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Minutes of the 3rd Technical Committee Meeting for Standards and Labelling of Washing Machines held on 8th September 2009 in BEE office.

The technical committee meeting was held to finalize the standards and labelling criteria for washing machines. The meeting was chaired by Shri. Sandeep Garg and the list of participants is as in Annexure-I. The meeting was held in order to discuss the findings of the benchmark testing carried out by ERDA in association with PwC, Consumer Voice and BEE. The labelling criteria and other program modalities related to the standards and labelling of washing machines. Some of the discussions and outcomes of the meeting are as follows:

- The members of the committee were briefed on the background of the S&L program and the discussions that were taken in previous meetings and the action on the next steps.
- The testing protocols and the testing methods and the additional procedures adopted in addition to the Indian Standards were discussed. It was felt that the Indian Standards IS 14155 for washing performance did not have adequate parameters listed for energy consumption test; hence the additional tests that were felt to be important by BEE were included as per IEC modified as per Indian Conditions into the testing methodology for BEE S&L program.
- The Chair conveyed that in the previous technical committee it was felt that need for reference detergent was imperative for the program. However, as per Unilever comments it was brought into light that the reference detergent specified in the IS had obsolete and banned components and there was a need to revise the IS. The same was put for consideration to the BIS, however BIS clarified that the IS gives flexibility to use detergent as per most used by manufacturers. BIS clarified that it is under the process of formulating a reference detergent; however the timeline cannot be fixed. Hence, under such a scenario BEE had decided to go ahead with the program by using surf excel, and Unilever has agreed to supply test detergent per annum of the same batch number for the next 3 years. The Chair placed his appreciation to Unilever and conveyed that Unilever has already supplied BEE with 200kg of detergent and is sending the storage specifications to ERDA through PwC.
- The labelling pre-qualification criteria for washing machines of S&L decided by the committee are as below:
 - Minimum Washing Performance of 80%
 - Water retention should be lesser than 75%
 - Rinsing Efficiency should be ≤ 2.25

- Manufacturers to inform water consumption for complete cycle on label for consumers. The Actual water consumption per complete cycle should not exceed 110% of the value stated by the manufacturer.

The members had submitted that since distilled water had been used to test the machines for the above criteria's by ERDA, and since the ph levels effect the wash performance as it affects the detergent composition. PwC and BEE offered to test the wash performance test again with the ph levels as prescribed in the IS. However, BEE mentioned that although the tests had been done as per IS and the test results reflected are from testing of the machines under the same conditions. The rinsing and washing performance criteria would remain until they may be revised with findings of the fresh results.

- The proposed labelling criteria's were shared with the members for different capacity categories of washing machines ranging from semi –automatic, fully automatic front and top loading. The labelling criteria was set as per the energy consumption test for complete cycle that was available from the benchmark tests and the lowest values for each category were considered for 4 Star category and the intervals based on 10% difference in energy efficiency.
- The labelling fee proposed by the BEE was Rs.20 per BEE labelled washing machines. The industry request for incentivize manufacturers to participate in the program and to waive the labelling fee. On this the Chair mentioned that the labelling fee is mandatory program component. It was also conveyed that BEE is working on a proposal in which manufacturers who apply with BEE within the first 2 years of the first registration would get 50% discount on the applicable labelling. BEE would inform the members about the same when it gets into effect in due course.
- The next steps proposed were that the BEE would circulate the draft schedule and would then take out the final schedule to launch the program. The industry members were requested to provide further market and other details in order to establish a market baseline scenario. The members would be circulated with the template in which they can submit the requisite information to BEE.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair.

List of Participants

1. Shri.Sandeep Garg,BEE – In Chair
2. Shri.Alvin Jose,BEE
3. Shri.G.Shashikant,BEE
4. Shri.Prakash Bachanni,BIS
5. Shri.Amit Kummar,PwC
6. Shri.Rajeev Ralhan,PwC
7. Shri.Manoj Bansal,PwC
8. Shri.S.N. Phatak,ONIDA
9. Shri.Vikas Jain, HEIR
10. Shri.M.Tanveer,L.G.
11. Shri.Anil Imartey,Intertek
12. Shri. Vikram Raman,Whirlpool
13. Shri.S.Dasgupta,Whirlpool
14. Shri.Niraj Mistry,Hindustan Unilever
15. Shri Manoj Khatri,L.G.
16. Shri.H.Wadhwa,Consumer Voice
17. Dr.S.R.Rahaman,ATIRA
18. Shri.S.H.Chetwani,ERDA
19. Shri.Saurav Singla,Samsung
20. Shri,Kalicharan Sahu , Samsung
21. Shri. Ahmed Shaikh , IFB
22. Shri. Vilas Kamath , IFB
23. Shri A.A.Achrekar, Godrej
24. Shri B.J. Wadia,Godrej
25. Shri Prashant ,Onida

