ENERGY-EFFICIENCY LABELS AND STANDARDS:
A GUIDEBOOK FOR APPLIANCES, EQUIPMENT, AND LIGHTING

2ND EDITION

Lead Authors:

Stephen Wiel
and
James E. McMahon

Collaborative Labeling and Appliance Standards Program (CLASP)
Washington, D.C.
USA

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AUTHOR AFFILIATIONS AND AREAS OF CONTRIBUTION

LEAD AUTHORS
Stephen Wiel, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA (First and Second Editions)
James McMahon, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA (First and Second Editions)

COORDINATING AUTHOR
Mirka della Cava, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA (First and Second Editions)

CHAPTER AND CONTRIBUTING AUTHORS

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION
Stephen Wiel, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA (First and Second Editions)

CHAPTER 2: ENERGY-EFFICIENCY LABELS AND STANDARDS: AN OVERVIEW
Stephen Wiel, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA (First and Second Editions)

CHAPTER 3: DECIDING WHETHER AND HOW TO IMPLEMENT ENERGY-EFFICIENCY LABELS AND STANDARDS
Peter du Pont, Danish Energy Management A/S and International Institute for Energy Conservation (Board), Thailand (First and Second Editions)
Paul Waide, PW Consulting, United Kingdom (First Edition) and International Energy Agency, France (Second Edition)

CONTRIBUTING AUTHORS:
Benoit Lebot, United Nations Development Programme—Global Environmental Facility, France (First Edition)
John Newman, France (First Edition)

CHAPTER 4: ENERGY TESTING FOR APPLIANCES
Alan Meier, International Energy Agency, France (First and Second Editions)

CHAPTER 5: DESIGNING AND IMPLEMENTING A LABELING PROGRAM
Peter du Pont, Danish Energy Management A/S and International Institute for Energy Conservation (Board), Thailand (First and Second Editions)
Paul Schwengels, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, USA (Second Edition)
Christine Egan, Collaborative Labeling and Appliance Standards Program, USA (Second Edition)
Lloyd Harrington, Energy Efficient Strategies, Australia (First Edition)

CONTRIBUTING AUTHORS:
John Cockburn, Natural Resources Canada, Canada (Second Edition)
Rachael Schmeltz, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, USA (Second Edition)

Continued on next page
CHAPTER 6: ANALYZING AND SETTING STANDARDS
James McMahon, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA *(First and Second Editions)*
Michael McNeil, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA *(Second Edition)*
Isaac Turiel, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA *(First Edition)*

**CONTRIBUTING AUTHORS:**
Peter Benenson, USA *(First and Second Editions)*

CHAPTER 7: DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTING COMMUNICATIONS CAMPAIGNS FOR LABELING AND STANDARDS-SETTING PROGRAMS
Jill Abelson, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, USA *(Second Edition)*
Christine Egan, Collaborative Labeling and Appliance Standards Program, USA *(Second Edition)*
Lisa Surprenant, The Alliance to Save Energy, USA *(Second Edition)*

**CONTRIBUTING AUTHORS:**
Frank Klinckenberg, Klinckenberg Consultants, The Netherlands *(Second Edition)*

CHAPTER 8: ENSURING THE INTEGRITY OF ENERGY-EFFICIENCY LABELING AND STANDARDS-SETTING PROGRAMS
B.J. Kumar, Energetics, Inc., USA *(First Edition)*

**CONTRIBUTING AUTHORS:**
Chris Stone, Intertek Testing Services, USA *(Second Edition)*
Isaac Turiel, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA *(First Edition)*
Lloyd Harrington, Energy Efficient Strategies, Australia *(First Edition)*
Shane Holt, Australian Greenhouse Office, Australia *(First Edition)*
Benoit Lebot, United Nations Development Programme—Global Environmental Facility, France *(First Edition)*

CHAPTER 9: EVALUATING THE IMPACT OF ENERGY-EFFICIENCY LABELING AND STANDARD-SETTING PROGRAMS
Edward Vine, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA *(First and Second Editions)*

