

French national initiatives and participation in the EU harmonisation process

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The situation in France

- **No label on VOC and odours emissions from building products**
- **Voluntary initiatives failed in providing relevant information**
 - Environmental Product Declarations (EPD)
 - Green buildings certification (HQE)
 - National Environment and Health Action Plan (NEHAP):
 - AFSSET protocol (2006, 2009)

- Important action decided in 2007 by French Government
- All stakeholders represented for a consensus on major points regarding environment and environmental health
- Law n° 2009-967 (August 3, 2009): "Grenelle 1"
- Law n° 2010-788 (July 12, 2010): "Grenelle 2"

- **Law n° 2009-967 (August 3, 2009)**
 - Article 40: regarding indoor air:
 - Emissions from building, finishing and furnishing products will be labelled on a mandatory basis on January 1st, 2012
 - CMR compounds category 1 and 2 will be banned in building, finishing and furnishing products
 - Publication of a study on the opportunity to extend mandatory labelling of emissions to other indoor sources (e.g.: furniture, air fresheners, cleaning products)

- **Law n° 2010-788** (July 12, 2010)
 - Article 180 (regarding indoor air)
 - Modification of the French Environment Code: an Indoor Air Quality section is created
 - Art. L. 221-10 : Emissions from building, finishing and furnishing products will be labelled on a mandatory basis on January 1st, 2012. The list of concerned products will be detailed by a decree

- 2008-2009: WG established by Ministry of housing
- December 23rd, 2009: Notification to European Commission (98/34/EC directive):
- End of 2010: Revision by French State Council
- March 23, 2011: Decree n° 2011-321
- April 19, 2011: Order



- Decree n° 2011-321 (March 23, 2011) relating to the labelling of construction products, floorings, wall coverings, paints and varnishes regarding their volatile pollutant emissions
 - Products may only be made available on the market if they are accompanied by a label, applied to the product or its packaging, indicating their emissions of volatile pollutants, hereinafter referred to as “substances”.
 - The list of substances and emission thresholds are defined in the corresponding Order.
 - Manufacturers, their authorised representatives or importers, are responsible for the information provided on the labels.

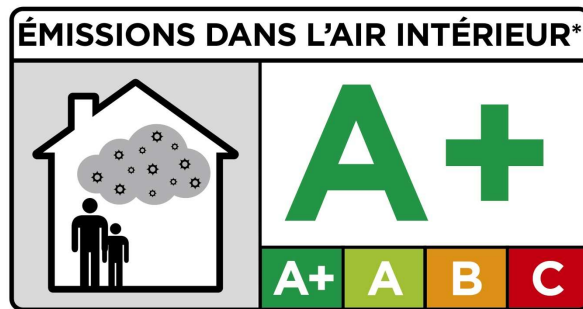
- Concerned products:
 - Floor, walls and ceiling coverings
 - Claddings
 - Insulation materials
 - Doors and windows
 - Products used for the installation or the preparation of above listed products
- Provisions of this decree will enter into force on:
 - 1st January 2012
 - 1st September 2013 for products already on the market before 2012

- Order of April 19, 2011 relating to the labelling of construction products, floorings, wall coverings, paints and varnishes regarding their volatile pollutant emissions
 - List of substances
 - 4 emission classes (thresholds values)
 - Format of the label
 - Methods for the characterization of emissions from building products

