Heat pump industry introduces new European quality mark

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Voluntary Keymark scheme will provide quality assurance, with certificate showing heat pump has undergone independent performance tests

A cooperative effort between the European heat pump industry and European certification bodies has resulted in a new European heat-pump certificate based on the CEN Keymark scheme.

Martín Forsén, president of the European Heat Pump Association said: “Heat pumps provide efficient solutions to meet Europe’s climate and energy targets and more broadly all the goals outlined in the European Energy Union initiative. In this context, the heat pump KEYMARK is an appropriate tool to ensure the highest quality of systems in the market place.”

While every manufacturer and importer of heat pumps has to fulfil the requirements of CE marking, those opting for the heat-pump Keymark go one step further by choosing a voluntary third party check of product quality, the EHPA said. “A single label for heat pumps increases transparency and understanding in the market place and is thus an advantage for industry and governments alike.”

Sören Scholz, head of certification at DIN Certco stressed “The Keymark will be valid across Europe. Tested and certified once, accepted everywhere is the appropriate approach in a single European market”.

Products bearing the heat-pump Keymark show to end-users that they have been tested by recognised third party testing laboratories according to European standards and fulfil the requirements of the scheme.

The requirements of the new heat-pump Keymark include

- a set of performance test requirements carried out by third party tests based on EN 14511, EN 15879 and EN 16147
- a robust model range approach
- a product-related Factory Production Control (FPC)
- an initial inspection of the FPC
- Regular surveillance of the certified products and FPC

The scheme will be introduced to the European market now and is available to final consumers in Q4 2015, the EHPA said. It is compatible with the requirements of Ecodesign and the Energylabel.

The heat-pump Keymark will be part of the CEN Keymark scheme. It is open to and executed by several
accredited and empowered certification bodies in Europe. From the start it will be executed by DIN Certco (Germany), BRE (UK) and SP CERT (Sweden). Additional partners have voiced their interest.

The final documents outlining the certification scheme will be published by the end of next week.

The website www.heatpumpkeymark.com will provide a continuous update on the development of the heat-pump Keymark. It will also provide a timeline and practical tools to support the introduction. It will go online by the end of June, the EHPA added.

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