



Australian Government

Department of the Environment and Energy

Greenhouse and Energy Minimum Standards Regulator

Commercial refrigeration – refrigerated display and storage cabinets

What the proposed regulation changes mean for your business



Overview

Regulation of refrigerated display cabinets for minimum energy performance standards has been in place since 2004. The Australian and New Zealand Governments are proposing new regulation to improve the average energy efficiency of refrigerated cabinets. It will also align those specifications with major Australian and New Zealand trading partners, promoting international harmonisation of standards and efficiency levels. New categories of commercial refrigeration will also be subject to energy efficiency regulation under the *Greenhouse and Energy Minimum Standards Act 2012* (GEMS Act). The proposed changes are expected to commence no earlier than 1 December 2019.

Which commercial refrigeration products will be regulated?

The current *Greenhouse and Energy Minimum Standards (Refrigerated Display Cabinets) Determination 2012* covers refrigerated display cabinets used for the sale and display of chilled and/or frozen foodstuffs and beverages that are outlined in AS 1731 Refrigerated display cabinets. The proposed product scope adds several new classifications including refrigerated storage cabinets (also known as professional or service cabinets), small (≤ 500 litre) ice-cream freezers and ice-cream/gelato scooping cabinets. These products are summarised in Table 1, with the proposed applicable test standard for each product group. Adoption of European Standards and European Commission efficiency levels is being proposed to promote harmonisation of international standards, with some minor adjustments to suit Australian/New Zealand conditions. Work is under way internationally, with Australian/New Zealand input to develop these EN standards as International Standards (ISO).

Table 1: Commercial refrigeration products proposed to be regulated and exclusions.

Published and draft EN Standards and EC MEPS levels (and the parts which are not currently being considered for adoption in Australia and New Zealand).

European Standards	Standards Published	EC MEPS Levels Published	Parts of standards or regulations that are not being considered by current proposals
ISO 23953 Refrigerated Display Cabinets and commercial beverage coolers	Published	Draft	Beverage vending machines
EN 16825 Refrigerated storage cabinets and counters for professional use	Published	Published	Blast cabinets, condensing units and process chillers
EN 16901 Small (≤ 500 litre) ice-cream freezers	Published	Draft	
EN 16838 Refrigerated display scooping cabinets for gelato (soft scoop)	Published	Draft	

What other changes are being made?

Definition of ‘family of models’

To clarify which models can be registered as a ‘family of models’, a revised definition has been developed. The least efficient product in a family must undergo certified performance testing and be registered on the energy rating website. All other models (with physically identifiable model number variations) in the family must be listed, must be of the same or higher efficiency and have the ‘parent model’ test documentation uploaded at the point of registration. A maximum of 25 family member models will be permitted in a family registration.

In addition, it is proposed that family member models must have an identical or warmer product temperature range (M-package temperature) than the parent model, and family member models must be of an identical cabinet type and use the same method of access to products being displayed or stored as the parent model (for example either all open or all closed cabinets).

To assist in determining the model to be selected as the ‘parent’ of a family of self-contained cabinet models or remote cabinet models, criteria (available on energyrating.gov.au) can be applied to identify the model that will produce the highest allowable maximum energy consumption and thus be the least energy efficient.

Low volume/bespoke cabinet registration channel

This channel will provide an alternative means of demonstrating compliance for registration purposes for cabinets that are produced in low quantities (that is one-offs, bespoke/custom or built in) and/or that cannot be tested in a standard testing facility. The Energy Efficiency Index (EEI) of a cabinet using the low volume/bespoke registration channel is found by comparing the energy usage of the cabinet as ‘measured in practice’ with that of a cabinet fitted with best practice energy efficient components. For a successful application, it is necessary to demonstrate that a cabinet betters the minimum efficiency levels of a similar class of product by approximately 15 per cent. A printout from the software package used by the manufacturer (in lieu of a test report) will need to be uploaded at time of registration.

