

IMPORT AND MARKETING OF ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT

Electrical equipment imported from outside the European Union is subject to a product safety check by the Tax and Customs Board at the border, during which the compliance of the equipment with the requirements is checked. To avoid possible problems, it is important to ensure that imported electrical equipment is equipped with proper labeling and documentation.

Legislation

The requirements established for electrical equipment derive from Estonian legislation:

- Product Conformity Act
- Equipment Safety Act
- Waste Act
- Regulation "Safety requirements for electrical equipment and electromagnetic compatibility requirements for electrical equipment and electrical installation and conformity assessment procedure."
- Regulation "Method and procedure for labeling electrical and electronic equipment."
and directives and regulations of the European Parliament and the Council:
- 2014/35/EU (former 2006/95/EC) on the harmonization of the laws of the Member States relating to the making available on the market of electrical equipment designed for use within certain voltage limits;
- 2014/30/EU (former 2004/108/EC) on the harmonization of the laws of the Member States relating to electromagnetic compatibility;
- 2009/125/establishing a framework for the setting of ecodesign requirements for energy-related products;
- 2011/65/EU + 2015/863/EU on the restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment;
- 2017/1369 consumption and labeling of energy and other resources of products with energy impact.

Marking

Each electrical device must be equipped with:

- CE marked (conformity marking)
- with information necessary for safe use (voltage, power, protection class, etc.)
- with the manufacturer's name/trademark and the importer's name
- (model) number or any other identifying information
- with an energy label on certain types of equipment (e.g., electric lamps, large household appliances, air conditioners, heat pumps, boilers, TVs)
- with a label for a separate collection of devices.

The marking must be affixed to the device, except in exceptional cases where the size or nature of the device does not allow it. In this case, the corresponding information must be provided in the document accompanying the device or on the packaging.

Conformity assessment

In addition to the marking, it must be checked in advance that the electrical equipment has undergone a conformity assessment. The conformity assessment and verification procedure consists of the following steps:

- preparation of technical documentation;
- drawing up a declaration of conformity;
- installation of the conformity marking (CE marking).

Technical documentation

Technical documentation makes it possible to assess the compliance of the electrical equipment with the requirements and includes:

- general description of the electrical equipment;
- basic electrical device designs, technical drawings, and diagrams of the parts, circuits, etc of the electrical equipment;
- the necessary descriptions and explanations for understanding the designs, diagrams, and the operation of the electrical equipment mentioned in the previous point;
- a list of standards that were applied in the production of the electrical equipment, either partially or fully, or a list of other measures to ensure compliance of the electrical equipment with the requirements of the standards were not applied;
- design calculations and inspection results, etc.;
- test reports;
- a copy of the Declaration of Conformity (EU Declaration of Conformity).

Conformity of electrical equipment to all relevant requirements is certified by a declaration of conformity issued by the manufacturer or the manufacturer's authorized representative. The Declaration of Conformity does not have to be included with the electrical equipment.

EU declaration of conformity

EU Declaration of Conformity must contain:

- equipment model/product (product, type, batch, or serial number);
- the name and address of the manufacturer or the manufacturer's authorized representative;
- the technical description of the electrical equipment, which allows for the identification of the equipment;

- references to applicable directives;
- references to harmonized standards or, in their absence, to standards whose requirements the electrical equipment meets;
- if necessary, explanations about the specifics to which the electrical equipment meets the requirements;
- data of the signatory;
- time and place of issue.

Conformity assessment for electrical equipment that does not come from a member state of the European Community

In the event that the electrical equipment does not have documentation proving compliance with the requirements (CE marking) and the importer wants to place the product on the European Union market, the following must be done in advance:

- a manufacturer's authorization must be obtained;
- product conformity assessment must be carried out;
- technical documentation must be prepared;
- EU declaration of conformity must be prepared;
- a CE marking must be affixed.

CE marking

By affixing the CE marking, the manufacturer announces that all important requirements applicable to the equipment have been taken into account during the production of the electrical equipment. The CE marking is only related to safety and does not reflect the quality or operational condition of the product. If electrical equipment does not have the mandatory CE marking, it may indicate that the device may be dangerous or that the manufacturer does not know the requirements for the electrical equipment. Products bearing the CE marking are allowed to circulate freely in the common market of the European Community.

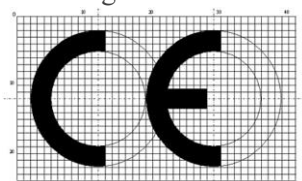
Placement of the CE marking

The CE marking is placed by the manufacturer or the manufacturer's authorized representative on the electrical equipment or, if this is not possible, on the packaging, user manual, or warranty certificate.

The CE marking is placed on the electrical equipment, its packaging, or on the document accompanying the electrical equipment in a visible, permanent, and clearly distinguishable manner. Other markings may be applied to electrical equipment, but such marks must not be confused with the CE marking in terms of their shape and size.

Design of the CE marking

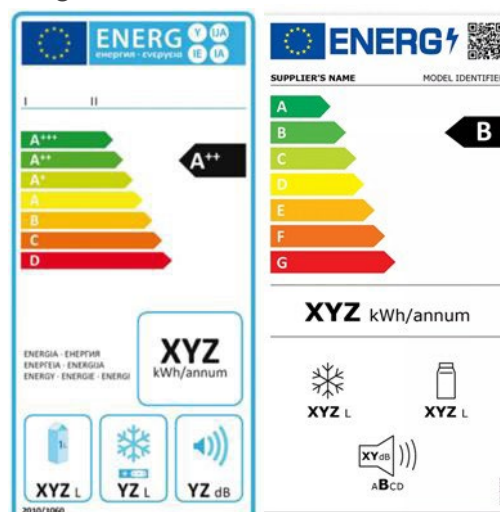
The requirements for the affixation and design of the CE marking are stipulated by the European Community Regulation 765/2008 EC, according to which the minimum permissible height of the shape of the CE marking below is 5 mm.



Energy labeling

The design of the energy label and the information it contains depends on the type of electrical equipment and the requirements of the EU regulation applicable to the corresponding equipment. Five product groups (refrigerators, washing machines, dishwashers, TVs and monitors, and light sources) use a new energy label. Other products still use the energy label with the old design.

For example, consider the old and new energy labels of refrigerators.



Old energy label

New energy label

Label for separate collection of electrical and electronic equipment

Electrical and electronic equipment must be collected separately from other waste. To draw attention to this, electrical and electronic equipment must be equipped with a separate collection symbol, which is the wheeled waste container with a cross drawn on it, as shown below. The symbol must be affixed to the equipment in a visible, legible, and indelible manner.



TARBIJAKAITSE JA TEHNILISE
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