Digital Product Passport (DPP)

State of play and future outlook

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Building on the existing Ecodesign Directive

Key features of Ecodesign Directive approach maintained

Framework legislation

Product-specific measures based on detailed impact assessment

Regularly updated multiannual working plans setting out priorities
Extending the Ecodesign approach

Scope extension
Moving beyond energy-related products to a wide product scope

New requirements
Plus clarification of existing requirements

Horizontal approach
Requirements in addition to product-specific requirements

Increased focus on product information
e.g. Digital Product Passport; labels
ESPR
Key Ecodesign product aspects

- durability, reliability, reusability, upgradability;
- reparability, possibility of maintenance and refurbishment;
- presence of substances of concern;
- energy use or energy efficiency;
- resource use or resource efficiency;
- recycled content;
- possibility of remanufacturing and recycling;
- possibility of recovery of materials;
- environmental impacts, including carbon and environmental footprint;
- expected generation of waste materials.
The political context

- The DPP is an important deliverable in the Commission strategy to digitalise our economy (green & digital). Many DGs are actively contributing to its design and deployment (CNECT, DIGIT, ENER, ENV, GROW, JRC, TAXUD).

- The objective of the DPP is to simplify digital access to relevant product-specific information in the area of sustainability, circularity, and legal compliance. It is not a track & tracing tool, but it will allow to also include traceability information when appropriate.

- There is a (growing) number of EU policies which will rely on DPP or element of it in order to make digitally available product related information:
  - ESPR
  - Batteries Regulation
  - Toys regulation
  - Detergents regulation
  - Construction Products Regulation
  - Critical Raw Material Act

- The DPP-system shall build on existing best practices at international level, while also allowing the possibility of using new technologies and approaches.
State of play

- The Digital Product Passport (DPP) is an important chapter of the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR).

- The ESPR has nearly concluded its co-decision process.

- The Council has agreed on the final text after trilogues.

- The European Parliament commissions' have voted in favour with an overwhelming majority. The final plenary vote in the European Parliament should take place in April 2024.

- Publication in the Official Journal of the European Union is expected around Summer 2024.
Implementation work ahead

- The Commission will adopt an **ESPR Working Plan**. Adoption is expected within 9 months after the entry into force of ESPR (i.e., around Q1-Q2 2025).

- The co-legislators have pre-identified a number of product groups the Commission should prioritise:
  - Iron & steel
  - Aluminium
  - Textile, notably garments and footwear
  - Furniture, including mattresses
  - Tyres
  - Detergents
  - Paints
  - Lubricants
  - Chemicals
  - Energy related products
  - ICT products and other electronics

- The Commission retains the right to add or remove product groups from the ESPR working plan, but it should provide a justification for each decision.
DPP main design features

- DPP is based on a **decentralised** approach for data storage.
- The DPP shall be uniquely linked to a **product**.
- Access to data will take place through a **product unique identifier**, embedded in a **data carrier and** relying on a **look-up mechanism**.
- Access to DPP-data based on a **need-to-know** basis (there will be **public** and **restricted** data)
- **3** possible levels of **granularity**: (i) model, (ii) batch, (iii) item
Main requirements for companies

- Make sure that a product passport **exists**, and it is in compliance with essential requirements established in articles 10 and 11 – exceptions are possible.

- Make sure that the product passport is **complete**, meaning it includes all the mandatory information listed in the corresponding product group-specific Delegated Act.

- Make sure that the information included in the passport is **authentic, reliable** and **verified** in accordance with requirements established in the corresponding product group-specific Delegated Act.

- A **back-up copy** of the DPP is stored by a [certified] third-party product passport service provider.

- Copy of the data carrier or unique product identifier are made available to **dealers** and **online market places** selling the corresponding product.
The standardisation work (on DPP-system)

DPP-system

Digital Product Passport

DPP-data

(the “HOW”: To be developed horizontally for all product groups and legislations)

- All standards and protocols related to the IT architecture (8 areas)
- The EU DPP (central) registry

Information to be included in the DPP will be product-group specific and it will be identified through dedicated legislation.

It may include information/data on one or more of the following areas:

- Technical performance
- Environmental sustainability performance
- Circularity aspects (durability, repairability, etc)
- Legal compliance
- Product-related information (e.g., manuals, other labels)
EU DPP (central) registry and web portal

Link with EU CSW-CERTEX – This is an EU central operational system that already exchanges information with other EU partner DGs central systems for verification purposes. It will enable automatic verifications by the customs authorities on the existence and authenticity of the DPP.

It will be the “entry point” for the web portal(s) the Commission will have to set up to allow search & compare functions of the information included in the DPPs.

Mostly to support Market Surveillance Authorities, customs authorities, governments, other agencies

- Product identifier
- Economic operator identifier
- Facility identifier
- Registration identifier (this will not be public)
- Commodity code
- Back-up reference

Web portal for “restricted” data
Web portal for “public” data
6. Implementation work ahead

• Prepare the adoption of delegated acts setting out the **rules and requirements to be followed by DPP service providers**, including a certification scheme to verify such requirements.

• Prepare the adoption of implementing acts setting out **procedures to issue and verify the digital credentials of economic operators and other relevant actors** that shall have access rights to information included in the product passport.

• Prepare the adoption of delegated acts to establish **rules and procedures related to unique identifiers and data carriers’ lifecycle management**

• Design and set-up the DPP registry.

• Design and set up the DPP web portal.
6. Implementation work ahead

• Availability of harmonized standards on DPP-system by **end of 2025**.

• Adoption of Acts on “DPP governance” in **2025**.

• EC-driven activities to support DPP implementation by companies (especially SMEs), DPP service providers, Member States in **2026**.

• The adoption of the first ESPR Delegated Acts (textiles, steel) may happen in Q3-Q4 2025. Considering that there is an 18 months delay of entry into force for each Delegated Act (to allow economic operators to comply with the new requirements), the expected entry into force of the first ESPR Delegated Acts is expected around **mid 2027**.

• Requirements on DPP will have the same entry into force as the corresponding product specific Delegated Acts, with one notable exception: the DPP for **batteries** will entry into force in **February 2027**.