→ Substances and emission classes

Substances	CAS	standard	emission classes			
			C	B	A	A+
formaldehyde	50-00-0	ISO 16000-3	> 120	< 120	< 60	< 10
acetaldehyde	75-07-0	ISO 16000-3	> 400	< 400	< 300	< 200
toluene	108-88-3	ISO 16000-6	> 600	< 600	< 450	< 300
tetrachlorethylene	127-18-4	ISO 16000-6	> 500	< 500	< 350	< 250
xylene	1330-20-7	ISO 16000-6	> 400	< 400	< 300	< 200
1,2,4-trimethylbenzene	95-63-6	ISO 16000-6	> 2000	< 2000	< 1500	< 1000
1,4-dichlorobenzene	106-46-7	ISO 16000-6	> 120	< 120	< 90	< 60
ethylbenzene	100-41-4	ISO 16000-6	> 1500	< 1500	< 1000	< 750
2-butoxyethanol	111-76-2	ISO 16000-6	> 2000	< 2000	< 1500	< 1000
styrene	100-42-5	ISO 16000-6	> 500	< 500	< 350	< 250
TVOC		ISO 16000-6	> 2000	< 2000	< 1500	< 1000

→ Labelling



* Information on the emission level of volatile substances into indoor air, presenting a risk of toxicity by inhalation, on a scale ranging from A+ (very low emissions) to C (high emissions) (text in French)



→ Methods for characterization of emissions

- ISO 16000 series
- CEN TC351 WG2 reference room:
 - Volume = 30 m³
 - AER = 0.5 h⁻¹

→ <http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/Chapitre-I-Mode-d-emploi-de-I.html>



MINISTÈRE DE L'ÉCOLOGIE, DU DÉVELOPPEMENT DURABLE,
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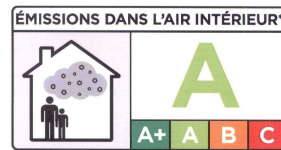
CONSTRUCTION, URBANISME, AMÉNAGEMENT ET
RESSOURCES NATURELLES

Étiquetage des émissions en polluants volatils des produits de construction et de décoration

À compter du 1^{er} janvier 2012, les produits de construction et de décoration seront munis d'une étiquette qui indiquera, de manière simple et facile, leur niveau d'émission en polluants volatils.

Les produits concernés par cette nouvelle réglementation sont les produits de construction ou de revêtements de parois aménagés à être utilisés à l'intérieur des locaux, ainsi que les produits utilisés pour leur incorporation ou leur application. Sont ainsi concernés cloisons, revêtement de sols, isolants, peintures, vernis, colles, adhésifs, etc. dans la mesure où ceux-ci sont destinés à un usage intérieur.

Le niveau d'émission du produit sera indiquée par une classe allant de A+ (très faibles émissions) à C (fortes émissions), selon le principe déjà utilisé pour l'électro-ménager ou les véhicules.



Les consommateurs disposeront ainsi d'une information transparente qui pourra constituer un nouveau critère de sélection. Les maîtres d'ouvrage (collectivités notamment) pourront également prendre en compte la qualité de l'air intérieur comme critère dans leurs appels d'offre pour la construction ou la rénovation de bâtiments.

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Chapitre I : Mode d'emploi de l'étiquetage
Chapitre II : Industriels - comment appliquer la réglementation
Chapitre III : Étiquettes disponibles au téléchargement

- Order of April 30, 2009
 - Building and decoration products can be placed on the market if their emissions of CMR compounds are below $1 \mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ after 28 days
 - Standard methods: ISO 16000 series
 - Provisions entered into force on 1st January 2010

→ trichloroethylene (CAS n° 79-01-6)

- Order of May 28, 2009 modifying order of April 30, 2009
 - benzene (CAS n° 71-43-2)
 - dibutyle phthalate (CAS n° 84-74-2)
 - bis(2-ethylhexyle)phthalate (CAS n° 117-81-7)

- JRC Ispra initiative "*Harmonisation framework for indoor materials labelling schemes in the EU*"
 - CSTB member of preparatory WG
 - ANSES and CSTB members of the LCI WG
- DG Enterprise EGDS Ad-hoc group "classes"
 - Ministry of housing and CSTB members of the AHG

- Voluntary actions (product labels, EPDs, green building certification, NEHAP initiatives) have not been successful in France for providing information on emissions of volatile compounds from building products
- Information will become available through a mandatory labelling process
 - Based on international standards
 - Based on CEN TC351 ongoing work

