

Revisions of Enforcement Ordinance, Regulation and the Notification of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) under the Act on the Rational Use of Energy

April 2022
Energy Efficiency Division
Agency of Natural Resources and Energy
Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry

1. Background

Under Article 150 of the Act on the Rational Use of Energy (Law No. 49 of 1979; hereinafter referred to as "Energy Efficiency Law"), the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry shall establish and publicise standards of judgment for manufacturers, processors and importers with regard to the improvement of the performance for the specified prevention of heat loss from envelopes of houses and/or buildings. It is prescribed in the Energy Efficiency Law that new performance standards for prevention of heat loss from envelopes of houses and/or buildings shall be established taking account of the performance of the building materials which show the highest heat insulation performance amongst the respective specified insulation materials and other related factors. (It is called the "Building Material Top Runner Program".)

The scope of the specified insulation materials and exceptions are to be defined in the Enforcement Ordinance and Regulation for the Energy Efficiency Law. The performance standards are stipulated in the “Notifications of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry”.

2. Outline of Development

The principal points of development are as follows:

- i) Target standard values

Category		Current target standard value [W/(m ² ·K)]	Next target standard value [W/(m ² ·K)]
Sash	Sliding	3.50	2.16
	Vertical Casement	3.75	2.06
	Horizontal Casement	3.69	2.04
	Fixed	3.35	1.87
	Double-hung	3.97	2.30
Glazing		2.19	1.67

ii) Target fiscal year

Category	Current target fiscal year	Next target fiscal year
Sash	FY2022	FY2030
Glazing	FY2022	FY2030

iii) Exceptions from sash and glazing

Material of sash	Current scope of exceptions	Iron or wooden sash
	Next scope of exceptions	Iron sash
Total thickness of glazing	Current scope of exceptions	Over 10mm
	Next scope of exceptions	Over 10mm (limited to each thickness is over 5mm)

3. Objective

To promote rationalization of overall energy consumption in Japan through popularisation of building materials with high heat insulation performance.

4. Proposed date of entry into force

Around April of 2023*

*Target fiscal year for achieving the new standard is set to be FY2030.