**CONTRIBUTING AUTHORS:**
Jun Choi, Korea Testing Laboratory, Korea *(Second Edition)*
Peter du Pont, Danish Energy Management A/S and International Institute for Energy Conservation (Board), Thailand *(First and Second Editions)*

CHAPTER 10: ENERGY PROGRAMS AND POLICIES THAT COMPLEMENT LABELS AND STANDARDS
Jeff Harris, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA *(First and Second Editions)*
Margaret Suozzo, American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy, USA *(First Edition)*

**CONTRIBUTING AUTHORS:**
Brad Hollomon, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, USA *(Second Edition)*
Frank Klinckenberg, Klinckenberg Consultants, The Netherlands *(Second Edition)*
Marc Ledbetter, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, USA *(First and Second Editions)*
Hans Westling, Promandat AB, Sweden *(Second Edition)*
David Fridley, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA *(First Edition)*
Jiang Lin, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA *(First Edition)*
Steve Meyers, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA *(First Edition)*
Tracy Narel, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, USA *(First Edition)*

**SECOND EDITION REVIEWERS**
Jun Choi, Korea Testing Laboratory, Korea
Christine Egan, Collaborative Labeling and Appliance Standards Program, USA
David Goldstein, Natural Resources Defense Council, USA
Frank Klinckenberg, Klinckenberg Consultants, The Netherlands
Benoit Lebot, United Nations Development Programme—Global Environmental Facility, France
Li Tienan, Center for the Certification of Energy Conservation Products, China
John Millhone, formerly U.S. Department of Energy, USA
Paul Schwengels, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, USA
Laura Van Wie McGrory, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA
Larry Wethje, Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers, USA

**FIRST EDITION REVIEWERS**
Li Aixian, China National Institute of Standardization, China
Pankaj Bhatia, Tata Energy and Resources Institute, USA
Brenda Boardman, Environmental Change Institute, UK
Mirna Campananos, Department of Energy, Philippines
Sachu Constantine, Alliance to Save Energy, USA
Martin Dasek, SEVEN, The Energy Efficiency Center, Czech Republic
Linda Dethman, Dethman/Tangora LLC, USA
Carl Duisberg, U.S. Agency for International Development, USA
Peter du Pont, International Institute for Energy Conservation, Thailand
David Fridley, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA
Glenn Goetz, Amana Appliances, USA

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**Preface**

Energy-performance improvements in consumer products are an essential element in any government’s portfolio of energy-efficiency and climate change mitigation programs. Governments need to develop balanced programs, both voluntary and regulatory, that remove cost-ineffective, energy-wasting products from the marketplace and stimulate the development of cost-effective, energy-efficient technology. Energy-efficiency labels and standards for appliances, equipment, and lighting products deserve to be among the first policy tools considered by a country’s energy policy makers. The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and several other organizations identified on the cover of this guidebook recognize the need to support policy makers in their efforts to implement energy-efficiency standards and labeling programs and have developed this guidebook, together with the Collaborative Labeling and Appliance Standards Program (CLASP), as a primary reference.

This second edition of the guidebook was prepared over the course of the past year, four years after the preparation of the first edition, with a significant contribution from the authors and reviewers mentioned previously. Their diligent participation helps maintain this book as the international guidance tool it has become. The lead authors would like to thank the members of the Communications Office of the Environmental Energy Technologies Division, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory for their support in the development, production, and distribution of the guidebook.

This guidebook is designed as a manual for government officials and others around the world responsible for developing, implementing, enforcing, monitoring, and maintaining labeling and standards-setting programs. It discusses the pros and cons of adopting energy-efficiency labels and standards and describes the data, facilities, and institutional and human resources needed for these programs. It provides guidance on the design, development, implementation, maintenance, and evaluation of the programs and on the design of the labels and standards themselves. In addition, it directs the reader to references and other resources likely to be useful in conducting the activities described and includes a chapter on energy policies and programs that complement appliance efficiency labels and standards.

This guidebook attempts to reflect the essential framework of labeling and standards programs. It is the intent of the authors and sponsor to distribute copies of this book worldwide, at no charge, for the general public benefit. The guidebook is also available on the web at www.clasponline.org and may be downloaded to be used intact or piecemeal for whatever beneficial purposes readers may conceive.
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