

EuP - Background

Not all energy-using products will have obligations under the EuP framework, only those meeting criteria with significant environmental impact and volume of trade in the internal market which have clear potential for improvement, for example where market forces fail to make progress in the absence of a legal requirement.

The European Commission has decided that the first step in considering whether and which eco-design requirements should be set for a particular product is a preparatory study. This is to recommend ways to improve the environmental performance of the product.

The Commission Directorate General for Transport and Energy (DG Tren) launched an invitation to tender for 14 preparatory studies corresponding to families of EuPs on 7 July 2005. They have since launched an additional study on Simple Converter Boxes for digital television, and a further 5 preparatory studies in 2007 relating to the following product groups:

- solid fuel small combustion installations (in particular for heating)

- laundry dryers

- vacuum cleaners

- complex set top boxes (with conditional access and/or functions that are always on)

- domestic lighting

Further studies are now being called by the Commission for additional product categories identified for measures under the Directive in the Commission's Working Plan.

On 12 July 2008, the European Commission (DG Enterprise) tendered for 3 further product groups to be studied which feature in the draft Working Plan.

Refrigerated and freezing equipment: service cabinets, walk-in cold rooms, chillers, ice makers, ice cream and milk-shake machines, minibars

Transformers: distribution transformers, power transformers

Sound and imaging equipment: DVD / video players and recorders, video projectors, video game consoles

These 3 studies are in progress. Manufacturers, distributors, retailers, trade associations and consumer groups are invited to participate by contacting the study contractors (links below).

On 25 August 2008, the European Commission (DG TREN) tendered for consultants to make studies on a further 8 Lots:

- Local room heating products

- Central heating products using hot air to distribute heat (other than CHP)

Domestic and commercial ovens (electric, gas, microwave), including incorporated into cookers

Domestic and commercial hobs and grills including when incorporated into cookers

Professional washing machines, dryers and dishwashers

Non-tertiary coffee machines

Networked standby losses of EuPs

Domestic uninterrupted power supplies (UPS)

Study Websites and Progress

Once tendered, details on the work of each study may be found on the website for the study. These are listed below with a guide of their current status:

DG Tren Studies

	<i>Product</i>	<i>Study Website</i>	<i>Status</i>
	Tranche I		
1	Boilers and combi-boilers (gas/oil/electric)	.ecoboiler.org/ Reported	Working Document Published
2	Water heaters (gas/oil/electric)	.ecohotwater.org/ Reported	Revised working document published
3	Personal Computers (desktops & laptops) and computer monitors	.ecocomputer.org/ Reported	
4	Imaging equipment: copiers, faxes, printers, scanners, multifunctional devices	.ecoimaging.org/ Reported	
5	Consumer electronics: televisions	.ecotelevision.org/ Reported	Measure agreed and in European Parliamentary scrutiny
6	Standby and off-mode losses of EuPs	.ecostandby.org/ Reported	Implementing Measure: Commission Regulation

			(EC) No 1275/2008
7	Battery chargers and external power supplies	.ecocharger.org/ Reported	Measure agreed and in European Parliamentary scrutiny
8	Office lighting	.eup4light.net Reported	Implementing Measure: Commission Regulation (EC) No 245/2009
9	(Public) Street lighting	.eup4light.net Reported	Implementing Measure: Commission Regulation (EC) No 245/2009
10	Residential room conditioning appliances (airco and ventilation)	.ecoaircon.eu/ Reported	
11	Electric motors 1-150 kW, water pumps (commercial buildings, drinking water, food, agriculture), circulators in buildings, ventilation fans (non-residential)	.ecomotors.org Reported	Two measures agreed i) Motors and ii) Circulator pumps. Both in European Parliamentary scrutiny
12	Commercial refrigerators and freezers, including chillers, display cabinets and vending machines	.ecofreezercom.org Reported	
13	Domestic refrigerators and freezers	.ecocold-domestic.org/ Reported	Measure agreed and in European Parliamentary scrutiny
14	Domestic dishwashers and washing machines.	.ecowet-domestic.org/ Reported	Washing Machine measure agreed and in European Parliamentary scrutiny Dishwashers measure

			in draft
	Simple converter boxes for digital television (Simple STBs)	.ecostb.com Reported	Implementing measure Commission Regulation (EC) No:107/2009
	Tranche II		
15	Solid fuel small combustion installations (in particular for heating)	.ecosolidfuel.org/	
16	Laundry dryers	.ecodryers.org/	
17	Vacuum cleaners	.ecovacuum.org	
18	Domestic lighting	.eup4light.net	Implementing Measure: Commission Regulation (EC) No 244/2009
19	Complex set top boxes (with conditional access and / or functions that are always on)	.ecocomplexstb.org/ Reported	
	Tranche III		
20	Local room heating products	Commission tendering for study	
21	Central heating products using hot air to distribute heat (other than CHP)	Commission tendering for study	
22	Domestic and commercial ovens (electric, gas, microwave), including when incorporated into cookers	Commission tendering for study	
23	Domestic and commercial hobs and grills including when incorporated into cookers	Commission tendering for study	
24	Professional washing machines, dryers	Commission tendering for	

	and dishwashers	study	
25	Non-tertiary coffee machines	Commission tendering for study	
26	Networked standby losses of EuPs	Commission tendering for study	
27	Domestic uninterruptable power supplies (UPS)	Commission tendering for study	

DG Enterprise Studies

	<i>Study</i>	<i>Website</i>	<i>Status</i>
1	Refrigerating and freezing equipment	://www.ecofreezercom.org	
2	Transformers	://www.ecotransformer.org	
3	Sound and imaging equipment	://www.ecomultimedia.org	

Also included in the 2009-2011 Commission Working Plan is a category for water-using products, but no tendering process for these types of products has started at the time of writing.

The output from the studies provide the Commission with the necessary information to prepare for the next phases (carried out by the Commission) - the Consultation Forum meetings, and a possible draft implementing measure. Depending on the type of implementing measure proposed, new legislation may be required in the UK although to date measures have been Commission Regulations which do not require transposition.