



Fact Sheet

Super Efficient Energy Rating Label: Clothes Washing Machines

November 2015

Clothes washers are regulated for energy efficiency in Australia and New Zealand. If you manufacture, import, or supply clothes washers, it is important to understand your legal obligations.

Legislative framework for Energy Efficiency Labelling

Clothes washers are one of the oldest categories of products to be regulated for energy efficiency in Australia and New Zealand. Clothes washers have been required to carry an energy label since 1990, and a water efficiency label (WELS label) since 1 July 2006. In October 2012, a single piece of Australian Government legislation, the *Greenhouse and Energy Minimum Standards (GEMS) Act 2012 (Act)*, replaced the various State and Territory laws that had previously been used to implement energy efficiency labelling. The new Act sets out participation requirements as well as a range of offences for non-compliance.

A key change from the previous State and Territory laws is the extension of coverage to include both the offer to supply and the commercial use of regulated products. If you purchase regulated clothes washers overseas and import them for your own commercial use they must still comply with the law, even

though the supply¹ event occurred outside Australia.

Specific requirements for clothes washers

In Australia, regulatory requirements for clothes washers are set under the *Greenhouse and Energy Minimum Standards (Clothes Washing Machines) Determination 2015 (Determination)*. The Determination specifies what products **are** and **are not** covered, and incorporates requirements for testing from the relevant Australian/New Zealand Standard by reference.

What products *are* covered

The clothes washers covered by the Determination are appliances that are ordinarily supplied and used for personal, domestic and household purposes. All products that fall within this definition are covered.

Please refer to subsection 5(1) to 5(3) of the Determination for full details of the specified characteristics for clothes washers.

¹ See section 14 of the Act for the full range of transaction types that are considered 'supply'.

What products are not covered

The following clothes washer types are not covered by the Determination, and are not required to comply with energy efficiency requirements (unless covered by another GEMS determination):

- Clothes washers that have:
 - A rated capacity of less than or equal to 2 kilograms for all textile materials
 - no connections to a mains water supply; and
 - no pump or other means for extracting water; and
- clothes washing machines that are only capable of being used for cold wash operations and have:
 - no provision for internal water heating;
 - a single water connection marked only for cold water;
 - automatic fill control.

Labelling requirements

The GEMS labelling requirements for clothes washers are those set out in section 2 and 5 of AS/NZS 2040.2:2005 with the following modifications:

- Part 1 of Schedule 1 of the Determination applies instead of clause 1.5.7 and 2.8 of AS/NZS 2040.2:2005.
- Part 3 of Schedule 1 of the Determination applies instead of the requirements in clause 5.1 of AS/NZS 2040.2:2005.

From November 2015, manufacturers, importers and suppliers of clothes washers in Australia will be able to display a 10 star rating label on appliances that exceed the previous label limit of six stars. Clothes washing machines will also be able to be tested and labelled for energy efficiency with washing capacities greater than 10 kilograms.

See page 4 below for example labels.

Testing requirements

The testing requirements for clothes washers are specified in section 2 of AS/NZS 2040.2:2005, with modifications set out in section 7(3) the Determination.

Registration

In Australia, all regulated clothes washers must be registered before being offered for supply or used commercially.

A test report is required to be submitted as part of the registration process. To streamline compliance checks it is recommended that an electronic copy of the test report be uploaded when making a registration application.

More information on registering clothes washers is available at:

<http://www.energyrating.gov.au/suppliers/registration>.

You can also obtain a copy of the Suppliers User Guide at:

<http://www.energyrating.gov.au/document/user-guide-energy-rating-registration-suppliers-user-guide>.

Monitoring and Enforcement

The E3 Compliance Program incorporates a range of compliance activities including the national check-testing program and retail surveillance. Check-testing aims to ensure the compliance of products with energy efficiency regulations. It also provides the community and other stakeholders with information that demonstrates that the overall efficiency goals of the program are being met and that those suppliers not meeting their responsibilities are identified and sanctioned. Regular check-testing is undertaken on a range of domestic and commercial product types. Results of previous check-testing and surveillance activity and information on the E3 compliance program are available at:

www.energyrating.gov.au/suppliers/compliance

For more detailed information go to:

Submitting an application:

www.energyrating.gov.au/suppliers/registration

On-line registration instructions:

www.energyrating.gov.au/document/user-guide-energy-rating-registration-suppliers-user-guide

The standards are available from SAI Global or Standards New Zealand:

www.saiglobal.com

www.standards.co.nz

Purchase IEC Standards:

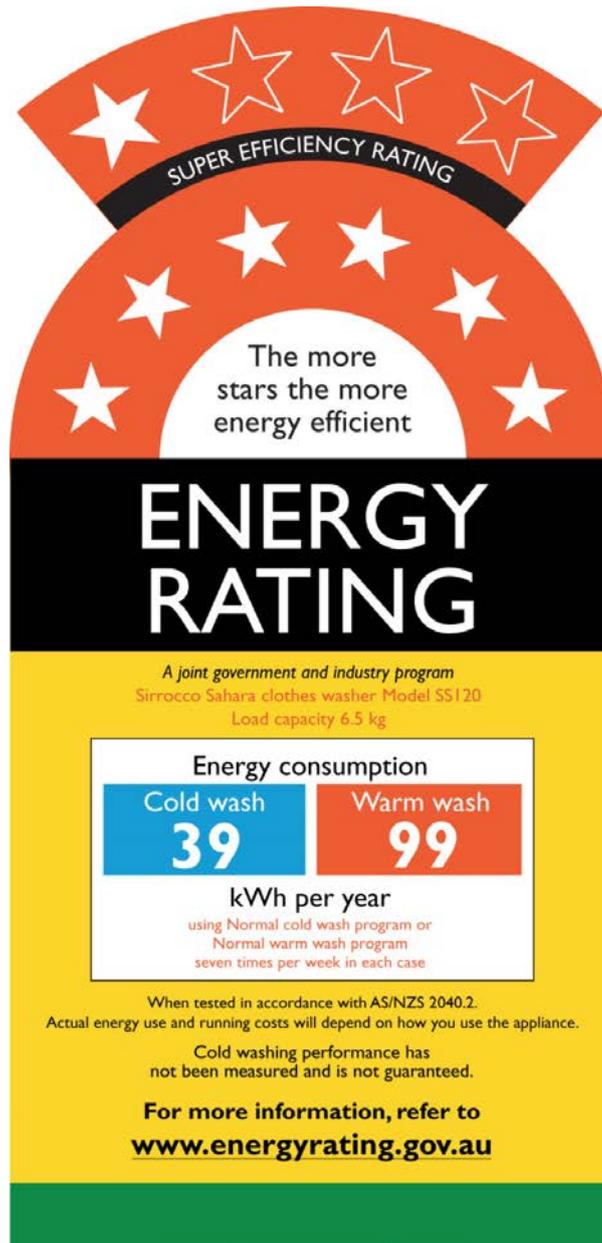
www.saiglobal.com

The Determination:

www.energyrating.gov.au/suppliers/legislation

The information in this document is provided as guidance only. This document has been developed to help registrants of distribution transformers better understand their responsibilities under the legislative framework in Australia. For registrants of products in Australia, this document should be read in conjunction with the *Greenhouse and Energy Minimum Standards (GEMS) Act 2012* and its supporting Regulations and Instruments. Changes to legislation may affect the information in this document. Ultimately, persons are responsible for determining their obligations under the law, and for applying the law to their individual circumstances. This document does not constitute legal advice and is not a substitute for independent professional advice.

Sample super efficient energy rating labels for clothes washing machines



Clothes washing machine with 7 star label