



**ATLETE II**  
**Appliance Testing for Washing Machines**  
**Energy Label & Ecodesign Evaluation**

**Report on the actions done and the  
difficulties encountered, for the scouting and  
purchase of the (about) 50 washing machine  
models**

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(Deliverable 5.3)

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### **First batch**

We have split the selection of 50 models into 3 batches (13 + 18 + 19), so this report of actions refers to the selection of 13 models. It is to be underlined, that the independent notary selected 3 preferences for each respective model. ICRT started searching the 1<sup>st</sup> priority models. 2 of the 13 models selected in December, were not available on the market in December. 2<sup>nd</sup> priorities were delivered respectively. The further 2 models were not available anymore at the time of purchasing end of January (after the lab contracts were signed) and respectively further priorities were delivered. For one of the models (Bomann), 4 samples were bought when purchasing all models, as it is company with a small market share and therefore the model might not be available on the market, if necessary for step 2. For the 2 other models, it was noticed that the number of units still available on the market is low and 4 models (1 + 3 in other shops) were purchased immediately.

Finally for Gorenje model WA 60129 was randomly selected and the retailer delivered wrong model to the lab (WA 70129). After the investigation it occurred that original model was not available anymore and the delivered one was its successor. Therefore the successor model (which was the one delivered to the lab) was chosen for testing.

The problems with purchasing some models seem to be linked with the longer time span between selection and purchasing comparing to original planning and caused by longer time needed for laboratories selection. It is expected that this will be resolved for batch 2 and 3 as the laboratories are already selected and the sampling of models can be scheduled very close to actual start of testing in the laboratories. Models can be purchased and delivered to the laboratories within 3 weeks after selection. For batch 1, this time span was about 2 months. The 13 models selected are shown in Deliverable 5.2.

### **Second batch**

For some of the chosen models (2 out of 18) we were phased with changes in the model of products selected at the time of scouting and purchasing as the originally selected models could not be any more found on the market. For one model, where step 2 will likely be still needed, 3 additional units could not be any more found on the market.

For one of the Bosch models (BOSCH WAQ2832Z), a second sample had to be purchased as the first sample had an old energy label. The Indesit model HOTPOINT-ARIS ECO 8D 1492 K, was withdrawn from the market in July 2013 and it was decided as a precaution to buy 3 additional samples.

The model selected from a small brand, LUXOR WM 1249R6 A+ LUX was not available anymore at the time of purchasing, therefore the 4 samples were purchased of CONTINENT WM 5100.

The PANASONIC NA-148VG3WGB was replaced on the market by NA148VG4GB during the buying process. We tried to purchase 4 models of the originally selected model, but for some orders, a different model was delivered. As it was not possible to buy 4 samples of this anymore in June, it was decided to purchase 4 samples of the successor model.

The Samsung range SAMSUNG WF 8500 NMW, first chosen was changed across Europe at the time of purchasing, this was replaced with Samsung WMWF1704WSV, the only available model with a similar capacity. 4 samples were bought for this.

To avoid these problems we will still try to limit the time span between notary selection and purchasing in batch 3.

### **Third batch**

For 7 out of the 21 proposed models, the second preference had to be bought. For Bosch, Indesit, Samsung and Whirlpool the initially proposed models were either not available any more at the time of purchasing or the availability was very low. It had therefore been agreed with CECED to purchase alternative models.

The selected Luxor model was only on special offer during one week and therefore not available any more. CECED proposed EXQUISIT WM 6810, of which 4 samples were bought immediately as it is a niche brand with small market share.

The proposed Morris model was available in Cyprus, but as ICRT has no member organisation in Cyprus, a member staff from another country would have had to travel to Cyprus to purchase the appliances. This was not cost efficient and an alternative model with low market share, TECHWOOD WB 91042 Y, was chosen. Again, 4 samples were bought immediately.

### **Conclusions**

All models selected within 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> preference could be sourced and purchased in sufficient quantities for full testing.

The time span between selecting models and purchasing the appliances ranged from 8-9 weeks for batch 1 (due to the lab selection not being finalised at the time of model selection) to 2-3 weeks for batch 3. The staff time required for the scouting and purchasing the models was reduced from 14 hours per model in batch 1 to 5 h for batch 3.

The recommendations for future projects are:

- Minimising the time span between selecting products and purchasing results in less problems and less staff time.
- Preferable to choose models available in countries with ICRT member organisations (20 in Europe)