

Fridges and Freezers

How to meet energy efficiency regulation requirements



Fridges and freezers sold or hired in New Zealand must, by law, comply with [minimum energy performance standards \(MEPS\)](#) and [mandatory energy performance labelling \(MEPL\)](#) requirements. This document outlines the requirements and how to meet them if you import or manufacture fridges and freezers in New Zealand.

Why have MEPS & MEPL for fridges and freezers?

Minimum energy performance standards (MEPS) improve the efficiency of manufacture fridges and freezers and mandatory energy performance labelling (MEPL) enables customers to compare and select more efficient models, saving on running costs and reducing greenhouse gas emissions over the life of the product.

Which fridges and freezers are included?

MEPS and MEPL cover fridges and freezers intended for household (or similar) use.

What do I need to do to comply with the law?

Importer and manufacturers of fridges and freezers, are required to:

- [Step-1](#) Ensure each fridge and freezer model has been tested to **AS/NZS 4474.1:2007** and meets or exceed the minimum energy performance levels in **AS/NZS 4474.2:2009 inc. amd. 1&2**.
- [Step-2](#) Supply or attach the energy performance label on each model as specified in **AS/NZS 4474.2:2009**.
- [Step-3](#) Register each fridge and freezer model through the energy rating website.
- [Step-4](#) Provide EECA with product sales, import and export data each year.

Retailers are required to check their products are registered on the [energy rating website](#); and display the energy performance label on products on display for sale or hire.

See the questions and answers below for more information

Which fridges and freezers are excluded?

MEPS and MEPL do ***not*** apply to;

- Products that are designed exclusively for use in caravans, vehicles (e.g. mobile homes, campervans and/or rail cars) or boats and which have a total volume of less than 60 litres
- Portable products that have a total volume of less than 30 litres
- Products that have a total volume of less than 30 litres where the refrigeration function is secondary (e.g. boiling or cooled water dispensers).
- Products that have no options for connection to a 230 V or 400 V 50 Hz mains electricity supply.
- Products that cool using technologies other than the vapour compression cycle.
- Stand-alone ice-makers.

Which standards apply?

AS/NZS 4474.2:2009 inc. amd. 1&2: Performance of household electrical appliances—Refrigerating appliances—Energy labelling and minimum energy performance standard requirements.

AS/NZS 4474.1:2007: Performance of household electrical appliances—Refrigerating appliances—Energy consumption and performance.

Standards are available for purchase from www.standards.co.nz and for inspection at [EECA's head office](#).

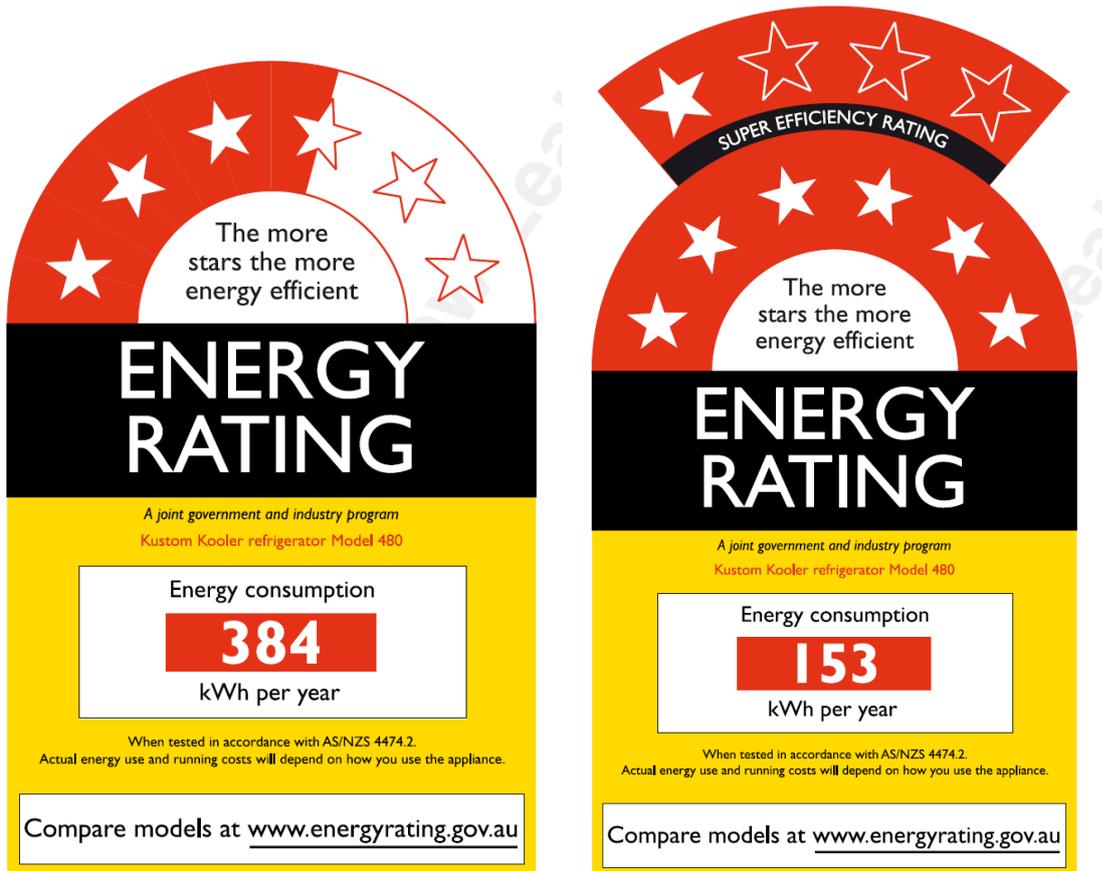
What are the MEPL requirements for fridges and freezers?

