

Energy Saving Labeling Program

Under the Energy Conservation Law, labeling of product name, model, energy consumption efficiency and power/fuel consumption of each designated product is mandatory. But that labeling does not require energy consumption performance of a product to be labeled in terms of a relative comparison with that of other products.

In order to provide consumers with information on energy consumption efficiency that is easier to understand, the voluntary Energy Saving Labeling Program was launched on August 21, 2000. That can lead consumers to compare energy efficiencies so that they can select products with more higher energy efficiency when making a purchase.

As of July 2008, the labeling is applied to 16 products (Air conditioners, Electric refrigerators, Electric freezers, Fluorescent lights, Electric toilet seats, TV sets, Computers, Magnetic disk units, Space heaters, Gas cooking appliances, Gas water heaters, Oil water heaters, Transformers, Electric rice cookers, Microwave ovens, DVD recorders). Originally 5 products that are air conditioners, florescent lights, TV sets, electric refrigerators, and electric freezers were designated in August 2000, and 5 more products including space heaters, gas cooking appliances, gas water heaters, oil water heaters and electric toilet seats were additionally designated in June 2003, and 3 more products including computers, magnetic disk units and transformers were additionally designated in May 2004, and then 3 more products including electric rice cookers, microwave ovens and DVD recorders were additionally designated in February 2007.

Voluntary Energy Saving Labeling Program for Efficiency Improvement of Home Appliances

- What is energy labeling?
Officially gazetted on August 21, 2000. Voluntary program based on JIS. Generally shown in product catalogues and on actual product, etc.
- 16 products as of July 2008
5 Products designated in August 2000: (Air conditioners, Fluorescent lights, TV sets, Electric refrigerators, Electric freezers)
5 Products designated in June 2003: (Space heaters, Gas cooking appliances, Gas water heaters, Oil water heaters, Electric toilet seats)
3 Products designated in May 2004: (Computers, Magnetic disk units, Transformers)
3 Products designated in February 2007:(Electric rice cookers, Microwave ovens, DVD recorders)
- Information shown on the label
Symbol mark, Top Runner target fiscal year, Achievement rate relative to Top Runner target, Energy consumption efficiency

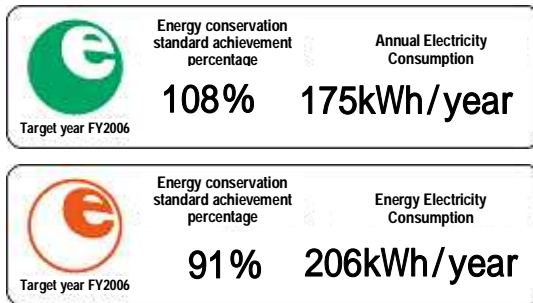
An energy saving label typically consists of the energy conservation logo in combination with information on target year, achievement rate of energy efficiency standards, and energy consumption efficiency.

The energy conservation logo is colored in orange for a product which doesn't achieve the target standards of energy efficiency, and while colored in green for a product achieves over 100% of the target standards. The "achievement rate of energy efficiency standards" is given as a percentage indicating how far the product's energy efficiency is improved from the target value. The Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) designates and promulgates the criteria to serve as judgment guidelines for each product.

Energy-Saving Labeling Program

- The energy-saving labeling program has been introduced to inform consumers of energy efficiency of home appliances and to promote energy-efficient products.

Examples of energy-saving labeling



Label for the product's main unit

- As of July 2008, labeling is applied to the following 16 products: Air conditioners, Electric refrigerators, Electric freezers, Fluorescent lights, Electric toilet seats, TV sets, Computers, Magnetic disk units, Space heaters, Gas cooking appliances, Gas water heaters, Oil water heaters, Transformers, Electric rice cookers, Microwave ovens, and DVD recorders.

Furthermore, in order to provide easy-to-understand information to consumers, the uniform energy-saving label system for retailers was introduced in October 2006.

Energy-Saving Labeling System for Retailers

- The Revised Law Concerning the Rational Use of Energy enforced in April 2006 stipulates that retailers shall make efforts to provide information. In light of this, a guideline was formulated, including providing information by using uniform energy-saving labels.
- The system started in October 2006.

Uniform Energy-saving Label



[Multi-stage rating system]

- Energy-saving performance is indicated in 5 stages, from 1 to 5 stars, from low to high performance of products offered in the market.
- In order to clarify the compliance level with the Top Runner standard, arrows are placed under the stars, showing achievement and non-achievement.

[Energy-saving labeling system]

- Products which achieved the Top Runner standard carry a green "e" mark, while others carry an orange "e" mark.
- Achievement level and annual electricity consumption are also indicated.

[Expected annual electricity bill]

- The expected annual electricity bill is indicated to show the energy consumption efficiency (annual electricity consumption) clearly.

Target Products Covered by the Labeling Program

Equipment	Energy-saving labeling system	Expected annual electricity bill and annual fuel usage	Uniform energy-saving label (*)
Air conditioners	○	○	○
Electric refrigerators	○	○	○
Electric freezers	○	○	
Lights	○	○	○
Electric Toilet Seats	○	○	○
TV sets	○	○	○
Computers	○		
Magnetic disk units	○		

Equipment	Energy-saving labeling system	Expected annual electricity bill and annual fuel usage	Uniform energy-saving label (*)
Space heaters	○		
Gas cooking appliances	○	○ (Energy usage)	
Gas water heaters	○	○ (Energy usage)	
Oil water heaters	○	○ (Energy usage)	
Transformers	○		
Electric rice cookers	To be added	○	
Microwave ovens	To be added	○	
Video cassette recorders		○	
DVD recorders	To be added	○	

* The uniform energy-saving label provides information on expected electricity bills, rating in the multi-stage rating system, and energy conservation information in an integrated manner.