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EN 45554: Setting the framework for more repairable, reusable and upgradeable products

Overview

The draft European standard [prEN 45554](#) provides a general methodology for the assessment of the ability to repair, reuse and upgrade energy-related products (ErP) within the scope of the Ecodesign and Energy Labelling framework. It is being developed by a joint CEN-CENELEC Technical Committee 10 ([CEN-CLC/TC10](#)) and as part of the standard series in response to the European Commission standardisation request [M/543](#).

The draft standard contains relevant definitions, lists a number of important criteria influencing *repairability*, *reusability* and *upgradeability*, and finally establishes a way to compare and score products of the same product group based on those three concepts. It will therefore be an important step towards developing product-specific methodologies and also towards systematizing future regulatory discussions related to material efficiency.

In that sense, the standard paves the way for a market transition towards more repairable, reusable and upgradable products, a significant contribution towards a circular economy.

ECOS has so far been representing european environmental NGOs throughout the drafting development process and has actively contributed to the standard's structure and content.

ECOS calls for the support of prEN 45554 and a positive vote under the public enquiry.

Why the standard should be supported and receive a positive vote

1. It follows a technology neutral “toolbox” approach

The standard outlines a method which is adaptable to a wide range of ErP, including electronics, white goods, non-electronic (e.g. windows, boilers) and business to business products. The aim of the standard is to include a wide collection of scoring options which can be chosen from as applicable at the product-specific level.

2. It is technically rigorous

The standard is technically rigorous and objective such that it has provided the basis of the draft European Commission’s [Joint Research Center study on a Scoring System for Reparability](#), and also of the study on [Reparability criteria for energy related products BeNeLux, KU Leuven and VITO](#).

3. It provides simple classification and scoring based on objective criteria

The standard enables addressing the widest range of repair, reuse and upgrade considerations with the ability to select the appropriate criteria and the appropriate classification for different product categories. It also proposes an approach to scoring so as to enable clearly quantified outputs and easy aggregation of results.

4. It is the result of a rigorous consensus process

The standard has been under drafting for two years now and has been subject to a number of iterative revisions, including two secretarial enquiries, each taking into account a wide range of stakeholder inputs and concerns. The WG under which the standard is developed currently consists of a total of 106 members, amongst which are a great number of industry and product manufacturer representatives.

5. It considers market surveillance

The standard takes into account assessment approaches, which aim to be repeatable and reproducible and facilitate market surveillance, such as tightly defined categories for classification.



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