

Fact Sheet – Close Control Air Conditioners Minimum Energy Performance Standards

May 2009

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AS/NZS 4965.1-2008, AS/NZS 4965.2-2008

Dates:

1. On line registration process available on line end May 2009
2. Implementation: July 1 2009

What is covered?

The scope of the Standard covers factory-made close control air conditioners utilizing a single or multiple refrigerated direct expansion (DX) system designed to control and monitor temperature and humidity and may include supplementary conditioning equipment.

Application:

Close control air conditioners are used for applications where temperature and humidity are required to be monitored and maintained within narrow limits. Examples of such applications are computer rooms, data processing units, telecommunication facilities and other industrial process areas

Units that are excluded:

A recent regulatory Ruling clarifies the following:

The scope shall be interpreted to **exclude** units defined as:

- Close – Coupled Row Based Cooling Units:
- Close – Coupled Row Based Cooling Units are cooling devices designed to be mounted in the row containing the rack enclosures and is placed in such a way that it takes air from a hot isle, cools it and discharges it to a cold isle.

Application conditions:

To qualify for an exemption under this clause the particular unit must be designed for, and the manufacturer shall have published operating data up to a minimum of 35C DB entering air temperature.

The intent of the clause is to exclude close control units that by virtue of their application cannot be practically tested for compliance with MEPS.

MEPS Requirements

The MEPS requirements are covered in Australian and New Zealand Standards AS/NZS 4965.1-2008, AS/NZS 4965.2-2008

The MEPS levels are as follows:

Unit Size kW	Min EERS
<19.05	2.62
≥19.05 <39.5	2.62
≥39.5 <70.0	2.62
≥70.0	2.62

The MEPS levels:

1. Cover both water and air cooled units
2. Are based on the cooling capacity and power consumption of only the indoor unit

Registration Requirements

Any close control air conditioner within the scope of AS/NZ 4776.2:2008 imported into, or manufactured in Australia and New Zealand prior to the respective implementation dates and held in stock, may continue to be sold, however no new importation or manufacture of non-compliant products is allowed on or after the implementation date.

Registration will require:

- Registration of each model within the scope of AS/NZ 4965.2:2008.
- Payment of the registration fee in Australia of \$150 per model for all states except Victoria where the fee is \$284.90 (indexed). Listing is free in New Zealand. A supplier/ product registration with any one of the Australian regulators is sufficient for a close control air conditioner within the MEPS program to be legally sold in both Australia and New Zealand. Where registration takes place in New Zealand, the close control air conditioner can only be legally sold in Australia, if manufactured in New Zealand, or imported directly into New Zealand, and then exported to Australia.
- For products that are not covered by the certification programs of either ARI or Eurovent a test report in accordance with AS/NZ 4965.1:2008 must be provided at the time of registration.

The preferred method of registration is online at www.energyrating.gov.au. This registration method will be available end May 2009. The full details of these requirements and an explanation of products covered, are provided in

AS/NZ4965.2:2008; while the relevant methods of rating and testing are published as AS/NZ4965.1:2008 . These are available from:

- Standards Australia - www.standards.com.au
- Standards New Zealand - www.standards.co.nz
- SAI Global- www.saiglobal.com

Enforcement

Regular checks are conducted to ensure that all products offered for sale have a current registration with one of the State or NZ regulators. In addition, “checktests” by independent National Australian Test Authority accredited laboratories may be conducted to see whether the chillers perform in compliance with MEPS requirements.

The checktest process comprises an initial Screen Test, paid for by the Government. If the unit complies with MEPS no further action is taken. If the unit fails, the supplier has the option of:

- choosing to request cancellation of the registration, or
- testing up to three more randomly selected units at the supplier’s cost.

Full details of this process are contained in the Administrative Guidelines available from www.energyrating.gov.au/admin-guidelines.html

Regulatory Contacts

State and NZ contacts for Minimum Energy Performance Standards applications are:

NSW

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Queensland

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