

PRESS RELEASE

# NONCONFORMITIES PERSIST

## It's time for (re)action

BRUSSELS, 26 MARCH 2024 – The [EEPLIANT3](#) Concerted Action revealed significant levels of suspected non-compliance across six product categories. The findings, while not statistically representative due to the risk-based approach to product selection, underscore the need for increased adherence to energy efficiency standards and more robust quality assurance systems.

The EU-funded Action assessed the performance and conformity of six product categories with the EU requirements for Energy Labelling and Ecodesign: **Air Conditioners and Comfort Fans, Household Tumble Dryers, Water Heaters and Hot Water Storage Tanks, Ventilation Units, Lighting Sources, and Local Space Heaters.**

Inspections under EEPLIANT3 unveiled many different nonconformities related to the energy performance of products, energy label, Product Information Sheet (PIS), [European Product Registry for Energy Labelling \(EPREL\)](#), or other essential elements of the product documentation.

The participating Market Surveillance Authorities (MSAs) addressed all issues promptly to restore consumer trust and ensure these rules deliver the intended energy savings. Enforcement involved an array of measures, from warnings and informal contacts to sales bans, withdrawals, fines, and (voluntary) cease of production.

The implications of non-compliance are far-reaching. Consumers and businesses grapple with higher energy bills, while unnecessary carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions cause serious environmental repercussions. The findings manifest a clear need to increase the understanding and awareness of economic operators of the Ecodesign and Energy Labelling requirements, deepen cooperation, and strengthen enforcement.

The EU's commitment to energy conservation hinges on our shared efforts to ensure that products meet the set Ecodesign and Energy Labelling rules.

### EEPLIANT3 FINAL EVENT, 06-07 MARCH 2024

The results and conclusions of the Action were discussed at the EEPLIANT3 Final Event on 06 and 07 March 2024. This two half-days hybrid event was hosted by [PROSAFE](#), the Project Coordinator, in Brussels.

The event was attended by representatives of the European Commission (CINEA, DG ENER, DG GROW), MSAs, industry associations, consumer organisations, and test bodies.

EEPLIANT3 showcased new tools, methods, and training materials during live demonstrations. The exploitation of the results will extend beyond the lifetime of the project, while efforts will continue under the new EEPLIANT4 Concerted Action that starts this May and is co-funded by the EU.

Participants also engaged in workshops, discussing gaps and challenges in the existing market surveillance framework. A wealth of practical recommendations emerged, emphasising the need for more and closer cooperation among all actors, including EU Customs.



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vores bureau

### CAUTION!

The results of this Action are based on samples of products collected from the markets in the participating countries. As in most market surveillance activities, the results represent, for the most part, the targeted efforts that authorities undertake to identify suspicious/non-compliant products. Because of that, **the results do not present a statistically valid picture of the entire market situation** for each inspected product category.

The final newsletter and final public report with the results of the Concerted Action will be soon available on the project website at [www.eepliant.eu](http://www.eepliant.eu).

► Watch the EEPLIANT3 movie: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I\\_4EJ4-ZOW8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I_4EJ4-ZOW8)

### EEPLIANT3 FINAL EVENT - PHOTO COLLAGE



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If you would like more information about the EEPLIANT3 Concerted Action, please contact Ioana Sandu, PROSAFE's Executive Director, at +32 2 757 9336, or email at [info@prosafe.org](mailto:info@prosafe.org).

### About EEPLIANT3

This information is provided by [PROSAFE](http://www.prosafe.org) and the 29 organisations representing 21 EU/EEA countries in EEPLIANT3: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, The Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and Turkey. EEPLIANT3 is coordinated by PROSAFE, supported by the Austrian Energy Agency (AEA) and vores bureau (vb).

PROSAFE brings together market surveillance officers from across Europe since 2006. For more information about this initiative and other market surveillance projects coordinated by PROSAFE, visit [www.eepliant.eu](http://www.eepliant.eu) and [www.prosafe.org](http://www.prosafe.org), and follow us on X: [@EEPLIANT](https://twitter.com/EEPLIANT), and [@PROSAFE.ORG](https://twitter.com/PROSAFE.ORG).

### DISCLAIMER

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