



Österreichisches Umweltzeichen

Summary Version of the Austrian Eco-Label Guideline

Energy- and Water-saving Hand and Head Showers

On average, a person in Austria uses 135 litres of precious drinking water a day. 36 litres are used for body care, bathing and showering. On average, one full bath needs 2.8 times as much water as a six-minute shower. Since showering is largely given preference nowadays, hand and head showers have come into the focus of ecotechnical development.

Showers have become "energy-related products" with a considerable variety of standards available in the market. The eco-label is awarded only to top products that are characterised by the following environmental attributes:

- low water consumption
- low energy consumption through efficient hot water usage
- prevention of contamination of drinking water by product materials
- longevity and fitness for use

The Guideline applies to hand and head showers in accordance with DIN EN 1112. Hand and head showers sold as a set along with a shower hose in accordance with DIN EN 1113 are likewise subject to this Guideline.

Specific attributes of eco-labelled hand and head showers:

- maximum water flow is no greater than 9 l/min
- cannot be blocked by dirt particles
- materials that are in contact with water do not present any health risk
- noise production is limited
- confirmation of optimal functionality by testing according to pertinent standards
- comprehensive information on product and product use

Environmental performance:

By using an eco-labelled shower, a two-person household with gas-fired condensing boiler for water heating can reduce climate-altering emissions by 205 kg CO₂ per year (assumption acc. to GfK, 2005: 6-minute showers 300 times a year per person).

You can find eco-label products online at

www.umweltzeichen.at

For further information, please contact one of the eco-label addresses below:

Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry,
Environment and Water Management, Depart-
ment VI/5
Josef Raneburger
Stubenring 1, A-1010 Vienna
Tel: +43 (0)1 515 22-1250; Fax: ext. 7649
E-m@il: josef.raneburger@bmlfuw.gv.at
<http://www.umweltzeichen.at>

Austrian Consumer Information Association
(VKI),
Eco-Label Team
Oswald Streif
Linke Wienzeile 18, A-1060 Vienna
Tel: +43 (0)1 588 77-272; Fax: ext. 99272
E-m@il: ostreif@vki.at
<http://www.konsument.at/umweltzeichen>