

21/09/2018

The B rated geyser

“A lower energy loss, more efficient electric water heater”

With effect from 12 August 2016, the Minister of Trade and Industry (the Minister) declared the amendments of the compulsory specification for hot water storage tanks for domestic use (VC 9006). However, the Minister declared the effective date of clause 3.2 of VC 9006 to be 12 August 2017.

*Clause 3.2 of VC 9006, which is now in effect, demands that fixed storage water heaters have a minimum energy efficiency rating of **class B** when tested in accordance with SANS 151. The NRCS will from August 2018 start with the regulation of geysers under the compulsory specifications for hot water storage tanks for domestic use.*

Why the move towards B rated geysers?

Storage water heaters lose energy through standing loss. Standing loss refers to the heat lost through the surface of the storage water heater. As the storage water heater loses heat through its surface, it uses unnecessary energy to heat the water its storing to maintain the target temperature. The **B** rated geysers have a thicker insulation resulting in an improved standing heat loss. B rated geyser have a standing heat loss of approx. 50-60 watts per hour vs 105 -115 achieved on the older 150l **D** rated geyser. B rated geysers are clearly a win and a step in the right direction.

Will I still be able to purchase and install the D rated Geyser?

The phasing out of the C and D rated geysers has already commenced and some merchants now may only stock B rated geyser. However, we believe that they may still available and only for an interim period according to SANS 151 and SANS 10254, there is nothing stopping an installer from installing a C or D geyser.

The B rated geyser costs more why? and who pays for this?

The B rated geyser have a thicker insulation and larger outer casing unfortunately this impacts the cost of the geyser. On Insurance replacement claims insurers and brokers have or would need to revisit costing models to incorporate the costings of such B rated geysers.

As a plumber can I be forced to install a C/D rated geyser if I can only source a B rated geyser?

Considering current shortages and availability of the D/C rated geysers and the drive to enforce the VC 9006 and NRCS implementation date of August 2018.

We therefore feel that insisting that plumbers install hot storage water heaters with a rating below B would be deemed as unfair and not aligned with the objectives and goals of the Minister of trade

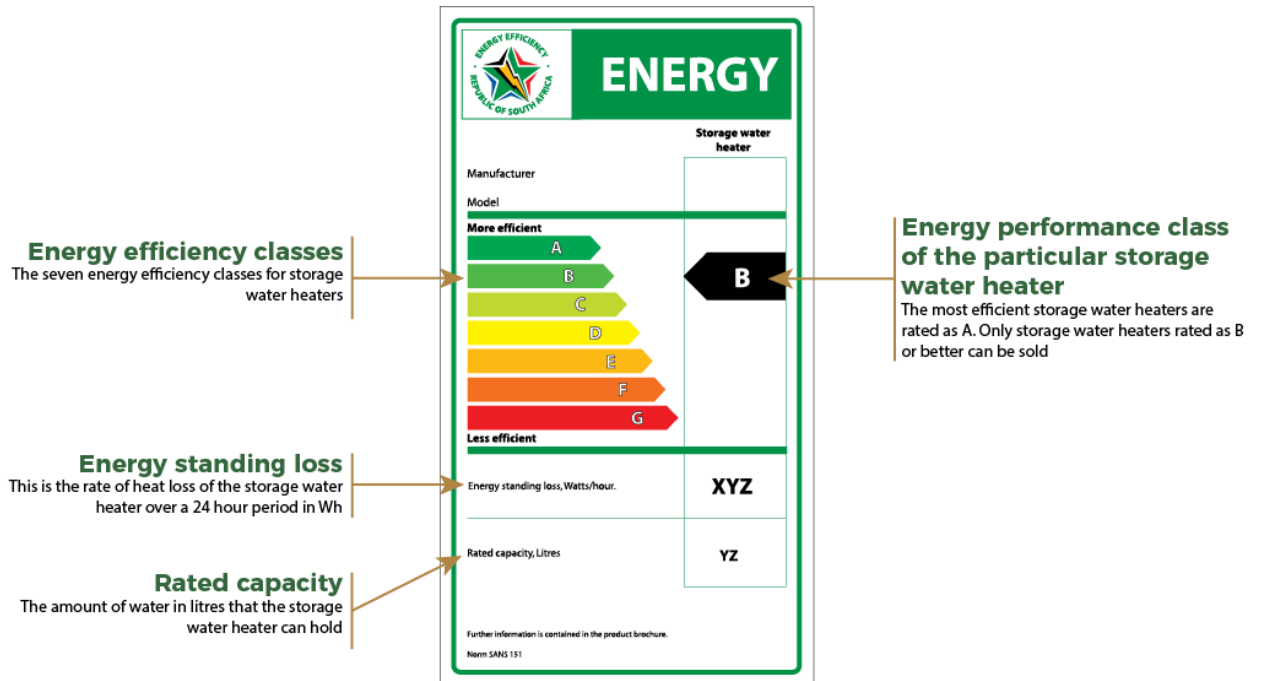
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Understanding the Energy Rating Label

Storage water heaters being sold must be labelled with a South African Energy Efficiency Label to help consumers understand the relative energy efficiency of different storage water heaters.



B part of the change

We as IOPSA see the value of the B Rated geyser and the positive impact it will have on the consumption of energy in South Africa. We therefore call on all our members, plumbers, insurance companies, brokers, merchants and local community to join us in supporting the immediate implementation of the **B** rated geyser.

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