



## Start of the ANTICSS project: Anti-Circumvention of Standards for better market Surveillance Press release

*The topic of manipulated testing results or “circumvention” is currently getting a lot of public and media attention, not only for car emissions (dieselgate), but also with regard to other EU legislation. For this reason, the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme has funded the “ANTICSS – Anti-Circumvention of Standards for better market Surveillance” project. Its objectives are to define and assess “circumvention” in relation to EU Ecodesign and energy labelling legislation and their harmonised standards.*

“By raising overall awareness of circumvention among stakeholders, ANTICSS is expected to support effective EU legislation enforcement and increase acceptance and trust of market actors, consumers and civil society specifically in the Ecodesign and energy labelling legislation”, said Kathrin Graulich, project coordinator at Oeko-Institut, Germany.

ANTICSS will collect, analyse and learn from cases of circumvention by researching the literature, dedicated expert interviews and systematic analysis of existing EU Ecodesign and energy labelling legislation and standards for possible loopholes. The potential relationship between circumvention and “smart” products with specific embedded software is also addressed.

The project will provide a clear definition of circumvention, including delimitation from other effects to facilitate the identification of circumventing habits and unambiguous technical and public communication. Further, for selected product categories, independent test laboratories will be conducting tests to assess “if” and “how much” energy consumption and/or functional performance modifications could be addressed to circumvention. Where appropriate, the project team will propose alternative test procedures or checklists, with the aim to prevent any possible circumvention as well as recommendations to overcome ambiguities and loopholes in Ecodesign and energy labelling legislation and standards.

As a result, ANTICSS will provide practical capacity building measures for market surveillance authorities and test laboratories, support communication and collaboration between major stakeholders and recommendations for policymakers and standardisation bodies to better detect and prevent future circumvention.

The ANTICSS project team consists of 19 organisations from eight EU Member States: research organisations, Market Surveillance Authorities, energy agencies, a standardisation body, a university, environmental NGO, and independent test laboratories.

Follow us on **Twitter**: <https://twitter.com/AntiCircumvent>  
Project **website**: <http://www.anti-circumvention.eu/>

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