

1-3 SEPTEMBER FORUMS PAVE THE WAY

- NAEEEP Spring Forum
- Annual National AC & Energy Forum
- Motors Forum

4 GOVERNMENT & INDUSTRY TESTING & COMPLIANCE CHECKING

4 10 YEAR INDUSTRIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY STRATEGY

4 INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

September Forums Pave the Way

Three important forums which were held during September, set out detailed plans for progressing energy performance standards for air conditioners, motors, pumps and fans and explored the long term objectives of NAEEEP.

NAEEEP Spring Forum - Canberra

The 2005 National Appliance & Equipment Energy Efficiency Program - Spring Forum, was held on the grounds of the Australian National University on September 15. It clearly demonstrated the extent of industry support for improving energy efficiency across all the areas of NAEEEP activity.

About 90 representatives from the private and public sector voiced their views on the objectives of the program. While some participants held differing points of view on some issues, the healthy debate and the ongoing feedback underpinned the success of the forum.



Delegates at the recent NAEEEP Spring Forum, during the opening address by the Hon Minister Ian Macfarlane



Owen Manley (Thorn Lighting), Alistair Dobson (Lighting Council Australia) & Terry Collins (EECA, NZ)

The day started with all delegates joining members of the Greenhouse Challenge Program in the Australian Academy of Science. The opening address was delivered by the Hon Ian Macfarlane, Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources and Ms Aimee McKane from Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Washington DC. Ms McKane treated the audience to a tour of international industrial energy efficiency projects she was involved in and an outline of the process she employed of 'systems optimization training'.

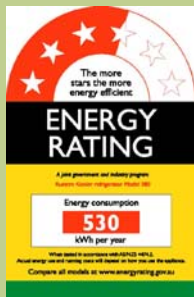
Delegates then split into workshops focused on various products and initiatives, including lighting, air conditioning, electric motors and all types of hot water systems. Industry and government perspectives were explored on MEPS and labeling programs before the workshops sought delegate's views on a range of initiatives being considered by NAEEEP, including the establishment of an industry/government MEPS management committee to drive future MEPS projects.

For further information go to www.energyrating.gov.au/events.html

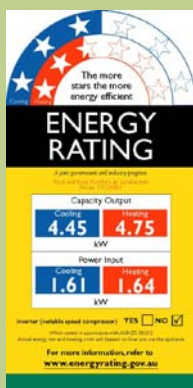


Australian Government

Department of the Environment and Heritage
Australian Greenhouse Office



Les Winton from Artcraft Research is currently undertaking some research into the awareness and use of the Energy Rating Label by consumers. Results from this will be reported on in the near future.



Annual National Air Conditioning & Energy Forum - Sydney

More than 100 air conditioning industry leaders, researchers and regulators met for two days, to review progress towards agreements reached at the 2004 conference, and to discuss the way ahead.

The first day of the forum was dominated by a presentation from Shane Holt, Chair of NAEEEEC, which highlighted continued shortcomings in the consumer air conditioning industry in meeting agreed energy performance ratings, and the poor compliance with energy labeling regimes.

While the high failure rate of products check tested is at least partially attributable to testing agents actively looking for devices that are more likely to fail, Mr Holt expressed his profound disappointment in the label audit and check-test results. He assured the audience that he and the regulatory community were committed to doing whatever was needed to achieve compliance with the requirements for registration of product. The poor results observed with packaged air conditioners did not however stop significant progress being made on a range of other issues during the two day event.

Five major outcomes to report are:

1. Australia's continuing commitment to promote the ISO test method

Since August 2004, Australian regulators have worked to deliver on the commitment to improve and promote the ISO test method. Australian and Korean test facilities tabled results from "blind" testing of LG product. The AGO will report the results to APEC and to the ISO test committee.

2. AHESP making progress in efforts to lop summer peak electrical loads

Following the 2004 conference the AGO launched a project (A-HELP), the Australian Household Electricity Load-management Platform, to coordinate efforts to develop a low-cost open platform for power retailers and distributors to control household appliances such as air conditioners.

3. Australia's energy efficiency regulatory program continues to gather pace

Participants were briefed on the acceleration of minimum energy performance standards (MEPS) for a range of air conditioning equipment. April 2006, was confirmed as the target for the commencement of the second stage MEPS for consumer air conditioning.

The conference also heard of plans to deal quickly with the issues surrounding:

- Chillers
- Heat pumps
- Close control air conditioning

4. Australian regulators commitment to enforce the laws

In response to calls from suppliers complying with existing MEPS and labeling laws, energy regulators confirmed their absolute commitment to protect those suppliers who had invested to comply with the law. Regulators will address the comparatively poor labeling survey result for air conditioners (80% compliance), with targeted compliance action during the coming summer period. Participants were encouraged to work with their retail network to foreshadow this survey.

