

Basic Criteria for Award of the Environmental Label

DVD Recorders, DVD Players, Blu-ray Disk Players

RAL-UZ 144



Edition January 2010

RAL gGmbH

Siegburger Straße 39, 53757 Sankt Augustin, Germany, Phone: +49 (0) 22 41-2 55 16-0
Fax: +49 (0) 22 41-2 55 16-11

Internet: www.blauer-engel.de, e-mail: umweltzeichen@RAL-gGmbH.de

Prolongation until 31.12.2013 without any change
Prolongation without any change for 4 years, until 31.12.2017

Table of Contents

1	Introduction	3
1.1	Preface	3
1.2	Background	3
1.3	Goals of the Environmental Label	3
1.4	Definitions	4
2	Scope	5
3	Requirements	6
3.1	Energy Consumption	6
3.1.1	Power Consumption	6
3.1.2	Power Consumption Minimization	7
3.2	Material Requirements for Plastics used in Casings and Parts thereof	8
3.3	Recyclable Design and Recycling	9
3.4	Longevity	9
3.5	Consumer Information	10
4	Applicants and Parties Involved	10
5	Use of the Environmental Label	11

Specimen Contract

1 Introduction

1.1 Preface

In co-operation with the Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, the Federal Environmental Agency and considering the results of expert hearings conducted by RAL gGmbH the Environmental Label Jury has set up these Basic Criteria for Award of the Blue Angel Environmental Label. RAL gGmbH has been tasked with awarding the Environmental Label.

Upon application to RAL gGmbH and on the basis of a Contract on the Use of the Environmental Label to be concluded with RAL gGmbH the permission to use the Blue Angel eco-label may be granted for all products, provided that they comply with the requirements specified hereinafter.

1.2 Background

An average German 2-person household consumes about 3,000 kWh of electricity per year. The home entertainment appliances take a share of about 5 % in the total power consumption. The limits specified by these Basic Criteria would result in annual savings of between 60 % and 80 % for DVD recorders; between 50 % and 75 % for DVD players and between 45% and 75% for blu-ray disk players.

1.3 Goals of the Environmental Label

Reduction of energy consumption, minimization of standby losses as well as the avoidance of pollutants and wastes are major goals of environmental protection. Pursuit of these goals will help protect the earth's climate, conserve resources, avoid the input of pollutants into the environment and save landfill space.

The Blue Angel eco-label for DVD recorders (with and without hard disk drive), DVD players and blu-ray disk players may be awarded to appliances featuring the following environmental properties:

- low energy consumption;
- avoidance of materials harmful to environment and health;
- long-lived and recyclable appliances;
- high recycling potential of materials.

EU Directives 2002/96/EC¹ and 2002/95/EC² transposed into German law by the Elektro- und Elektronikgesetz (ElektroG) (Electrical and Electronic Equipment Act)³ have been incorporated. Material requirements going beyond these provisions have been taken into account for precautionary reasons.

EU Directive 2006/66/EC⁴ transposed into German law by the Batterieverordnung (BattV)⁵ (Battery Ordinance) and das Batteriegesetz (BattG)⁶ (Batteries Act) has been incorporated.

1.4 Definitions

The definitions of the operating modes correspond to standard DIN EN 62087.

ON Mode (Replay)

„ON Mode (replay)“ means a condition in which the appliance is connected to a power source and plays the tape or disk inside the appliance.

ON Mode (Recording)

„ON Mode (recording)“ means a condition in which the appliance is connected to a power source and records a signal from an external or internal source.

Passive Standby

„Passive Standby“ means a condition in which the appliance is connected to a power source. It does not perform any mechanical function (e.g. replay, recording) does not produce video or audio output signals but can be switched into another mode with remote control unit or an internal signal.

Active Standby (low) with quick-start function

¹ Directive on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE), Directive 2002/96/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, 27 January 2003

² Directive on the Restriction of the Use of Certain Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment, Directive 2002/95/EC, Official Journal No L 37, 13 February 2003

³ Gesetz über das Inverkehrbringen, die Rücknahme und die umweltverträgliche Entsorgung von Elektro- und Elektronikgeräten (Act on the placing on the market, return and environmentally sound disposal of waste electrical and electronic equipment), Federal Law Gazette 2005, Part I, No.17 (23 May 2005)

⁴ Directive 2006/66/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on batteries and accumulators and waste batteries and accumulators, 6 September 2006, Official Journal No L 339, page 39, 2007, No L 139 page 40

⁵ Batterieverordnung (Battery Ordinance) of 27 February 2008, Federal Law Gazette; I p. 658

⁶ Batteriegesetz, (Battery Act) Cabinet decision of 21 January 2009

„Active standby (low) with quick start function“ means a condition in which the appliance is connected to a power source. It does not perform any mechanical function (e.g. replay, recording), does not produce video or audio output signals but can be switched into another mode with remote control unit or an internal signal. It can additionally be switched into another mode with an external signal. Apart from that, the appliance is in the quick-start mode which reduces the start-up time to just a few seconds.

