

Products of identical construction – Definition and scope of testing

Note: If a term is preceded by an arrow (†), it means that this term is defined in Paragraph 1.5 of the Basic Award Criteria.

1. Definitions

Products of identical construction are understood to be products whose general design is physically identical – in keeping with environmental labelling practices used with other product groups. In particular, this applies in cases where identical product configurations are marketed under different trade names and possibly even by different companies.

For office devices, the definition for “products of identical construction” has been extended to include the following products:

- Products in which single electronic components (e.g. transistors, memories, processors) have been replaced by ones with different specifications and/or ones which provide additional connectivity options such as USB ports and/or different control elements. The replacement or addition of entire assemblies containing several circuit cards/plugin modules/PCBs does not fall within the scope of this definition. Internal print servers are considered a part of a device.
- Products with the following features that are achieved either by replacing or modifying the programming of the device:
 - Additional functions, e.g. duplex printing or copying or
 - Single functions with a different scope of performance, e.g. a higher page throughput.
- Products which feature additional paper cassettes although their physical design remains largely identical.
- Products where the paper is supplied via an automatic document feeder.

If an application is submitted for a device that is offered in different extension levels comprising a series (e.g. LD 2533A, LD 2533B, LD 2533C), the applicant must clearly indicate which devices in the series will be labelled with the environmental label. The designation “LD 2533” would not be sufficient in the above case.

For products of identical construction, the user information according to Paragraph 4 of the Basic Award Criteria can either be submitted separately or this information must refer to the respective products of identical construction and the potential differences for single parameters.

Further testing is not required for products with a completely identical construction. However, the scope of testing described in Paragraph 2 of this Appendix must be carried out for products of identical construction that fall under the extended definition (see above).

2. Scope of testing

Overview of the features that extend the definition of “products of identical construction” and the required tests when applying for certification with the Blue Angel according to DE-UZ 219.

Yes: Additional verification is required for all devices with modified functionality compared to the base unit. All of the required measurement reports must be submitted.

No: Additional verifications are not required

Modified functionality compared to the ↑ base unit with regard to...	+ = is added - = is omitted	<i>Substance emissions</i>	<i>Energy¹</i>	<i>Noise emissions</i>
Primary function -↑ Digitising and transmission of data -↑ Copying	+/-	No	Yes	No
Primary function -↑ Sending and receiving of electronic messages and faxes	+	No	Yes	No
Primary function -↑ Sending and receiving of electronic messages and faxes	-	No	No	No
Controller	+/-	No	No	No

Modified functionality compared to the ↑ base unit		<i>Substance emissions</i>	<i>Energy¹</i>	<i>Noise emissions</i>
with regard to...	+ = is added - = is omitted			
Network connection	+	No	Yes ²	No
Network connection	-	No	No	No
Unit for duplex printing and copying	+/-	No	No ³	No
Accessories	+/-	No	No	No
Maximum printing format	gets bigger (e.g. A4→A3)	Yes	Yes	Yes
	gets smaller (e.g. A3→A4)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Monochrome printing device	+colour printing	Yes	Yes	Yes (for colour printing)
Colour printing device	-colour printing	No	No	No

Modified functionality compared to the ↑ base unit	<i>Substance emissions</i>	<i>Energy¹</i>	<i>Noise emissions</i>
with regard to...			
Page throughput (S _M)			
- Two devices whose S _M values differ by ≤20% (reference is the S _M value of the base unit with the highest S _M value):	Only for the device with the highest S _M value	Yes	Yes
- Two devices whose S _M values differ by >20% (reference is the S _M value of the base unit with the highest S _M value):	Both devices		
- More than two devices	Only for: 1) the device with the highest S _M value and 2) one further device		

¹ The requirements stated in Paragraph 3.4 of the Basic Award Criteria must be met by all device configurations.

² Only if a **higher** ranking is added according to the ranking of connections in Table 6 (ENERGY STAR 3.0)

³ The TEC value must be measured at the highest speed that is possible in simplex or duplex printing.