



Panel Presentation: Perspectives on Processes to Harmonize MEPS and MVE Practices

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Perspectives on Processes to Harmonize MEPS and MVE Practices

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Australian Government



Harmonisation – background to lites.asia involvement

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- Discussion in lites.asia meetings has often referred to the need for a harmonised approach to standards and requirements for lighting energy efficiency testing and performance.
- Sixth meeting of the lites.asia forum in New Delhi, October 2012, supported the proposed called upon the IEC to produce a CFL Technical Specification as a valuable tool in informing and assisting countries to promote quality energy efficient lighting
 - The countries represented encompass approximately half the world's population (Australia, Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Tonga, Thailand and Vietnam).

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Harmonisation – background to lites.asia involvement

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- 8th lites.asia Meeting Manila October 2013 – meeting discussed the ASEAN high level commitment to develop single market for good and services by 2015.
 - ASEAN Joint Sectoral Committee for Electrical and Electronic Equipment (JSCEEE) charged with implementing the ASEAN Harmonized Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulatory Regime (AHEER) including compliance with Safety, Environmental and EMC Standards.
- As an outcome, in November 2013 David Boughey gave a presentation to the JSCEEE on opportunities for harmonisation of lighting efficiency in the region and briefed JSCEEE on opportunities for cooperative work with lites.asia

Harmonisation – background to lites.asia involvement

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- May 2014 – Vote on proposal to IEC TC34 for a Technical Specification on CFL performance was not successful
- However the fact that the majority of voting countries in the Asia region supported this proposal showed both the interest in harmonisation in the region and the unfortunate unwillingness of IEC TC34 to assist with a clearly identified need.
 - While there are still opportunities to engage with the IEC on a broader policy level regarding cooperation with government objectives regarding energy efficiency, the option of regional harmonisation is probably the best solution in the short term.
- Recently JSCEEE has turned its attention to harmonisation of standards for product energy efficiency

Emerging Opportunities and Resources

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- IEC 60969 CFL Performance Standard close to completion
 - Australian proposal for CFL performance TS could serve as a model for regional harmonization of MEPS
- International Commission on Illumination (CIE) close to finalising Test Method for LED lamps, luminaires and modules
- Tropical performance criteria for LEDs already developed cooperatively through *lites.asia*
- IEA 4E Solid State Lighting Annex has developed performance levels for a range of LED lighting products
- En.lighten lamp sampling and testing and inter-laboratory comparison activities
- APEC cooperation on MV&E

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Harmonisation – Australian and New Zealand Experience

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- Australia and New Zealand work together on harmonised product energy efficiency standards and regulatory requirements (MEPS and labelling)
- Test and performance standards are usually joint Australian and New Zealand Standards
 - developed cooperatively in joint standards committees with representatives from both countries
- Equipment Energy Efficiency (E3) Committee has representatives from the Australian and New Zealand national governments and the Australian state and territory governments
- E3 develops the agenda for MEPS and labelling activities for approval by governments

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Harmonisation – Australian and New Zealand Experience

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- Where a new proposal for MEPS or labelling is made, a discussion paper (product profile) will be developed for stakeholder consultation in both countries
- If a decision is made to further develop a proposal, often the relevant Australian and New Zealand standards committee will commence development draft standards while governments formally consider (and decide whether to approve) the proposal
 - Where possible available international standards are adopted or modified to suit Australian and New Zealand circumstances

Harmonisation – Australian and New Zealand Experience

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- Both countries implement MEPS or HEPS through their own National legislation, which usually refers to the joint Australian and New Zealand standard for detailed specifications
 - For example, under the Australian Greenhouse and Energy Minimum Standards Act 2012 (GEMS Act), the regulatory instrument for CFLs refers to AS/NZS 4847
- While for most products the requirements are the same, there are a few products where each country has a different requirement (includes electronic ballasts and incandescent lighting)
- Once a MEPS or HEPS requirement is in place, a manufacturer or supplier may register the product online

Harmonisation – Australian and New Zealand Experience

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- Applications may be made through the Energy Rating web site using either the Australian or New Zealand or Fiji regulator
 - Products registered in Australia are considered registered under the [New Zealand Energy Efficiency \(Energy using Products\) Regulations 2002](#) and the product can be supplied in New Zealand provided the energy performance characteristics of that item comply with the standards for that item's product class. New Zealand product registrations are not recognised in Australia.
 - Note: The Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Arrangement (TTMRA) provides that products meeting New Zealand legal requirements may be sold in Australia without the need for an Australian registration, provided the product was imported into Australia from New Zealand and vice versa.

Harmonisation – Australian and New Zealand Experience

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- Each country contributes to the costs of maintaining the registration system
- Registration data for products submitted for registration in only one country is only available to officials in that country.
 - However in accordance with regulations, some registration data is made available on a public database.
- Joint training workshops have been held to train registration assessors

Harmonisation – Australian and New Zealand Experience – MV&E

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- Under the E3 program, New Zealand (EECA) and Australian Department of Industry (DOI) compliance teams work very closely together on compliance.
- The DOI compliance team manages and is responsible for the E3 compliance budget for check testing contributed by Australian federal and state governments, and New Zealand Government. Labelling compliance and other compliance activities are born by each jurisdiction.
- The DOI compliance team consults with EECA on the products to be tested and products are selected under the E3 selection criteria -

Harmonisation – Australian and New Zealand Experience – MV&E

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- Test results are recorded on the energy rating website (secure site) and compliance staff in both jurisdictions have access to all test results.
 - The E3 programme has a single check test procedure and record follow up actions and outcomes of check testing on the energy rating website (secure site).
 - Check testing failures of New Zealand registered products are followed up by EECA and Australian registered failures by Australia.
- Labelling compliance is the responsibility of each jurisdiction however results are shared and compared.
- By sharing test data, where a model fails in Australia, the same or similar models can be checked in New Zealand

Opportunities to Cooperate?

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- Harmonised tests standards / MEPS
- The Australia / New Zealand / Fiji product registration system and database could be used as a model for cooperative product registration more broadly in the region
- Advice and assistance in setting up registration and compliance systems
- Data on product check testing could be shared with other governments -
 - The would need to be in accordance with GEMS Act regulatory requirements and agreement to some compliance information only to be made available to assist in the administration of the law of another country.

Further Information

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- David.Boughey@Industry.Gov.au
- www.energyrating.gov.au/
- Product Registration: www.energyrating.gov.au/for-industry/product-registration/
- E3 compliance selection criteria - http://www.energyrating.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/Energy_Rating_Documents/Library/Compliance/Compliance/Verification-testing-Selection-Criteria-FINAL.pdf