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Minutes of the Kick Off Meeting for Standard & Labeling of Washing Machine held on 29th July, 2008

Bureau of Energy Efficiency

Dr. Ajay Mathur, Director General (Chairperson)
Mr. Jiresh Nandan, National Coordinator
Mr. Sandeep Garg, Energy Economist
Mr. Alvin Jose, Project Engineer

British High Commission

Mr. B. Siddharthan, Sr. Climate Change and Energy Policy Advisor
Mr. Anurag Mishra, Sr. Programme Manager

PricewaterhouseCoopers

Mr. Amit Kumar, Senior Manager
Mr. Rajeev Ralhan, Senior. Consultant
Mr. Makarand Kale, Senior. Consultant
Mr. Manoj Bansal, Consultant

Bureau of Indian Standards

Mr. P. K. Mukherjee, Director
Mr. Nishat S. Haque

Industry Representatives:

1. Consumer Electronics Appliances Manufacturers Association

- Mr. S. Khanna, Secretary General

Manufacturers

2. L G Electronics India Pvt. Limited

- Mr. S. K. Soni, Assistant General Manager, Product Mfg. Head (Washing Machine)
- Mr. Mohammad Tanveer, Manager, R & D (Washing Machine)

3. Videocon Appliances Limited

- Mr. G. J. Phatak, Sr. Manager (D & D)

4. Videocon Industries Limited (Electrolux)

- Mr. Ram Kripal, Dy. Manager (D & D)

5. Mirc Electronics Limited (Onida)

- Mr. R. K. Nayyar, Business Head (Washing Machine)
- Mr. Prashant Bhatnagar, Unit Head

6. Samsung India Electronics Pvt Limited

- Mr. Mankesh Pathak, Product Manager (Washing Machine)
- Mr. K. C. Sahu, Manager – R & D

7. Haier Appliances (India) P. Limited

- Ms. Pragati Rastogi, Company Secretary & Manager (Legal)
- Mr. Pankaj Sharma, Asst. Manager – Quality Assurance

Testing Laboratories

1. Electrical Research & Development Association

- Mr. Nailesh Kadia

2. Intertek

- Ms. Madhumita Guha, Marketing Head – C & E and IS
- Mr. Anil Imartey, Project Manager, Commercial & Electrical
- Mr. Puneet Randeo, Manager – Sales & Marketing

Consumer Organizations

1. VOICE

- Mr. H. Wadhwa, Deputy CEO

2. Consumer Education & Research Centre

- Ms. Shweta Mahajan, Manager – Electrical

Report/Papers given to Participants

1. Agenda Paper
2. Status Report on Washing Machines
3. Detailed questionnaire to be filled by manufacturers

Following issues were discussed during the meeting:

Welcome Address

1. Dr. Ajay Mathur kicked off the meeting and explained the benefits/needs of the Standard & Labeling program for the country.
2. Mr. Sandeep Garg, welcomed the participants for the meeting and apprised about Standard & Labelling Program of BEE.
3. Mr. Amit Kumar welcomed the participants on behalf of PwC and briefly apprised the participants about Standard & Labeling program for Washing machine.

4. Mr. Anurag apprised everybody present about the mandate of British High Commission and their Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) program.
5. Mr. P.K.Mukherjee discussed at length about BIS standards and shared experience of other countries on standards and testing of consumer products.
6. Mr. Alvin Jose made a brief presentation about Standard & Labeling program of BEE.

Presentation/Discussions

7. Mr. Rajeev Ralhan made a detailed presentation about the project and explained the rationale and expected outputs.
8. Following issues were discussed:
 - Energy consumption levels in washing machines were discussed with manufacturers and other participants with respect to cycle time, rating besides number of households using washing machine in India. It was suggested that assumption with regard to cycle time for semi-automatic and fully automatic machines and energy consumption per machine in a year is on higher side and actual value would be less by 30-40% than the assumed value. PwC will redo these calculations.
 - Regarding testing protocol for Washing Machines, it was discussed that IEC-60456 is used in most of the countries. DG, BEE told the gathering that BEE would follow IS – 14155 as base for developing testing protocol for washing machines. It was also decided that performance parameters should also be part of testing protocol along with energy efficiency. A discussion followed on facilities available for testing in the country and need was felt to develop the same on urgent basis.
 - Energy saving potential from washing machines segment through Standard & Labeling program was projected and discussed. DG, BEE asked manufacturers if the data/information on energy efficiency of existing machines is available and the steps taken by them to improve the efficiency. All manufacturers agreed that as such there is no information/emphasis about energy performance. PwC presentation showed that S&L program including washing machine in other countries is generating good amount of energy as well monetary savings.
9. Mr. Sandeep Garg raised the issue of existing testing facilities, cost and time for testing of Washing Machines in India. It was discussed that there is shortage of NABL accredited testing laboratories Mr H. Wadhwa informed that they have tested few washing machines through ERDA in the recent past. There are problems in conducting all the performance tests as per IS. Mr. Nailesh Kadia, ERDA mentioned that their lab in Baroda has necessary infrastructure to carry out testing of washing machine as per IS. He informed that testing of one washing machine takes around 45 days. Mr. Wadhwa informed that total cost for testing one washing machine comes out to be between Rs.40,000-50,000. Intertek informed that presently, they don't have infrastructure in India to conduct testing of Washing Machine and testing could be carried out in their Bangkok Laboratory. Manufacturers were also asked about type of in-house testing facilities available with them. Most of the manufacturers informed that they have got good testing facilities to carry out performance testing of Washing machines.

10. Discussion also took place regarding the type of electric motors used and whether they are made in India or imported. It was informed that 95% of the manufacturers import motors from China. There is a need to align these motors as per existing Standard & labelling Program for Electric Motors in India.
11. BIS showed their concerns over acceptance/use of IS by all the manufacturers. Mr. Surinder Khanna informed that industry is using best testing techniques on their own for performance enhancement of washing machines. He agreed that till date, energy is not on their agenda and emphasis would be laid on energy in future.
12. PwC requested the manufacturers to provide the data/information through a detailed questionnaire which was provided to all present in the meeting. It was decided that all manufacturers (including those who could not attend this meeting) would submit the filled up questionnaire by 10th August 2008. PwC was requested to send the soft copy of the questionnaire to all the manufacturers through e-mail.

Decisions of the Meeting

1. Questionnaire to be sent by all the manufacturers to BEE/PwC with 10 days
2. Steering/Technical formation by BEE/PwC
3. IS-14155 to be followed for testing of washing machines