



Energy Efficiency Solutions

“Audit” for the European Eco-label for tourist accommodation service

General information on the solution —

“Targets”:

- Hotel area: General
- End-use: All (space heating, hot water production, specific usage of electricity, etc.)

About its implementation:

- Ease: Easy to moderate (*/**)
- Best moment: can be done at any time. Recommended before undertaking renovation work in the hotel.
- Relevant initial situation: The hotelier is planning to set up an environmental policy for the hotel.

Indicative cost (*Commission Decision of 9 July 2009*):

- Fees for qualifying for the Eco-label: can be around 1,500 € (75% reduction in the application fee for micro enterprises)
- Annual fee: the minimum annual fee for a micro-enterprise is 100 €.

Indicative return on investment time:

- Depends on the actions taken.
- Market visibility is an important benefit.

Description of the solution —

Principle

If you are planning to set up an environmental policy and action plan for your hotel, it may be worth starting by assessing whether your hotel meets the standards of the EU Eco-label, and what actions you would need to take to qualify for the EU Eco-label.



The EU Eco-label is an official certification from the European Union that has gained European-wide recognition and can be effectively integrated into your marketing strategy. Even if you are not planning to obtain the EU Eco-label, reading about it may give you ideas of the actions you can take to improve your hotel's environmental performance, especially as regards energy use and efficiency.



General purpose of the EU Eco-label

- The EU Eco-label for tourist accommodation has been created to identify and highlight tourism companies that respect the environment. The EU-flower logo signals high environmental performance to customers.
- Because a growing number of guests now demand environmentally friendly accommodation, the EU Eco-label can be a strong marketing asset for your hotel.

What are the requirements to qualify for the EU Eco-label?

- **The criteria** of the EU Eco-label relate to the following environmental domains:
 - energy consumption,
 - water consumption,
 - waste production,
 - use of chemical products,
 - environmental management.
- **Some criteria are mandatory** while others are optional – but the hotel needs to satisfy a sufficient number of the optional criteria in order to qualify. *For more information about the EU Eco-label criteria, go to www.ecolabel-tourism.eu.*
- **As a first step**, you can evaluate how far your hotel is from the EU Eco-label by considering all mandatory criteria and assessing if your hotel meets or exceeds them. This will give you a first idea of the efforts you may need to make in order to qualify for the EU Eco-label. Then, you can go further and review the optional criteria.

- *As regards energy aspects, the table provided below shows which criteria (mandatory, optional) deal with the hotel's energy efficiency.*
- *You can find more detailed information about the requirements for each criterion on the www.traintoecolabel.org website. (Please note that this website is based on the "old criteria" for the EU Eco-label that were valid until October 31st, 2009. It had not been updated as of August 2010).*

*Energy efficiency aspects of the EU Eco-label
(Commission Decision of 9 July 2009)*





The table below lists all the criteria that deal directly or indirectly with energy aspects. The table specifies whether the criteria are mandatory or optional, and whether they deal with: the type of energy used, equipment efficiency / equipment regulation, building characteristics, management measures.

	Criteria #	Mandatory / Optional	Specific aspect addressed by the criteria
Type of energy used			
	1	M	▪ Use of electricity from renewable sources (at least 50%)
	2	M	▪ No use of coal and heavy oils
	30	O	▪ Generation of electricity through renewable energy sources (at least 20% of annual consumption)
	31	O	▪ Energy from renewable energy sources
	34	O	▪ District heating
	35	O	▪ Combined heat and power
	36	O	▪ Use of heat pump
	48	O	▪ Swimming pool heated with renewable energy sources
Equipment efficiency / Equipment regulation			
	3	M	▪ Efficiency and heat generation
	4	M	▪ Air conditioning (class A)
	7	M	▪ Switching off heating or air conditioning
	8	M	▪ Switching off lights
	9	M	▪ Energy efficient light bulbs
	10	M	▪ Outside heating appliances
	32	O	▪ Boiler energy efficiency
	33	O	▪ Boiler No emissions
	37	O	▪ Heat recovery
	38	O	▪ Thermoregulation
	40	O	▪ Air conditioning (15% more efficient than class A)
	41	O	▪ Automatic switch-off air conditioning and heating systems
	43	O	▪ Energy efficient refrigerators, ovens, dishwashers, washing machines, dryers/tumblers and office equipment
	45	O	▪ Refrigerator positioning
	46	O	▪ Automatic switching off of lights in guest rooms
	47	O	▪ Sauna timer control
	49	O	▪ Automatic switching off of outside lights
Building characteristics			
	5	M	▪ Energy efficiency of buildings
	6	M	▪ Window insulation
	39	O	▪ Energy performance audits for buildings
	42	O	▪ Bioclimatic architecture
Management measures that have an impact on energy use			
	23	M	▪ Maintenance and servicing of boilers and air-conditioning systems
	24	M	▪ Policy setting and environmental programme
	25	M	▪ Staff training
	26	M	▪ Information to guests
	27	M	▪ Energy and water consumption data
	29	M	▪ Information appearing on the eco-label
	89	O	▪ Energy and water meters



Recommendations

How to apply for the EU Eco-label?

- If you think that your hotel qualifies for the EU Eco-label, it is highly recommended to apply for it. **The first step** is to get in contact with your “competent body”, which is the national organisation responsible for the application for the EU Eco-label in your country. It will give you information on the application procedure.
- You will then have to provide a **detailed dossier** showing how technical criteria have been met.
- (The “competent body” is responsible for the verification of compliance prior to the awarding of the Eco-label and may make further checks on submitted data).
- If your application is in conformity with the requirements and the application fee is paid, your hotel is **awarded** the Eco-label.

Link with other solutions in the database

The energy audit is another audit that is available to hotels (**solution n°11**). The energy audit is entirely focused on energy aspects and does not lead to certification.

Benefits for the hotel



Prepare an effective
action plan

Make choices that have gained Europe-wide recognition

The EU Eco-label requirements can help you develop a strategy for your hotel and define an environmental action plan, based on criteria that have gained Europe-wide recognition.

Involve your staff

Working on the implementation of the EU Eco-label is a very effective way to raise staff awareness on the environmental impact of your hotel and to involve your staff in your action plan.

Market availability

Maturity of the solution: mature.

Manufacturers / suppliers of energy sub-meters :

- Delta Dore www.deltadore.com,
- Schneider Electric www.schneider-electric.com

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