Fridges and freezers must be provided with an energy rating label as shown below.

For details on the energy rating label see **AS/NZS 4474.2:2009 inc. amd. 1&2**. Standards are available for purchase from [Standards New Zealand](#) and for inspection at [EECA's head office](#).

A template of this label can be downloaded from the [energy rating website](#). For more information on MEPL for fridges and freezers see **AS/NZS 4474.2:2009 inc. amd. 1&2**.

Retailers must check that clothes washers are registered and display their energy performance label. See the [running costs calculator](#) to find out how a choosing a high star rating can reduce the cost to run a fridge or freezer.



How do I register a fridge/freezer on the energy rating website?

If the fridge or freezer you are about to register is already registered you are not required to register it. To check, search for the model at:

reg.energyrating.gov.au/comparator/product_types.

If it is not already registered download our quick start guide at:

www.eeca.govt.nz/resource/online-product-registration-guide.

If you haven't used the energyrating.gov.au website before, follow these instructions:

Step 1 Open the registration page: reg.energyrating.gov.au/accounts/register.

Step 2 Create an account and log in.

Step 3 Create an applicant, add contact people etc. as required.

Step 4 Create a new product registration (you will need a test report).

Step 5 Select 'Household Refrigerator Freezer (RF)'.

Step 6 Follow the steps until all fields are complete.

Step 7 Once submitted you will be e-mailed a Registration ID, record this as you will need it to provide sales data each year.

Note: A range of fridge or freezer models, manufactured in multiple styles, may be registered as a product "family" if the family definition (below) is met.

What is a family of models?

A range of models of one brand, to which a single set of test reports is applicable and where each model has the same relevant physical characteristics, comparative energy consumption, energy efficiency rating and performance characteristics and which are grouped for the purpose of registration. ('model' is synonymous with 'family of models')

What information do I need to provide to EECA each year and how do I do it?

Importers and manufacturers are required, by law, to provide statistical information on sales, import and export data annually to EECA.

Data needs to be submitted every year by 1 August, for the period 1 April to 31 March. For example, data from 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014 must be received by 1 August 2014. The information is submitted through the EECA website where you need to:

Step 1 Set up a user account at www.eeca.govt.nz/webform/request-user-account.

Step 2 Once approved, log in at www.eeca.govt.nz/user/register/supplier/login.

Step 3 When logged in follow the links and instructions for the EECA sales data return tool.

Step 4 Enter your product data - you will need your Registration ID number - the following information is required for each registered model:

- Sales in New Zealand between 1 April and 31 March.
- Imports into New Zealand between 1 April and 31 March.
- Exports from New Zealand between 1 April and 31 March.

Where do I get additional information?

More information about regulated products and how to meet your legal obligations can be found at www.eeca.govt.nz/product-standards.

See the [running costs calculator](#) to find out how choosing a higher star rating can reduce the running costs of products.

There is also information on the energy rating website at www.energyrating.gov.au.

If you have any questions, please email us at compliance@eeca.govt.nz, or phone EECA on **0800 358 676**.