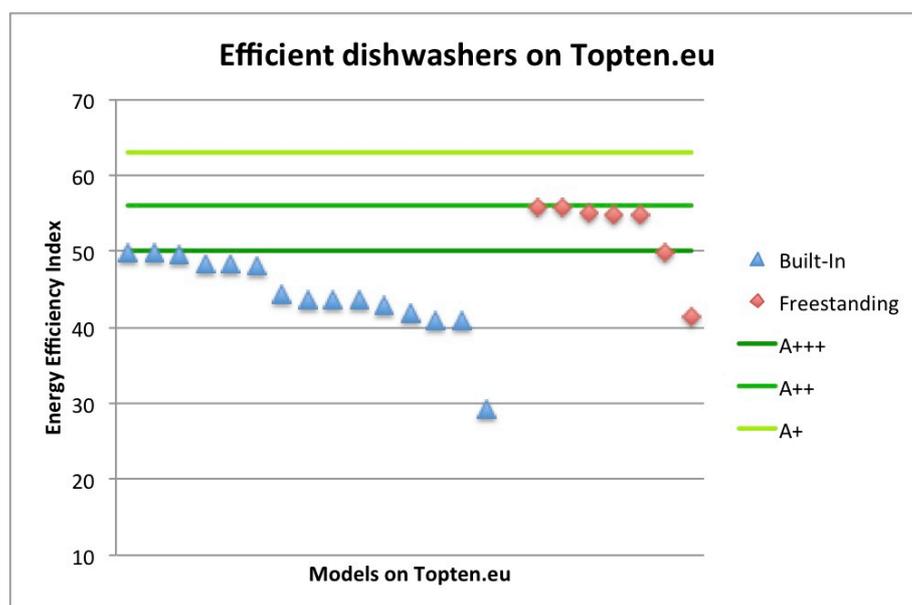


Figure: EEI of the dishwasher models on Topten.eu. Data: www.topten.eu, June 2014

Don't underestimate the Label's effect and industry's capacity for innovation

Several models are clearly exceeding the threshold of the top class two years after the new Label's introduction. The Label has a great effect on the market, and the innovative capacity of manufacturers is high. Both has been underestimated when the new Label classes were designed. This mistake should be avoided in the current revision: the future Energy Label should be designed to be effective for many years.

Key policy recommendations

The Dishwasher Labelling and Ecodesign regulations are currently being reviewed. Topten key policy recommendations for the review are:

- **A long-lasting Energy Label** with ambitious classes based on the original A-G scale.
- Future, more demanding energy **efficiency requirements**, additional requirements regarding water consumption, durability and recyclability.
- The **test programme** must be the most often used programme.
- The **EEI calculation formula** should be left as it is – continuity is needed to allow monitoring the market development, and there are no major faults in the formula.
- **Hot fill** has large saving potentials wherever water is heated efficiently or with renewables. It should be promoted, e.g. with an icon on the Label.

More information:

- Best dishwashers of Europe: www.topten.eu > Household > Dishwashers
- Policy recommendations for dishwashers: <http://www.topten.eu/policy-recommendations-for-dishwashers.html&fromid=>
- Contact: anette.michel@topten.eu