Annual National Air Conditioning & Energy Forum - Sydney (cont/d)

5. Long term strategies in development to complement policy mix

Participants heard several calls for action by means other than via the use of regulation. Keen to deploy a mix of effective policy options in the pursuit of economy wide energy efficiency, the AGO has commissioned the development of a suite of decade long strategies to improve efficiency across almost all sectors of the economy. One such strategy has been commissioned to address Heating Ventilation and Air conditioning in commercial buildings. While still in the early phases of development it is envisaged that the HVAC High Efficiency Strategy will incorporate measures such as training for better sizing of product and better installation, standards for better commissioning and maintenance regimes and software tools to assist benchmarking and measurement of system performance.

For further information go to www.energyrating.gov.au/events.html



Photo courtesy of Daikin

Motors Forum - Adelaide

With the MEPS II start date for electric motors coming up in April 2006, NAEEEEC invited various stakeholders to Adelaide for a two-day workshop in September.

MEPS I for motors were implemented in October 2001 targeting 2,4,6, and 8 pole, S1 and S2 motors. The MEPS II levels are equivalent to European Union Efficiency 1 and USA MEPS levels.

In mid 2004 only 30% of models registered would have complied with MEPS II levels. However by early 2005 approximately 40% of the models already complied and an estimated 5% were compliant with the High Efficiency (HE) level (a level developed in the Australian market place and which now matches the HE levels in China).

During the first day delegates toured the recently NATA approved motor testing facility, CalTest, in Port Eliot and heard a presentation by Andrew Baghurst on the current testing procedures for electric motors. The second day of the forum dealt with a number of detailed issues and several significant decisions were made. These include;

- The current IEC 61972 (which is the more accurate method of measurement of stray load losses) will be shown as the preferred method of test;
- Under the check-testing program for motors at least 10 motors should be tested in 2006; the AGO agreed to undertake testing of supplier provided motors to demonstrate the availability of MEPS 2006 and High Efficiency compliant motors;
- Suppliers are encouraged to register High Efficiency motors so that they are displayed on the All Stars web site for government procurement;
- On the international front, the Australian Government should examine the Asian Pacific Alliance (which includes India, China, Japan and the USA) to establish a centre for motor collaboration and that Australia assist with the organisation/sponsorship of the next EEMODS conference in the Asian region in 2007.

Did you know?

The next round of MEPS for Electric Storage Water Heaters came into effect as of **1 October 2005.**

This round of MEPS is Stage II for some electric storage water heaters and is Stage I for all others. This means that all electric storage water heaters imported into or manufactured in Australia after 1 October 2005 must comply with these levels.

Government and Industry Testing and Compliance Checking

The AGO will propose to AEEMA that a memorandum of understanding be signed for the testing of motors that will allow suppliers to purchase test reports. It was agreed that under the check-testing program at least 10 motors should

be tested in 2006; the AGO agreed to undertake testing of supplier provided motors to demonstrate the availability of MEPS 2006 and High Efficiency compliant motors. Several motors have been volunteered for testing to date.

10 Year Industrial Energy Efficiency Strategy

The AGO is developing a 10-year Industrial Energy Efficiency strategy that builds on the Motor MEPS. Fans and pumps are to be targeted for MEPS, however the strategy emphasises that there are efficiency gains to be made across the whole of the system and not just the individual components. Participants at the forum provided feedback to be considered in the 10 Year Strategy.

For further information go to www.energyrating.gov.au/events.html



International Activities

AGO staff will be participating in the APEC sponsored event 'Global Cooperation on 1 Watt' – a standby power conference being held in Seoul, Korea from 1 – 3 November. www.standbyforum.co.kr/

The objective of these activities is to work with the international community in order to ensure consistency of test methods and standards, and increasing the energy efficiency of globally traded products.

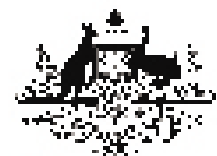
The AGO is also leading two associated workshops:

Outcomes will be reported on in the next edition of Switched On.

1. International Harmonisation of Digital Set-top Box Specifications (31 October) www.energyrating.gov.au/pubs/2005-stb-program.pdf
2. International Harmonisation of CFL Specifications (1 November) www.apec-esis.org/cfl/index.htm



If you know of anyone else who would like to receive "Switched ON", or if you no longer wish to be on our mailing list, please email the details to: energy.rating@deh.gov.au



Australian Government
Department of Environment and Heritage
Australian Greenhouse Office