A maximum of 10 unit sales will be permitted for single model registrations, and a maximum of 25 unit sales for family registrations using this registration channel. Due to this sales threshold, the submission of annual sales data for such registrations will be required in both Australia and New Zealand. Registrants would be required to undertake the full test procedure and update the registration accordingly if these sales volume limits are exceeded, and further compliance action may also be possible.

Voluntary online star rating information



Voluntary online energy rating information will provide a basis for product comparison using an Energy Rating Icon (left), which is readily identifiable by consumers. Star rating information will be available for all products, with all products grouped into star bands according to their EEI level. The icon will be available for use in accordance with E3 Program guidelines.

What if I supply products that are included in the proposed regulation?

Under the GEMS Act, it is an offence to supply or offer to supply, or use for a commercial purpose, a product covered by a GEMS determination unless:

- the model is registered on the Energy Rating Product Registration System,
- the model complies with the relevant GEMS product determination, and
- the supply, offer, or use complies with the relevant GEMS product determination.

Before the commencement date of the new regulation, you must ensure all models covered by the GEMS determination are correctly registered before supplying or offering them for supply. Penalties may apply if you do not comply with the legal requirements.

Information on the registration process will be available at energyrating.gov.au prior to commencement of the regulation.

Can I directly import commercial refrigeration products into Australia to use in my own business?

The GEMS Act also covers products used for commercial purposes. You may import commercial refrigeration products from overseas to use in your own business but if they are covered by the product determination, they must still comply with all testing and registration requirements. Some manufacturers may undertake this for you, but if the model is not already registered, you are responsible for ensuring you have met these requirements.

What if I have existing registrations for refrigerated display cabinets?

Transitional arrangements differ slightly between Australia and New Zealand. Details on these arrangements are contained in the *Implementation Update: Refrigerated display and storage cabinets* available at energyrating.gov.au.

Next steps

An exposure draft of the Determination will be released in the second half of 2018. The Minister for Energy will approve the final Determination following agreement by COAG Energy Ministers. The Determination will come into force in Australia no earlier than 1 December 2019, incorporating any technical inputs and the various ISO and EN test methodologies for refrigerated display cabinets and refrigerated storage cabinets.

In New Zealand, the *Energy Efficiency (Energy Using Products) Regulations 2002* will be amended to incorporate the new standards and efficiency levels, subject to New Zealand Cabinet approval.

Where can I get more information?

Additional information on the proposed regulation can be found in the *Implementation Update: Refrigerated display and storage cabinets* and consultation documents available at energyrating.gov.au. The Efficiency Standard e-newsletter communicates updates about energy efficiency policy and regulation under the GEMS Act (subscribe at energyrating.gov.au or email us at energyrating@environment.gov.au).

Contact us

GEMS Regulator
Department of the Environment and Energy
GPO Box 787
Canberra ACT 2600

Website: energyrating.gov.au
Email: energyrating@environment.gov.au
YouTube: search for GEMS Regulator

Disclaimer: The information in this document is provided as guidance only. This document has been developed to help suppliers and commercial users better understand their responsibilities under the legislative framework in Australia. This document should be read in conjunction with the *Greenhouse and Energy Minimum Standards Act 2012* and the 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.

Examples of products regulated or proposed for regulation

These images are only examples of the types of products to be covered in the proposed regulation. They do not reflect the full range of products or product classes. Suppliers should refer to the product determination to decide if their products are in scope and require registration.



Image credits: istockphoto

- 1 Integral vertical chiller cabinet – IRV
- 2 Integral vertical storage chiller cabinets – SRV
- 3 Scooping cabinet – GSC or ISC
- 4 Refrigerated drinks cabinet – IRV-4
- 5 Ice cream freezer cabinet – IFH 5
- 6 Integral vertical chiller cabinet – IRV
- 7 Remote vertical chiller cabinet – RRV
- 8 Integral horizontal freezer cabinet – IFH