Active standby (high) with timer programming

„Active standby (high) with timer programming“ means a condition in which the appliance is connected to a power source. It does not perform any mechanical function (e.g. replay, recording), does not produce video or audio output signals but can be switched into another mode with remote control unit or an internal signal. It can additionally be switched into another mode with an external signal and is exchanging/receiving data with/from an external source. Recording starts at the programmed time.

2 Scope

These Basic Award Criteria apply to DVD players and blu-ray disk players without quick-start function as well as DVD recorders with and without hard disk drive. They also apply to combined DVD player/recorder/VCR systems but not to stand-alone VCRs. There are, however, no additional criteria for combined systems. The criteria for combined systems are the same as for DVD recorders or DVD players, respectively.

3 Requirements

3.1 Energy Consumption

3.1.1 Power Consumption

a) DVD Recorders with Hard Disk Drive

- Power consumption in passive standby shall not exceed 0.5 watts.
- If the appliance features a quick-start function power consumption in active standby (low) with quick-start function shall not exceed 9.0 watts.
 - The system's start-up time in quick-start mode shall not exceed 5 seconds.
- Power consumption in active standby mode (high) with timer programming shall not exceed 2.0 watts.
- Power consumption in ON mode shall not exceed 25.0 watts. This shall apply to both recording and replay modes.

b) DVD Recorders without Hard Disk Drive

- Power consumption in passive standby shall not exceed 0.5 watts.
- If the appliance features a quick-start function power consumption in active standby (low) with quick-start function shall not exceed 9.0 watts.
 - The system's start-up time in quick-start mode shall not exceed 5 seconds.
- Power consumption in active standby mode (high) with timer programming shall not exceed 2.0 watts.
- Power consumption in ON mode shall not exceed 22.0 watts. This shall apply to both recording and replay modes.

c) DVD Players

- Power consumption in passive standby shall not exceed 0.5 watts.
- Power consumption in ON mode shall not exceed 8 watts.

d) Blu-ray Disk Players

- Power consumption in passive standby shall not exceed 0.5 watts.
- Power consumption in ON mode shall not exceed 20.0 watts.

Compliance Verification

The applicant shall declare compliance with the requirement and submit a test protocol on the power consumption measured according to DIN IEC 62087. The test protocol shall be drawn up by a DIN EN ISO/IEC 17025 accredited testing laboratory.

3.1.2 Power Consumption Minimization

- a) The following energy-saving standard settings shall be preset upon delivery.
 - (1) It must be possible to directly set the appliance to passive standby by pressing a button on the remote control.
 - (2) When switching to active standby (low) with quick-start function the user of a DVD recorder shall be informed that the use of the quick-start function entails higher power consumption. That is why the product description shall include the consumption data (in watts) for both active standby (low) with quick-start function and passive standby (if equipped with quick-start function).
 - (3) The auto power down function described under 3.1.2 b shall be preset.
- b) The appliance shall be equipped with an energy-consumption minimization function which automatically switches the appliance to passive standby after 4 hours of non-use.

Compliance Verification

The applicant shall declare compliance with the requirement and present the corresponding pages of the product description.

3.2 Material Requirements for Plastics used in Casings and Parts thereof

The plastics must not contain as constituent parts any substances classified as:

- a) carcinogenic in categories 1 or 2 according to Table 3.2 of Annex VI to EC Regulation 1272/2008⁷,
- b) mutagenic in categories 1 or 2 according to Table 3.2 of Annex VI to EC Regulation 1272/2008,
- c) reprotoxic in categories 1 and 2 according to Table 3.2 of Annex VI to EC Regulation 1272/2008,
- d) persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic (PBT substances) or very persistent and very bioaccumulative (vPvB substances) according to the criteria of Annex XIII to the REACH Regulation or particularly alarming for other reasons and included into the List (so-called list of candidates⁸) set up in accordance with REACH, Article 59, paragraph 1.

