

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND COMPETITION

NO. 7859

28 August 2026

NATIONAL REGULATOR FOR COMPULSORY SPECIFICATIONS ACT
(Act No. 5 of 2008), AS AMENDED THROUGH THE LEGAL METROLOGY ACT
(Act No. 9 of 2014)

**COMPULSORY SPECIFICATION FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND LABELLING OF
ELECTRICAL OR ELECTRONIC APPLIANCES (VC 9008)**

I, Mpho Parks Tau, the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition, hereby under Section 13(1) of the National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications Act (Act 5 of 2008), declares the amendment to the compulsory specification for energy efficiency and labelling of electrical and electronic appliances (VC 9008) as set out in the attached schedule. The amendment to the compulsory specification shall be effective as per table 1 of the attached schedule:

- **Phase 1**, will be effective 12 months after the publication of this notice, and
- **Phase 2**, will be effective 24 months after the publication of this notice.



Mr Mpho Parks Tau, MP

Minister of Trade Industry and Competition

SCHEDULE

COMPULSORY SPECIFICATION FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND LABELING OF ELECTRICAL OR ELECTRONIC APPLIANCES (VC 9008)

1. SCOPE

This compulsory specification covers minimum energy and performance standards and energy efficiency labeling requirements of the following electrical and electronic appliances or equipment:

- Connected to alternative current (a.c.) mains power source, or
- Connected to any other electrical power source (power adapter, external power suppliers, battery charger, AC/DC converter, battery charger.) which is connected to the a.c. mains.

1.1 air conditioners and heat pumps: all kinds designed to be fixed to a window, wall or ceiling or floor, self-contained, ducted, portable or split-system, not exceeding 16kW (55 000 btu/h) cooling output;

1.2 audio, video, and related equipment, such as television sets and computer monitors, video recording equipment, set top boxes, media streaming devices and audio equipment:

1.3 dishwashers;

1.4 electric ovens;

1.5 refrigerators and freezers;

1.6 tumble dryers;

1.7 washer-dryer combinations; and

1.8 automatic washing machines (top loaders and front loaders)

1.9 The requirements of this compulsory specification do not apply to:

1.9.1 Electrical and electronic appliances or equipment that are directly powered by non-rechargeable batteries, rechargeable batteries intended to be removed from the product when they are being charged and alternative renewable energy (such as solar and wind energy).

2. DEFINITIONS

2.1 For the purposes of this document, the definitions in, SANS\ISO 5151, SANS\ISO 16358-1, SANS\ISO 16358-2, SANS\ISO 16358-3, SANS\ISO 18326, SANS\ISO 13253, SANS\IEC 62301, SANS\IEC 60456, SANS\IEC 61121, SANS\IEC 62087, and SANS 62552-1, SANS 62552-2, SANS 62552-3, SANS\IEC 60436, SANS\IEC 6062512 apply.

2.2 In addition, the following definitions shall apply:

2.2.1 **applicant:** The manufacturer or importer seeking approval of electrical or electronic appliance(s). The applicant shall be an existing legal entity within the Republic of South Africa.

2.2.2 **approval:** Confirmation by the NRCS that a particular electrical/electronic appliances type satisfies the requirements of this compulsory specification.

2.2.3 **declaration report:** a report, that is issued by an accredited conformity assessment body, indicating the equivalence of products and/or standards.

2.2.4 **NRCS:** The National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications as established by the National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications Act, 2008 (Act No. 5 of 2008).

2.2.5 **proof of approval:** documented evidence of conformity with the requirements of this compulsory specification.

2.2.6 **valid test report:** an original certificate or a certified copy of an original test report.

2.2.7 **valid certificate of conformity:** an original certificate or a certified copy of an original certificate of conformity.

