



Market Surveillance Identifies Non-Compliance


Strategic compliance programmes safeguard energy savings, CO₂ emissions reductions, and other benefits from appliance efficiency programmes. They bolster the credibility of standards and labels, protect consumers, and create a fair playing field for suppliers of energy-efficient and quality products. Through conformity assessment, **strategic market surveillance**, and enforcement, inefficient and low-quality products are identified, improved, or removed from the market.

Market surveillance involves monitoring and checking whether products on the market comply with standards and labelling programme requirements. Market surveillance consists of three key activities:




Market data and intelligence gathered during the conformity assessment process allows for targeted market surveillance efforts. A range of monitoring activities identify products at greatest risk of non-compliance, and verification testing is then conducted to prove non-compliance. Reports on the number of activities and relevant results ensure transparency and accountability of the compliance programme.


Market surveillance activities catch cases of non-compliance and help check that:




All product labels portray accurate performance information.



Labels are displayed correctly and fake labels are not in use.



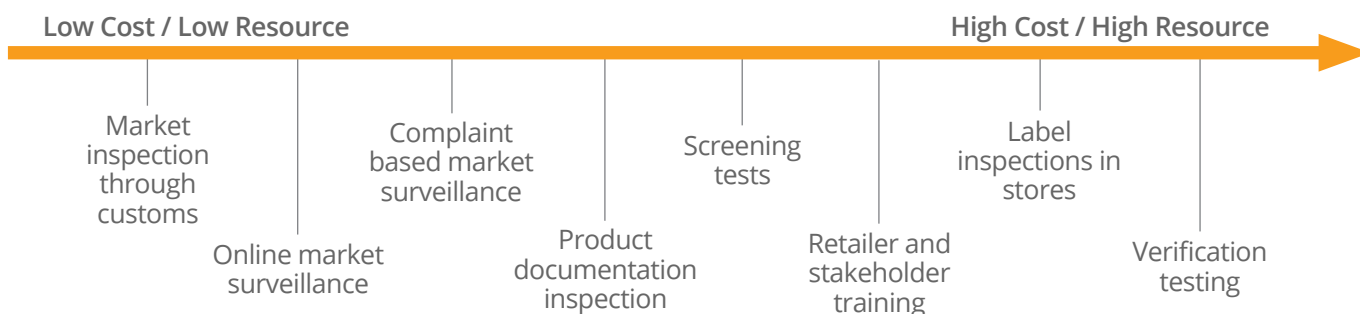
Only certified or registered products are available on the market.



Products meet the relevant performance requirements.

Conducting Effective & Resource-Efficient Market Surveillance

Market surveillance is often postponed due to the misperception that all activities are costly, but some market surveillance is better than none. Market monitoring can start with low-resource efforts, including checking product information and claims on retailer websites, monitoring product complaints, or reviewing product certification documents. These activities help identify priority products for more resource-intensive checks, such as label inspections in stores or verification testing to check products meet performance claims and minimum standards.



Approaches to Strategic Verification Testing



Risk-based testing is the best practice and most cost efficient approach. Regulators utilize market intelligence to select product brands or models based on perceived increased risk of non-compliance.



Random testing is more costly than risk-based, and is often used when regulators have no data or experience with a particular product sector. In both risk-based and random approaches, some cases of non-compliance may be missed.



Testing all products on the market may eliminate any potential for non-compliance, but is the least efficient and most costly approach.



In Practice: Risk-Based & Random Testing

Australia's Equipment Energy Efficiency (E3) program uses **risk-based** selection criteria to choose and test over 300 products per year. The key objectives of selection criteria are:

1. Identify products with higher than average risk of failure to meet MEPS or performance claims.
2. Identify products with the greatest potential impact on energy and emissions savings.
3. Include all appliance and equipment product categories regulated under the E3 program.

In Singapore, **Mutual Recognition Agreements** with accredited test labs in foreign countries allow the National Environment Agency to conduct **random testing** of registered products both locally and abroad, where testing capacity for certain products may be greater. In 2014, TÜV SÜD tested 26 products locally and contracted with a laboratory in Guangzhou, China to test 20 air-conditioner models. Singapore was able to cost-effectively export this testing to China, because the testing company in Guangzhou was accredited by the China National Accreditation Service for Conformity Assessment, which had signed an MRA with the Singapore Accreditation Council.

Visit clasp.ngo/impact/compliance to learn more about Market Surveillance.

CLASP improves the energy and environmental performance of the appliances & equipment we use every day, accelerating our transition to a more sustainable world. Our programs increase uptake of affordable, low-impact, high-quality appliances. We serve as the leading international voice & resource for appliance energy efficiency policies and market acceleration initiatives.