REPLY FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION TO THE COMMENTS RECEIVED FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA REGARDING NOTIFICATION

G/TBT/N/EU/609

DRAFT COMMISSION REGULATION LAYING DOWN ECODESIGN REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTRONIC DISPLAYS PURSUANT TO DIRECTIVE 2009/125/EC OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL, AMENDING COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) NO 1275/2008 AND REPEALING COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) 642/2009

AND

G/TBT/N/EU/610

DRAFT COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) SUPPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2017/1369 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL AS REGARDS ENERGY LABELLING OF ELECTRONIC DISPLAYS AND REPEALING COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) No 1062/2010

The European Union (EU) would like to thank the United States of America (U.S.) for its comments on the above-mentioned notifications.

The EU Committee meeting on Ecodesign requirements for electronic displays held on 19 December 2018 introduced a number of changes and voted on the amended text.

The European Commission published the draft implementing measure in the Comitology register for scrutiny. The scrutiny period expired on 8 May 2019 without any objection from the Council or the European Parliament. The Commission is now in the process of adopting the voted on Regulation.

On 20 December 2018, the EU expert group on Energy Labelling held a meeting on energy labelling requirements for electronic displays and requested a number of changes to the notified draft text.

The European Commission adopted the proposed draft on 11 March. The objection period, which lasted two months following adoption¹, has now expired. Publication in the Official Journal will take place together with the draft Ecodesign measure on electronic displays.

The EU would like to provide the following replies to the comments received.

1. Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS)

The EU would like to thank the U.S. for the suggested changes, part of which were implemented as amendments and voted on. In particular, a correction factor has been introduced for OLED displays, MicroLED displays and displays with a resolution above 8k are exempted from on-mode requirements until 1 March 2023 (Tier 1); Tier 3 has been completely eliminated. Application of the proposed limits from 2023

¹ The text adopted on 11 March 2019 can be downloaded from the following public registry: http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegistreWeb/search/typedoc.htm?codeTypeDocu=ACTDEL

should only eliminate from the EU market a minor number of displays among the less efficient, and the introduction of new technologies is expected to bring a tipping point in efficiency levels.

2. Automatic Power Down

Automatic power down in the out-of-the-box configuration for broadcast and digital whiteboards has been extended to 1 hour. The user is not restricted by the default values.

3. Product Scope - signage displays

MEPS for on-mode for signage displays were never proposed, however, the EU believes that non-on mode requirements and the energy labelling of signage displays will bring the biggest share of energy savings and a necessary incentive to start technology improvements in that area, thus providing differentiation and value to consumers.

4. Repair and End-of-Life

The information requirements, considered by the U.S. as requiring confidential information and as compromising intellectual property rights, such as the provision of exploded view diagrams and detailed information on chemical content, have been largely simplified in the amended text, with the chemicals considered of highest concern in view of circular economy objectives now restricted and with a reduced compliance burden.

5. Definition for integrated displays

The definition has been amended in the voted text. Displays such as those mentioned in the comments (VR headsets or in photo-cameras) are, for various and different reasons, not in the scope of the regulations.

6. Allowances for external power supplies

The allowances have been eliminated from the text as amended and voted on.

7. Over-Regulation

The EU has a complete framework of mandatory energy efficiency requirements on products that limit the least efficient products from entering the EU market. The legislative mandatory framework has proved extremely effective, alone bringing about half of the EU-2020 target savings in terms of energy efficiency.

The EU would like to thank the U.S. once again for providing comments on this draft and hopes that these responses sufficiently clarify the points raised.