2.2.8 **Off mode power:** The equipment provides no functions that depend on an external power source. The equipment cannot be switched into any other mode with the remote control unit, or an external or internal signal

2.2.9 **Standby power mode for electrical and electronic appliances:** mode where the energy use is connected to a power source and offers one or more of the following user oriented or protective functions which usually persist

- **reactivation function:** to facilitate the activation of other **modes** (including activation or deactivation of **active mode**) by remote switch (including remote control), internal sensor, timer;
- **Continuous function:** information or status displays including clocks, sensor-based function.

2.2.10 Network standby: a condition in which the electrical/electronic appliance is able to resume a function by way of a remotely (signal that comes from outside the equipment via a network) initiated trigger from a network connection;

2.2.11 Electrical/electronic appliances with high network availability (HiNA) functionality: equipment that has the functionality of a router, network switch, wireless network access point or combination thereof.

2.2.12 Complex Set Top Box: is a device equipped to allow conditional access or digital rights protection by descrambling using dynamically allocated keys, where the primary function of the device is the reception, descrambling and processing of data from digital broadcasting streams and related services including protecting the content in transport and on the platform.

3. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- 3.1 The applicant shall ensure that each type of apparatus has been approved by the NRCS before offering it for sale, in accordance with the requirements of Annex A.
- 3.2 The applicant shall inform the NRCS of any change in design or materials affecting any mandatory requirement in terms of this compulsory specification. In the event of such change(s) the NRCS may, at its discretion, demand that the applicant submits a new application for approval.
- 3.3 The applicant shall, on request, provide the NRCS, within 5 working days, with satisfactory proof of approval in respect of any type of electrical or electronic appliance(s) included in the scope of this compulsory specification.
- 3.4 Failure to provide such proof shall constitute reasonable grounds for suspicion of non-compliance with the requirements of this compulsory specification.

4. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

- 4.1 The **off mode** consumption of electrical or electronic appliance shall not exceed 0,5 W, when tested in accordance with SANS 62031 or SANS 62087 series of standards.
- 4.2 The **standby power** consumption of electrical or electronic appliance in any condition providing only a reactivation function, or providing only a reactivation function and an indication of enabled reactivation function, shall not exceed **0,5 W**, when tested in accordance with **SANS 62031 or SANS 62087 series of standards**.
- 4.3 The **standby power** consumption for electrical or electronic appliances in any condition providing only information or status display, or providing only a **combination** of reactivation function and information or status display, or providing only a reactivation function and an indication of enabled reactivation function and information or status display shall not exceed **1,0 W**, when tested in accordance with **SANS 62031 or SANS 62087 series of standards**.
- 4.4 The **network standby power** consumption of networked electrical/electronic appliances, other than electrical/electronic appliances with HiNA functionality, shall not exceed **2,0 W**, when tested in accordance with **SANS 62031 or SANS 62087 series of standards**.
- 4.5 The **network standby power consumption** of electrical or electronic appliances with HiNA functionality and **complex set top boxes**, shall not exceed **8,0 W**, when tested in accordance with **SANS 62031 or SANS 62087 series of standards**.
- 4.6 Electrical and Electronic Appliances or Equipment that **do not have an off mode or a standby power or a network standby mode** are exempted from the relevant above requirement in 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4 and 4.5 of this compulsory specification.
- 4.7 The following electrical or electronic appliances in section 1 of this compulsory specification shall comply with the following minimum energy efficiency

standard (MEPS) in table 1 below when tested in accordance with the applicable standard(s):

Electrical/Electrical appliance	MEPS: Phase 1	MEPS: Phase 2	Applicable tests standards (the relevant MEPS classification shall be as per the SANS standards)
Air Conditioners	G	F	SANS\ISO 5151, SANS\ISO 16358-1, SANS\ISO 16358-2, SANS\ISO 16358-3, SANS\ISO 5151, SANS\ISO 18326, SANS\ISO 13253
Heat Pumps	G	F	
Portable Air Conditioners/Heat Pump	G	G	
Refrigerators & Freezers	G	F	SANS\IEC 62552-1, SANS\IEC 62552-2, SANS\IEC 62552-3
Electric Ovens	D	D	SANS\IEC 60350-1
Dishwashers	E	E	SANS\IEC 60436
Washing Machines (Front Loaders)	E	E	SANS\IEC 60456
Washing Machine (Top Loaders)	G	F	SANS\IEC 60456
Washer-dryer combinations	F	F	SANS\IEC 62512
Tumble-dryers	E	E	SANS\IEC 61121

