



# Industry position on the VHK Discussion Document Reviewing Commission Regulation (EU) No. 327/2011 (fans)

Brussels, 16 March 2015

The industry associations CECED, EHI DIGITALEUROPE, EPEE and JBCE representing the downstream users of different fan types in a number of applications, appreciate the work done by the Commission to review Regulation 327/2011.

In reaction to the VHK discussion document reviewing the Fan Regulation and the 2<sup>nd</sup> stakeholders' meeting we would like to express our concerns. These are in line with the previous joint industry position papers (see Annex).

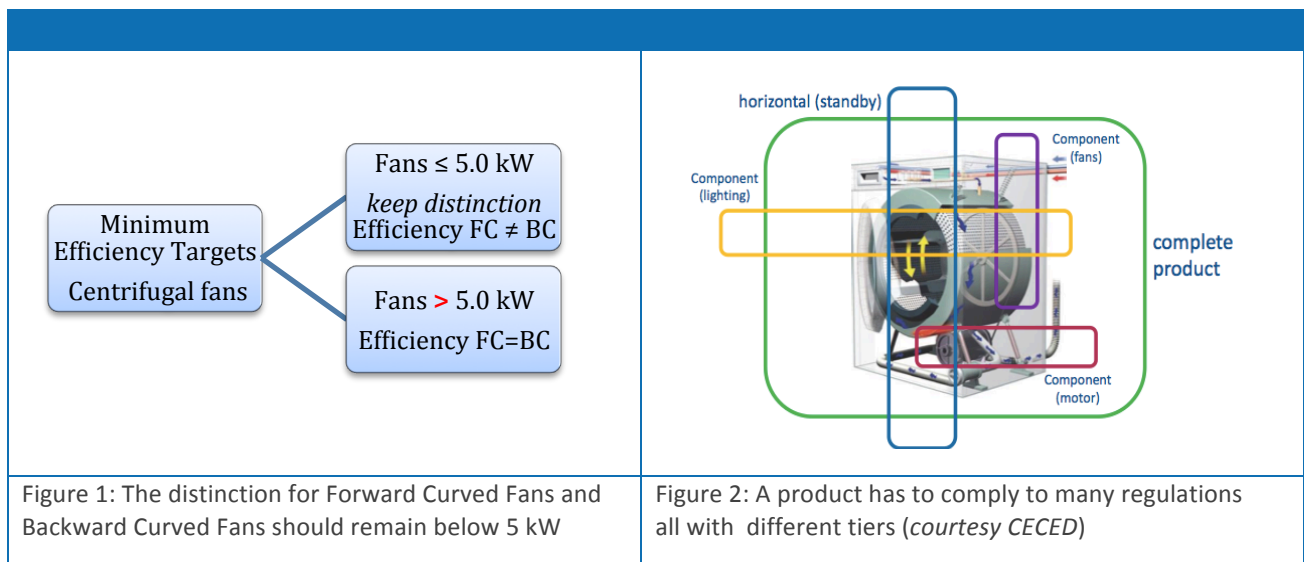
- *Centrifugal Forward Curved (FC) fans* should not be merged with *Centrifugal Backward Curved (BC) fans*. This will effectively lead to the elimination of the FC fan. The FC fan is essential where small and quiet fans are required, such as servers and imaging equipment. For (typical industrial) applications where powers are above 5 kW, one efficiency for both fan types is acceptable (see figure 1).
- *Spare parts* should be exempted according to the 'repair as produced principle' (as applied in the RoHS<sup>1</sup> and ELV<sup>2</sup> Directives) instead of limiting the exemption to a fixed number of years. The availability of spare parts brings significant environmental benefits, as it guarantees longer product lifetimes and prevents waste generation, which is one of the core elements of the EU's resource efficiency policy and the EU waste hierarchy. It is also crucial that spare parts are available for maintenance, repair, refurbishment and remanufacturing so that such activities remain cost-effective, viable and overall sustainable.

1 Recital 12 of Directive 2002/95/EC, later taken over in Recital 20 of Directive 2011/65/EU: As product reuse, refurbishment and extension of lifetime are beneficial, spare parts need to be available.

2 Recital 2 of COM Decision 2005/438/EC amending Annex II to Directive 2000/53/EC: As product reuse, refurbishment and extension of lifetime are beneficial, spare parts need to be available for the repair of vehicles which were already put on the market on 1 July 2003.

