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Group for Energy Efficient
Appliances (GEEA)

c/o
GEEA Secretariat
RAMBØLL
Teknikerbyen 45
DK-2830 Virum,
Denmark

Tel. +45 45 98 87 92 (direct)
Tel. +45 45 98 83 00 (central)
Fax +45 45 98 85 15
E-mail: kimj@ramboll.dk
Internet: www.eficient-appliances.org

Background

The first task of the *EnR Group for Efficient Appliances (GEA)*, formed in 1991, was a study on refrigerators. This study, funded by the European Union, formed a basis for the European Energy Label for refrigerators. This established the group as player in the field of energy efficiency and appliances.

From then on, GEA was involved in a number of studies, workshops and discussions. More and more GEA found it's own way of working, separate from EnR. It's attention was drawn to the segment consumer electronics (CE) and office equipment (IT). This led, in the late 1990'ies, to the development of the labelling scheme for consumer electronics and office equipment.

To get established as a legal body the Group for Energy Efficient Appliances (GEEA) has become a foundation in the year 2000.¹

Present stage

Today GEEA is still setting energy efficiency standards for consumer electronics and IT equipment. GEEA is represented on the European Energy Star Board, EnR and other bodies on labelling matters for office equipment.

The GEEA organisation utilises a database of complying appliances – and this data is freely available on the GEEA website. For this purpose the national partners maintain contacts with national industry and retail trade. On international level GEEA has found a partner in the industry association EICTA.

National GEEA partners initiate awareness campaigns and provide service to national governments.

GEEA stays on top of the market investigating and communicating energy saving solutions for emerging technologies and products.

The mission of GEEA

The general mission of GEEA is to provide tools for promoting the use of energy efficient appliances, especially in areas where no suitable tools or labels are available.

¹ In 2001 the name was changed to "Group for Energy Efficient Appliances - GEEA" in order to avoid legal action from an entity, which felt that their rights to the "GEA"-name was being challenged.

The core activity of GEEA is to develop criteria for the registration of energy efficient appliances, and to maintain a database of the registered products.

GEEA will continue to develop these activities – including adding new product groups as they emerge on the market – but at the same time, GEEA will stop the registration of product groups for which other internationally recognised labelling schemes employ criteria which matches those developed by GEEA.

GEEA will continue to improve the database/website with regards to user-friendliness of the database and the related procedures – both for those who wishes to register products and for those who are using the data for promotional purposes. An important objective is to improve the quality of the available data – especially with regards to obsolete registrations.

The technical working groups are central for these activities. The working groups consist of experts appointed by the members of GEEA and representatives of relevant organisations and institutions. The working groups are responsible for the development of the criteria and for identifying new relevant product groups – and product groups, which no longer should be targeted.

In addition to this, GEEA will continue to work with other organisations and institutions as well as national and international authorities to increase awareness of the potential of working with energy efficient appliances as a tool for realising energy savings – as part of energy policy goals at all levels – from international to local.

Cooperation

GEEA invites all interested parties to co-operate in:

Promotion of energy efficient appliances

– GEEA provides a database of products, which complies with the GEEA criteria. Manufacturers, importers, retailers – or other organisations interested in promoting energy efficient appliances are invited to cooperate with GEEA.

Dialogue – discussion and input

- GEEA will be happy to provide input to studies, committees, workshops, conferences, articles etc. - based on expert knowledge and years of experience. GEEA will also participate directly in research projects, studies etc.

Membership

The organisations and institutions - which are members of GEEA - decide the overall goals of GEEA and the principles and procedures employed to reach them.

The members are institutions responsible for energy efficiency at national level.

To co-operate with GEEA is generally free of charge – only membership entails a modest annual contribution – in addition to which the members

usually provide experts to the working groups and allocated resources for registering products.

Registering products and using the criteria and data for promotional purposes are free of charge.

New members can profit from the website, by marketing their organisation and using the database (adding appliances). They have access to working groups and stay in touch with all other experts in the field. GEEA is a friendly organisation working towards sustainable results in a friendly working environment.

Chairperson

Adrie van de Water, Novem
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