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ECO DESIGN DIRECTIVE, WHAT IMPACT ON THE GAS APPLIANCE MARKET?

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Abstract

The new implementation plans for the ECO design directive may change the heating and hot water market profile in the next few years.

Beside minimum efficiency requirements, the ECO design plans foresee a labeling of appliances based on a system approach where all water based heating appliances are compared.

The system approach takes into account the fact that the real performances of the appliances are also depending on the installation. This approach was already adopted in few countries, but this is the first time is it proposed at EU level with the ambitious goal to inform the customer as accurately as possible.

Within ECO design, gas appliances will be competing with el. heat pumps, fuel oil boilers etc., but the systems will also allow the combination of gas boilers with solar energy or even electric heat pumps! So new hybrid products may suddenly appear on the market to match the EU requirements.

Also gas heat pumps will be included and probably micro CHP.

It is not yet clear what will be the real impact of the measures adopted, as the models to be used for this purpose are not yet finalized, but we will try to bring light on this with the latest news available and with results of preliminary investigations.

We will try to assess the risks, chances and challenges for the gas products.