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Standard air and Oil free/low pressure compressors Position on the Ecodesign Regulation proposals

We welcome the proposal to introduce an (overdue) Ecodesign Regulation for standard air and low-pressure, oil-free compressors. The expected savings enabled by the draft measure on standard compressors are non-negligible (0.46 - 1.51 TWh/year by 2030) and therefore the Regulation should be adopted without further delays. The data from the 2014 preparatory study can be completed during the upcoming impact assessment, or during a future review of the Regulation, as it emerged during the consultation forum that the technological developments are, most probably, rather limited.

We are in favour of the proposal to merge the two Regulations into a single text encompassing standard air and oil free / low pressure compressors. This Regulation should set energy efficiency requirements for standard air compressors and information requirements for all compressor types.

Set minimum energy efficiency requirements for standard air compressors

We support the energy efficiency requirements proposed for standard air compressors. Regarding low-pressure and oil-free compressors, we understand the constraints associated with setting a minimum energy efficiency requirement at this stage, which would effectively remove certain applications from the market. The review clause of the regulation needs to mention that the feasibility of setting energy efficiency requirements for all compressors should be evaluated once standardised data will be available.

Define ambitious information requirements

The Regulation on compressors should focus on setting information requirements. The lack of comparable data has been the main obstacle to set minimum energy efficiency requirements. Consumers (even for this type of industrial products mostly traded from business to business) should be able to compare product characteristics and performances. Moreover, an information requirement would provide good quality data that would be useful when revising the regulatory requirements for compressors, and possibly help to find a common ground on measuring the efficiency of all types of compressors.

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