- 4.8 All electrical or electronic appliances shall comply with the latest energy efficiency label published by the Department of Electricity and Energy (DEE) of South Africa.
- 4.9 Refrigerants used in air conditioners, refrigerators and freezers shall comply with the latest refrigerant regulations published by the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries.

5. EQUIVALENCE OF STANDARDS

Standards issued by different national or regional standardization bodies, will only be accepted if it is proven, in the form of a declaration report from an accredited conformity assessment body, that they are technically equivalent to the relevant South African National Standard or referred by this compulsory specification. The applicant shall be responsible for obtaining such a declaration report. Proof of conformity with such a standard shall be accepted as conformity with the corresponding South African National Standard.

6. CONFORMITY TO REFERENCED STANDARDS

- 6.1 For the purposes of this compulsory specification, a new edition of a referenced standard shall become effective twelve (12) months from the date of publication as a South African National Standard.
- 6.2 New products, or products resubmitted for approval because of a change in design or materials, shall in all cases be evaluated against the requirements of the latest edition of any referenced standard.
- 6.3 When a new edition of a referenced standard is published, products originally approved in accordance with the previous edition of that standard may have their approval extended for up to five years from the effective date of the new standard, subject to the requirements of Annex A, unless declared otherwise by the Minister.

7. EVIDENCE OF CONFORMITY

The following forms of evidence shall be submitted to the NRCS as proof of conformity with the requirements of this compulsory specification:

- 7.1 Test reports in IEC format or any equivalent format acceptable to the NRCS and issued by an appropriately accredited and internationally recognized body being a member of an IAF/ILAC/IECEE mutual recognition scheme in accordance with the NRCS's conformity assessment policy.
- 7.2 The test reports shall prove conformity with all the applicable mandatory requirements.
- 7.3 Evidence of conformity shall be traceable to the specific apparatus.

ANNEX A - APPROVAL OF ELECTRICAL OR ELECTRONIC APPLIANCES

A.1 APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL

An application for approval of each type of electrical or electronic appliance intended for sale shall include:

A.1.1 Details of the type of electrical or electronic appliance for which approval is sought and the standard(s) to which it is claimed to conform;

A.1.2 Details of the manufacturing plant(s) in which the electrical or electronic appliances(s) type is produced;

A.1.3 For new applications, proof of conformity, with all the requirements of this compulsory specification, issued less than 36 months before the date of submission to the NRCS;

A.1.4 On expiry of the approval, an application for an extension may be granted, provided that all the conditions of the previous approval were met. In this case, proof of compliance, with all the requirements of the relevant compulsory specification, issued less than 60 months before the date of submission to the NRCS, shall be required;

A.1.5 Identification markings and other information appearing on the product; and

A.1.6 Any reasonable additional information in order to clarify the above that may be requested by the NRCS.

A.2 APPROVAL

A.2.1 The NRCS shall assess the evidence of conformity supplied by the applicant and shall decide to grant approval or not, at its sole discretion.

A.2.2 The NRCS shall assign a unique number to each approval.

A.2.3 The NRCS shall issue a letter of authority certificate (LOA) for each successful application, to the applicant, when all the requirements have been met. The validity period of an LOA shall be three (3) years and three (3) years for an extension.

A.2.4 The approval granted with respect to each type of Electrical/Electronic Apparatus that is pursuant to this compulsory specification may be withdrawn at any

time, after the manufacturer has been notified in writing, if the requirements have not been met or maintained.