Halogenated polymers shall not be permitted. Neither may halogenated organic compounds be added as flame retardants. Moreover, additions of flame retardants labelled with the Risk Phrase R 50/53 pursuant to Table 3.2 of Annex VI to EC Regulation 1272/2008 shall not be permitted.

The following shall be exempt from this rule:

⁷ Regulation (EC) No. 1272/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures, amending and repealing Directives 67/548/EEC and 1999/45/EC, and amending Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006, Annex VI on harmonized classification and labelling of hazardous substances, Part 3: Harmonized classification and labelling, Tables, Table 3.2, – List of harmonized classification and labelling of dangerous substances from Annex I to Directive 67/548/EEC, short: GHS-Regulation http://www.reach-info.de/ghs_verordnung.htm, each as amended.

The GHS Regulation (Global Harmonization System), that has come into force on January 20, 2009, replaces the old Directives 67/548/EEC and 1999/45/EC. According to the said regulation, substances are classified, labelled and packed until December 1, 2010 according to Directive 67/548/EEC (Dangerous Substances Directive) while mixtures are classified, labelled and packed until June 1, 2015 according to Directive 1999/45/EC (Dangerous Preparations Directive). Notwithstanding this, the classification, labelling and packaging of substances and preparations may be performed according to the provisions of the GHS Regulation already before December 1, 2010 or June 1, 2015, respectively. In such case, the provisions of Dangerous Substances Directive or Dangerous Preparations Directive shall not be applicable.

⁸ Link to the list of candidates of Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorization, and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH):
http://echa.europa.eu/consultations/authorisation/svhc/svhc_cons_en.asp

- process-related, technically unavoidable impurities;
- fluoroorganic additives (as, for example, anti-dripping agents) used to improve the physical properties of plastics, provided that they do not exceed 0.5 weight percent;
- plastic parts weighing less than 25 g.

Compliance Verification

Applicant shall declare compliance with the requirements and submit a written declaration from the plastics manufacturers or suppliers or request the latter to submit a written declaration to RAL gGmbH stating that the substances to be banned have not been added to the plastics and indicating the chemical designation of the flame retardants, including CAS No.

3.3 Recyclable Design and Recycling

- a) The appliance shall be so designed as to allow an easy disassembly for recycling purposes in order to make sure that plastic and metal parts of casing and module rack can be separated and, if possible, be recycled by the type of material.
- b) The appliance shall be so designed as to support specialist companies in an efficient disassembly or to allow disassembly by use of standard tools.

Compliance Verification

Applicant shall declare compliance with the requirement.

3.4 Longevity

The manufacturer shall guarantee a spare parts provision for appliance repair for at least 5 years from termination of production.

Spare parts are those parts which, typically, may break down within the scope of the ordinary use of a product - whereas those parts which normally exceed the life of the product are not to be considered as spare parts.

Compliance Verification

The applicant shall declare compliance with requirement and present the corresponding pages of the product description.

3.5 Consumer Information

Printed Operating Instructions shall be enclosed with the product. The Operating Instructions shall at least include the following information:

- a) Power consumption in watts in the following operating modes:
 - ON mode
 - Passive standby
 - Active standby (low) with quick-start function (if available)
 - Active standby (high) with timer programming (for DVD recorders only)
- b) Users of DVD recorders shall be informed that switching to active standby (low) with quick-start function (if available) involves increased power consumption.
- c) A note saying that the appliance should be separated from the mains during periods of non-use.
- d) Information on an environmentally friendly disposal after termination of use in accordance with the German Elektrogesetz (ElektroG) (Electrical and Electronic Equipment Act);
- e) Note stating that batteries must not be disposed of with the normal household waste but shall be given to a collection point for used batteries;
- f) Information on warranty and repair safety.

Compliance Verification

The applicant shall declare compliance with requirement and present the Operating Instructions.

4 Applicants and Parties Involved

4.1 Manufacturers or distributors of products according to para. 2 shall be eligible for application.

4.2 Parties involved in the award process are:

- RAL gGmbH to award the Blue Angel eco-label,
- the federal state being home to applicant's production site,
- Umweltbundesamt (Federal Environmental Agency) which after the signing of the contract receives all data and documents submitted in application for the Blue Angel in order to be able to proceed with the development of the Basic Award Criteria.

5 Use of the Environmental Label

5.1 The terms governing the use of the Environmental Label by the applicant are stipulated by a Contract on the Use of the Environmental Label to be concluded with RAL gGmbH.

