

# MINISTRY OF ENERGY

## **KNOW THE APPLIANCES YOU BUY BEFORE YOU BUY!!!** **MAKE THE RIGHT DECISION AND SAVE FOR YOUR FUTURE**

**When you buy electrical appliances make sure you read the Energy Labels or the stickers on what you Buy. Take an interest in what you buy not on just the beauty of the appliance.**

- **Consider the energy efficiency of the item along with the sale price.** Your purchase decision will affect your electric bill month after month, for years to come. An efficient appliance reduces the amount of energy consumed. The higher purchase price on newer, more efficient models will often be recovered by lower monthly bills.
- **Look for the special energy labels on most major new appliances.** These labels allow you to compare estimated annual operating costs between comparable models in order to select the most efficient appliance for your money.

*You will usually find special energy labels placed on all new electrical appliances – either at the back or the bottom, depending on the country of manufacture or the source of importation into Ghana. You will also typically find such information on the packaging in which these appliances are sold or in the technical manuals that accompany them.*

**The Information you will normally find included on the labels are as follows:**

*Manufacturer, type of appliance, model number and capacity.*

### **Computing the Lifecycle Cost of Appliances**

When you buy a new appliance, the lifecycle cost is more than just the sale price. The cost of operating the appliance should also be considered as you make your decision. When you combine the purchase price of an appliance with the energy cost of operating it over its lifetime, you get what is known as the “lifecycle cost.” The lifecycle cost of energy-efficient appliances is typically lower than the lifecycle cost of average models.

$$\text{PURCHASE PRICE} + \text{LIFETIME ENERGY COST} = \text{LIFECYCLE COST}$$

#### *Lifetime Energy Cost*

<i>Example:</i>	<i>Purchase Price</i>		<i>Yearly Energy Cost</i>		<i>Estimated Lifetime</i>		<i>Lifecycle Cost</i>
<i>Refrigerator A</i>	<i>1.5 m Cedis</i>	<i>+</i>	<i>(290,000</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>20 years)</i>	<i>=</i>	<i>7.3 million</i>
<i>Refrigerator B</i>	<i>2.6 m Cedis</i>	<i>+</i>	<i>(150,000</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>20 years)</i>	<i>=</i>	<i>5.6 million</i>

*Deciding to buy the more energy-efficient Refrigerator B over the lower purchase price used Refrigerator A, will save you money over the refrigerator's lifetime. You have to even wonder if Refrigerator A will last the full life cycle of 20 years when you buy it. You will be lucky to get 5 years trouble free usage.*

See the Comparison Chart we have provided in the Information Pack on typical consumption data.

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