NEW ECODESIGN DIRECTIVE

WHAT IS THE ErP DIRECTIVE?

The Ecodesign Directive for Energy-related Products (ErP Directive) establishes a framework to set mandatory standards for ErPs sold in the European Union (EU). The ErP directive introduces new energy-efficiency ratings across various product categories and affects how products such as computers, vacuum cleaners, boilers and even windows are classified in terms of environmental performance.
Regulations that apply to air conditioning systems of rated capacity up to 12kW came into effect as of January 1, 2013. Based the use of future-orientated technologies, Mitsubishi Electric is one step ahead of these changes, with our air conditioning systems already achieving compliance with these new regulations.

NEW ENERGY LABEL AND MEASUREMENTS

Under regulation 2011/626/EU, supplementing directive 2010/30/EU, air conditioning systems are newly classified into energy-efficiency classes on the basis of a new energy labelling system, which includes three new classes: A^{+}, A^{++} and A^{+++}.
Revisions to the measurement points and calculations of the seasonal energy efficiency ratio (SEER) and seasonal coefficient of performance (SCOP) has resulted in changes to how air conditioning systems are classified into energy-efficiency classes.
Specifically, for cooling mode, air conditioning systems must achieve at least class B. For heating mode, air conditioning systems must achieve at least a SCOP value of 3.8.

■New Energy Efficiency Label

SEER and SCOP
The SEER (Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio) value indicates the seasonal energy efficiency value in the cooling mode. The SCOP (Seasonal Coefficient of Performance) value refers to the seasonal efficiency in the heating mode.

Energy efficiency classes from A+++ to D SCOP in heating mode

A+++	> 5,1
A++	> 4,6
A+	> 4,0
A	> 3,4
B	> 3,1
C	> 2,8
D	< 2,5

Energy efficiency classes from A+++ to D SEER in cooling mode

A+++	> 8,5
A++	> 6,1
A+	> 5,6
A	> 5,1
B	> 4,6
C	> 4,1
D	< 3,6

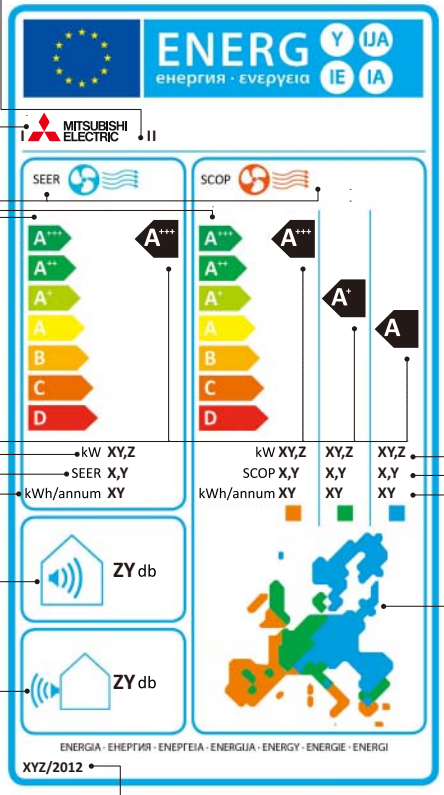
Energy efficiency class
Energy efficiency class of the unit in cooling and heating mode of the unit model

In the heating mode, the indication for the unit model is shown for all three climate zones.

Nominal capacity in cooling mode
SEER value
Annual power consumption for cooling

Operating noise, indoors/outdoors
The sound power level is an important sound energy parameter for assessing a sound source. Contrary to the sound pressure - the sound power is independent of the location of the source and/or the receiver. Maximally admissible values are:

Cooling capacity ≤ 6 kW		Cooling capacity > 6 kW ≤ 12 kW	
Indoor unit	Outdoor unit	Indoor unit	Outdoor unit
60dB(A)	65dB(A)	60dB(A)	70dB(A)



Name or trademark of the manufacturer
Name of the unit/designation of model

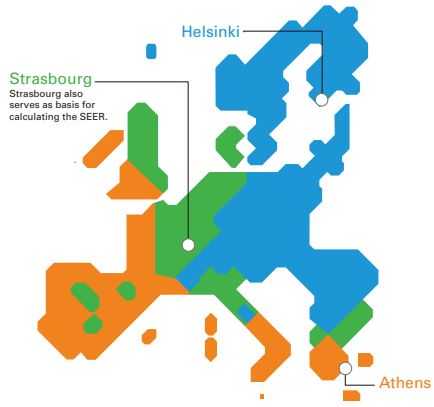
Time reference
Indication on label data

Nominal capacity in heating mode
SCOP value
Annual power consumption for heating

Climate zones
For heating mode, the EU is divided into three climate zones for calculation and classification purposes. This aims at calculating the energy efficiency taking into consideration the actual regional ambient temperatures.

■Climate Zones for Heating Mode

Reference climate zones for calculating the SCOP
Since the climate conditions have a great influence on the operating behaviour in the heat pump mode, three climate zones have been stipulated for the EU: warm, moderate, cold. The measurement points are homogenous at 12°C, 7°C, 2°C and –7°C.



