

Mandatory product registration with a public database: huge benefits for Europe

Today: no systematic market monitoring, not sufficient market surveillance

Today, product policies are decided without sound market data. As a result, Energy Labels can be out-dated after a short time and Ecodesign requirements miss savings. At the same time, market surveillance authorities (MSAs) often have to wait a long time for full product information, and testing plans and results cannot be shared easily between national MSAs.



Policies and surveillance would benefit from market overview

Mandatory registration with a public database including product information for all products with an Energy Label, Ecodesign or a Voluntary Agreement in place would allow policy makers and stakeholders to track market developments and MSAs to easily identify model families. Policies could be designed to be most effective and MSAs could take actions based on shared test results. Unlike today, industry would have to provide product data only once.

Other regions and the system for cars show the way

Important economies such as Australia, Canada, China, Brazil, India and the USA have mandatory product registration systems and related public databases. Europe should introduce a registration/database system, too. Europe can profit from experiences in other regions and from own experiences with the registration system for cars, which even includes annual collecting of sales data.

Topten discussion paper

Topten has investigated how product registration systems and databases work in other regions and elaborated a discussion paper with suggestions for such a system in Europe. A key aspect is: most of the product information must be publicly accessible.

More information

- Topten discussion paper: www.topten.eu/uploads/File/Topten-discussion-paper-product-registration-database_Nov_14.pdf
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