

## Why is this project important?

The energy label tool has, since 1995, continued to provide easy-to-read information on the characteristics of a household product placed on the European market.

Accuracy and confidence in how the European energy label is used when explaining the characteristics of energy-using products is crucial. Information on the label is based on a declaration made by the manufacturer about its product.

Consumers need to be able to purchase products, confident in the knowledge that the information on the label is accurate. Meanwhile manufacturers need to be confident that they are operating in a market where all competitors play by the rules on a level playing field.

The ATLETE project aims to assist this process by highlighting how, through greater and transparent market surveillance, European citizens can tap into the best European technology when choosing labelled energy-using products.

## Who are the project's members?

The ATLETE project is run by five public and private sector partners.



### ADEME

French Environment and Energy Management Agency  
[www.ademe.fr](http://www.ademe.fr)

### CECED

European Committee of Domestic Equipment Manufacturers  
[www.ceced.eu](http://www.ceced.eu)

### ENEA

Italian National Agency for New Technologies,  
Energy and Sustainable Economic Development  
[www.enea.it](http://www.enea.it)

### ISIS

Istituto di Studi per l'Integrazione dei Sistemi, Italy  
[www.isis-it.com](http://www.isis-it.com)

### SEVEN

The Energy Efficiency Center, Czech Republic  
[www.svn.cz](http://www.svn.cz)

Supported by the Intelligent Energy Europe Programme  
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[WWW.ATLETE.EU](http://WWW.ATLETE.EU)



## THE APPLIANCE TESTING FOR ENERGY LABEL EVALUATION PROJECT (ATLETE)

VERIFYING AND PROMOTING  
PRODUCT COMPLIANCE  
WITH ENERGY LABELLING

## What is the ATLETE project?

Appliance Testing for Energy Label Evaluation (ATLETE) is a multipartner project designed to encourage, support and increase **nationally-based market surveillance activities** across Europe.

The project's aim is to show that an effective and sustainable **methodology** for appliance **testing** across Europe is possible and cost effective.

The ATLETE project started in June 2009 and is due for completion in May 2011.

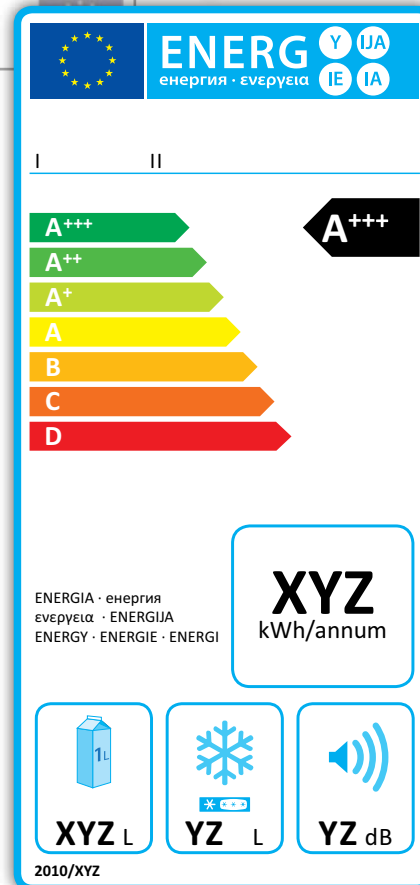
The project received 75% financing from the EC's Intelligent Energy Europe Programme. The overall budget for the project is €1 million.

## Why set up a project on appliance energy labelling testing?

Energy labelling is a crucial tool that drives the development of the household appliance market. It helps orientate consumer choice towards more energy efficient models. This encourages the replacement, within European households, of outdated products with new innovative technology. Replacing outdated appliances contributes to the EU achieving its 20% energy saving target by 2020.

Guaranteeing the accuracy of information that is provided to consumers about energy using products is essential. This requires market surveillance to be undertaken.

The ATLETE project demonstrates that market surveillance and product testing can be done in a systematic, effective and cost-efficient way. This, in turn, helps ensure that both consumers and manufacturers harness the full benefits of the EU's energy label.



## What does the ATLETE project practically involve?

The project involves the random selection and purchase by testing laboratories of **80 models of refrigerators and freezers** that were available on the European market in January 2010<sup>1</sup>.

Each model is then tested strictly in accordance with the requirements of the EU legislation and the relevant harmonised standards. Five parameters are measured: energy consumption; storage volume; storage temperature; freezing capacity; temperature rise time. The Energy efficiency class is verified as a result of the testing.

Through a public tender, four high-quality technical laboratories were selected to undertake product testing.

The list of selected models and laboratories, as well as the results of tests have been shared with Member States' national market surveillance authorities.

To ensure transparency, the final results of the project are made publically available via the project website [www.atlete.eu](http://www.atlete.eu). Information made available includes the models tested, the laboratories involved, final overall results and results by model and parameter.

The information is made available for free.

<sup>1</sup>Product testing for the ATLETE project started in 2010. Refrigerating appliances were labeled according to the legislation in force at that time. The new revised energy label for refrigerating appliances (shown opposite) has been available for use on a voluntary basis since 20 December 2010. It will be mandatory from 30 November 2011 onwards.