Warm (Athens)

Partial load	Temperature conditions Outdoors DB	Outdoors WB	Indoors DB
–	–	–	20°C
100%	2°C	1°C	20°C
64%	7°C	6°C	20°C
29%	12°C	11°C	20°C

Moderate (Strasbourg)

Partial load	Temperature conditions Outdoors DB	Outdoors WB	Indoors DB
88%	–7°C	–8°C	20°C
54%	2°C	1°C	20°C
35%	7°C	6°C	20°C
15%	12°C	11°C	20°C

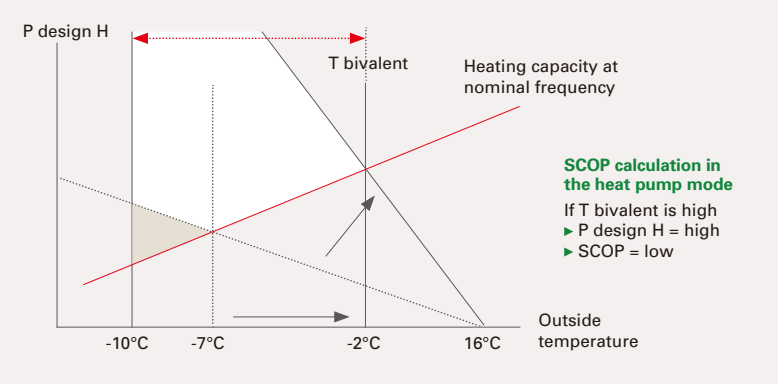
Cold (Helsinki)

Partial load	Temperature conditions Outdoors DB	Outdoors WB	Indoors DB
61%	–7°C	–8°C	20°C
37%	2°C	1°C	20°C
24%	7°C	6°C	20°C
11%	12°C	11°C	20°C

SEER/SCOP

Air conditioning systems were previously assessed using the energy-efficiency rating (EER), which evaluated efficiency in cooling mode, and the coefficient of performance (COP), which defined the efficiency, or the ratio of consumed and output power, in heating mode. Under this system, assessments were not truly reflective of performance as they were based on a single measurement point, which led to manufacturers optimising products accordingly in order to achieve higher efficiency ratings. SEER and SCOP address this problem by including seasonal variation in the ratings via use of realistic measurement points. For cooling mode, measurements at outside temperatures of 20, 25, 30 and 35°C are incorporated and weighted in accordance with climate data for Strasbourg, which is used as a single reference point for the whole EU. For instance, for partial-load operation, which represents more than 90% of operation, there is a correspondingly high weighting for the efficiency classification. For heating mode, a comprehensive temperature profile for the whole EU was not possible, so the EU has been divided into three climate zones, north, central and south, and load profiles created. The same measurement points, at outside temperatures of 12, 7, 2 and –7°C, are used for all three zones.

■SCOP Calculation



Technical Terms with Respect to the SCOP

P design H: Corresponds to a heating load of 100%. The value depends on the selected bivalence point.

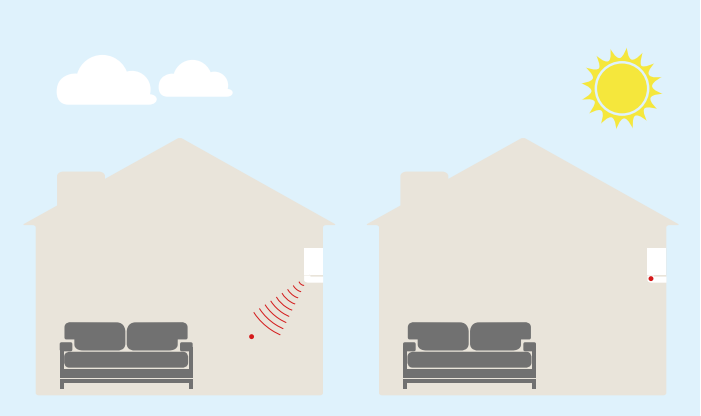
T design: Outside temperature which determines the P design H point. The latter is determined from the area conditions.

T bivalent: Corresponds to the lowest temperature at which full heating performance can be achieved with the heat pump (without additional heating). This point can be freely selected within the prescribed temperature ranges (T design - T bivalent).

SOUND PRESSURE LEVEL

Consumers will also receive more information on the noise levels emitted by split-system air conditioners to help them make their purchasing decision. Specifically, the sound power level of indoor and outdoor units is to be indicated in decibels as an objective parameter. Knowing the sound power makes it possible to calculate sound emissions while considering distance and radiation characteristics, which is beneficial because it allows the noise levels of different air conditioning systems to be compared regardless of the usage location and how the sound pressure is measured. This is an improvement on sound pressure values which are usually measured at an approximate distance of 1m where all modern split-system air conditioning systems tend to be very quiet at an average of 21 decibels.

■Sound Pressure vs Sound Power Level



Sound pressure level dB(A)
The sound pressure level is a sound field parameter which indicates the perceived operating noise of an indoor unit within a certain distance.

Sound power level dB(A)
The sound power is an acoustic parameter which describes the source strength of a sound generator and is thus independent of the distance to the receiver location.