- “Double” regulation, intended as ecodesign requirements addressing components of products covered by vertical ecodesign measures (such as fans, motors, lighting etc. – see figure 2), represents a non-justified burden for manufacturers and additional complexity for market surveillance authorities. A product that needs to comply with fans requirements incorporated into products already regulated may lead to an increase of the cost of a product without increasing its overall energy efficiency, therefore undermining the Least Life Cycle Cost (LLCC) principle. In addition, the misalignment of the tiers implementation, between product and components requirements, represents complications hardly manageable for both manufacturers and market surveillance authorities. We therefore call upon the Commission to exclude from the requirements fans integrated into products already regulated or soon to be regulated by other vertical regulation. Any proposal to integrate them should be justified by full impact assessment on the socio-economic impact of regulating fans integrated into products already regulated or soon to be regulated by other vertical or horizontal ecodesign regulations.

Also, the issue of double placing on the market that is of particular relevance to the fans regulation has not yet been solved. Different treatment of the parts integrated into appliances (put on the market separately or part of the final product) would create legal uncertainty and significant logistic problems.



Finally, downstream users, such as the IT/CE industry, incorporate fans into products that often take many years to design. CECED, DIGITALEUROPE, EHI, EPEE and JBCE call for regulation that allows freedom to innovate and design the most cost-effective products with the highest possible efficiency.

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## ABOUT DIGITALEUROPE

**DIGITALEUROPE** represents the digital technology industry in Europe. Our members include some of the world's largest IT, telecoms and consumer electronics companies and national associations from every part of Europe. DIGITALEUROPE wants European businesses and citizens to benefit fully from digital technologies and for Europe to grow, attract and sustain the world's best digital technology companies. **DIGITALEUROPE** ensures industry participation in the development and implementation of EU policies. DIGITALEUROPE's members include 58 corporate members and 36 national trade associations from across Europe. Our website provides further information on our recent news and activities: <http://www.digitaleurope.org>

## ABOUT EPEE

The European Partnership for Energy and the Environment (EPEE) represents the refrigeration, air-conditioning and heat pump industry in Europe. Founded in the year 2000, EPEE's membership is composed of 40 member companies, national and international associations. EPEE member companies realize a turnover of over 30 billion Euros, employ more than 200,000 people in Europe and also create indirect employment through a vast network of small and medium-sized enterprises such as contractors who install, service and maintain equipment. EPEE member companies have manufacturing sites and research and development facilities across the EU, which innovate for the global market. As an expert association, EPEE is supporting safe, environmentally and economically viable technologies with the objective of promoting a better understanding of the sector in the EU and contributing to the development of effective European policies. Please see our website ([www.epeeglobal.org](http://www.epeeglobal.org)) for further information.

## ABOUT JBCE

Created in 1999, the Japan Business Council in Europe (JBCE) is a leading European organization representing the interests of more than 70 multinational companies of Japanese parentage active in Europe. Our members operate across a wide range of sectors, including information and communication technology, electronics, chemicals, automotive, machinery, wholesale trade, precision instruments, pharmaceutical, railway, textiles and glass products. Together, our member companies represented in 2013 global sales of 1.4 trillion euros. Building a new era of cooperation between the European Union (EU) and Japan is the core of our activities. [www.jbce.org](http://www.jbce.org)

## About CECED

CECED is a Brussels-based association representing household appliance manufacturers in Europe. Its members, European producers and non-EU companies that have operations in the EU, cover around 90% of the European market of household appliances. The products manufactured range from large (refrigerators, washing machines), small (vacuum cleaners, coffee machines) to heating ventilation and air conditioning appliances (heaters, heat pumps). With a turnover of 35 billion euros and half a million employees, this is a major sector for the EU economy. CECED has 19 Direct Members and 26 National Associations covering 25 countries.

## ABOUT EHI

**EHI, the Association of the European Heating Industry**, represents 90% of the European market for heat and hot water generation, heating controls and heat emitters, as well as 75% of the hydronic heat pump market. Our Members produce advanced technologies for heating in buildings, including: heating systems, burners, boilers, heat pumps, components and system integrators, radiators, surface heating & cooling and renewable energy systems. In doing so, we employ directly more than 120.000 people in Europe and invest more than half a billion euro a year in energy efficiency.

### DIGITALEUROPE

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