5.2 Within the scope of such contract the applicant undertakes to comply with the requirements under paragraph 3 while using the Blue Angel eco-label.

5.3 Contracts on the Use of the Environmental Label are concluded to fix the terms for the certification of products under paragraph 2. Such contracts shall run until December 31, 2017.

They shall be extended by periods of one year each, unless terminated in writing by March 31, 2017 or March 31 of the respective year of extension.

After the expiry of the contract the Environmental Label may neither be used for labelling nor for advertising purposes. This regulation shall not affect products being still in the market.

5.4 The applicant (manufacturer) shall be entitled to apply to RAL gGmbH for an extension of the right to use the label to the product entitled to the label if it is to be marketed under another brand/trade name and/or under other marketing organizations.

5.5 The Contract on the Use of the Environmental Label shall specify:

5.5.1 Applicant (manufacturer/distributor)

5.5.2 Brand / trade name, product designation

5.5.3 Distributor (label user), i.e. the marketing organization according to para. 5.4

CONTRACT

No.
on the Award of the Environmental Label

RAL gGmbH as label awarding agency, and the firm of
(Distributor)

as applicant, conclude the following Contract

on the Use of the Environmental Label

S P E C I M E N

- Under the following conditions the applicant shall be entitled to use the Environmental Label for the labelling of the product / product group / project:
„DVD Recorders, DVD Players, Blu-ray Disk Players“ for

"Brand/Trade Name".

This shall not include the right to use the Environmental Label as part of a brand.

Unless otherwise agreed, the Environmental Label shall only be used in the above given shape and colour. The entire inner surrounding text shall always be identical as regards size, form, thickness and colour of the letters and it shall be easy to read.

- The Environmental Label according to para. 1 shall only be used for the above-mentioned product / product group / project.
- If the Environmental Label is used for advertising purposes or other applicant activities the applicant shall make sure that it is exclusively used in connection with the above-named product / product group / project for which the use of the Environmental Label has been granted and settled under this contract. The applicant shall be solely responsible for the way the label is used, above all, in advertising.
- During the entire period of label use the product / product group / project to be labelled shall comply with all requirements and conditions for the use of the label as specified in the "Grundlage für Umweltzeichen-Vergabe RAL-UZ 144" (Basic Criteria for Award of the Environmental Label RAL-UZ 144), as amended. This shall also apply to the reproduction of the Environmental Label (including the surrounding text). Claims for damages against RAL, especially on the grounds of third party objections to applicant's use of the label and the accompanying advertising shall be ruled out.
- If the "Basic Criteria for Award of the Environmental Label" provide for checks by third parties the applicant shall bear the costs accruing in connection therewith.
- Should the applicant himself or third parties find out that the applicant does not comply with the conditions

as stipulated in paras. 2-5 the applicant shall be liable to inform RAL gGmbH and stop the use of the Environmental Label until the conditions are complied with again. Should the applicant be incapable of restoring the state required for the use of the label immediately or should the applicant seriously offend against this contract RAL gGmbH may, if necessary, withdraw the Environmental Label and prohibit the applicant from using the label any longer. Claims for damages against RAL gGmbH because of the withdrawal of the label shall be ruled out.

- The Contract on the Use of the Environmental Label may be terminated for good reason.

Examples of good reasons are:

- unpaid contributions
- substantiated risk of injury and death.

In such case, applicant's continued use of the Environmental Label shall be prohibited. The applicant shall not be entitled to bring a claim for damages against RAL gGmbH (see above: paragraph 6, sentence 3).

- The applicant undertakes to pay RAL gGmbH an amount according to the "Entgeltordnung für das Umweltzeichen" (Schedule of Fees for the Environmental Label), as amended, for the period of use.
- According to the Basic Criteria for Award of the Environmental Label RAL-UZ 144 this contract will run until December 31, **2017**. It shall be extended by periods of one year each, unless terminated in writing by **March 31, 2017** or by March 31 of the respective year of extension. After the expiry of the contract the Environmental Label may neither be used for labelling nor for advertising purposes. This regulation shall not affect the products being still in the market.
- Products / projects marked with the Environmental Label and the advertising for these products / projects may reach the consumer only when naming the company of the
(Applicant/Distributor).

Sankt Augustin, this.... day of20...

Place, Date

RAL gGmbH
Management

(Signature of authorized person
and company stamp)