Selina-4E-APP Workshop Vienna 2 March 2010 Recommendations

Introduction:

In early March 2010, 31 participants from 20 countries met in Vienna, Austria, to discuss a wide range of programs and policies to quantify and reduce standby power consumption. The one day workshop, that involved standby practitioners, industry representatives, technical experts and government representatives from around the world, shared information on current standby activities and agreed on the need for close cooperation and continued sharing of information and collection methodologies at a national, regional and global level.

There were a total of 12 presentations at the workshop on various aspects of standby power ranging from measurement approaches, industry perspectives, on line databases, assessment tools, network standby, European and Swiss regulations on standby and the need for monitoring, evaluation and surveillance. The full program is included with this meeting summary and all the presentations are available from the 4E Standby Annex and SELINA websites: see http://standby.iea-4e.org/ and http://www.selina-project.eu

The workshop concluded with a wide ranging discussion and a review of the information shared during the workshop. The workshop participants prepared a number of recommendations for consideration by governments and other authorities charged with the issue of standby power programs.

Workshop Recommendations:

Methodology and Data Collection

1. It was recognized that equipment connected to networks is of growing importance. The participants recommended that increased efforts to compile data and measurements of networked products from a variety of sources in order to obtain better information on networked product characteristics needs to be made by all stakeholders. It was recognized that the current data collection methodologies may need to be adapted to adequately cover these types of products. This is an area where specific short term cooperation between APP/SELINA and 4E is likely to be very productive.
2. Workshop participants were impressed by the work undertaken within the SELINA project. There was strong support for the concept of a second phase of the SELINA measurement project in Europe to build on extensive experience and data collection achievements to date.
3. The workshop confirmed that agreed common products helps with the alignment of measurement approaches and provides a sound basis for quantitative international comparisons.
4. There was strong support from workshop participants to further develop the concept of a mode being a collection of distinct “functions” to assist in the characterization and classification of different low power modes. It was noted that this approach is now being used in relevant standards such as IEC62301 and IEC62542.

Regulation and Compliance

1. It was recommended that countries that regulate standby power consider in-store testing as a first stage screen test for compliance surveillance.

2. Participants supported the promotion and use of the international (standby) database as a tool to assist in surveillance and enforcement activities.
3. Support for the concept of a warning label on products with the worst standby was expressed – this appears to be a feasible approach for some products and modes. However, the workshop agreed that a warning label should not be necessary where there are mandatory requirements such as Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS) that cover relevant products and modes.
4. A variety of approaches for speeding up market transformation were reviewed and these were generally supported (see Schlomann presentation)
5. Workshop participants recognized that care is required when promoting low standby products (without consideration of other attributes) to ensure that there are no perverse effects such as the inadvertent promotion of products with low active mode efficiency or high energy consumption. It was agreed that a vertical approach to standby, where low power modes are combined with active modes to give total energy consumption, is preferable for products where the total energy consumption is significant. It was accepted that defining usage patterns under such a vertical approach is necessarily product specific and this could vary by region or country.

Cooperation and Information Sharing

1. It was agreed that a common database of store measurements is a useful asset for all stakeholders. Such a resource provides a sound footing for comparative studies as well as evaluation. The work undertaken within SELINA on development of an international standby database was strongly supported.
2. The workshop strongly endorsed the current practice of sharing information by those who undertake practical standby measurements. It was agreed that this information exchange and the associated cooperative efforts help all participants to improve on existing methods and encourages practitioners to keep striving for best practice through improved training, more robust collection systems and cooperative dialogue.
3. As a general recommendation, it was noted that information sharing and cooperation is a key strategy that underpins international standby projects. To this end, closer linkages and information exchange between projects under EIE (SELINA, REMODECE) and APP and 4E is recommended, such as sharing of public reports and inter-links between relevant websites.
4. Exchange of information and newsletters between the major international standby projects was strongly encouraged by the workshop.
5. It was noted that the Odyssee project is tracking product energy efficiency over time and this resource can complement and augment other more specialized data collection efforts on standby http://www.odyssee-indicators.org/
6. The workshop recognized that new technologies offer many opportunities for energy savings potential but also there are some threats which need to be recognized and understood. It was agreed that there is a need to ensure that energy saving paradigms and strategies become a core consideration in future product designs.

It was noted that a major international conference on standby power is being hosted in late October 2010 in Japan. Workshop participants were encouraged to come and further share their experiences and knowledge with the international community. Information will be provided on the major project websites as soon as the details are settled.