



# Low VOC emissions labels in Europe – Overview

**Reinhard Oppl, Thomas Neuhaus**  
**Eurofins Product Testing A/S**  
**Galten, Denmark and San Ramon, CA**

**Dr. Roland Augustin**  
**Eurofins Consumer Product Testing GmbH**  
**Hamburg, Germany**

## Morning Session

- **AgBB, Germany** (basic approach)
- **DIBt, Germany** (floorings)
- **VOC regulations and AFSSET guideline, France**  
(several building products)
- **M1, Finland**  
(all building products)
- **GUT / PRODIS, Europe** (carpets)

## Not here

- **Umweltzeichen, Austria** (several products)
- **CertiPUR, Europe** (PUR foam)
- **Nordic Ecolabel ("Swan")** (several building products)
- **Private labels** (TÜV, LGA, Golden M, etc.)

## Afternoon session

- **EMICODE, Europe**  
(adhesives, sealants and more)
- **Blue Angel, Germany**  
(several products)
- **Danish Indoor Climate Label**  
(several products)
- **Natureplus** (several building products)
- **Indoor Air Comfort, Europe**  
(several products)

- **Test result is reported as air concentration**
  - ... either in a test chamber or in a reference room
  - ... with defined loading and ventilation
  - Dispute on whether air change per hour should be 0.5 or 1.0
- **Testing after:**
  - 28 days, or 3 days, or 3 + days, or 1 + 10 days
- **Emissions criteria also for liquid products**  
(instead of VOC content criteria as often in the USA)
- **Each product tested separately and alone**
  - Liquid products on inert surface (glass, metal)
- **Reference standards:**
  - ISO 16000 parts 3, 6, 9, 10, 11 or former ENV 13419

# Combination of different tests, example:

Test Parameter	AgBB DIBt	AFSSET French law	Blue Angel	EMICODE	M1
TVOC 3 d	X	X —	X	(1 d)	
TVOC 28 d	X	X X	X	(10 d)	X
TSVOC 28 d	X	— —	X	(10 d)	
Aldehydes 28 d	X	X X	X	(1 d)	X
LCI	X	X individual limits	X	—	—
R value	X	X	X	—	
VOC without LCI	X	X	X	—	X
Odor	—	—	—	—	After 28 d

- **On-site audit, certification, annual re-test**
  - German DIBt
- **Annual market control by testing of purchased samples**
  - GEV (EMICODE), GUT
- **Re-testing every 3-5 years** (normal case)
- **Laboratory qualification, different pathways**
  - ISO 17025 accreditation, covering also VOC emission testing
  - Define a list of approved labs
  - Accept all ISO 17025 labs that participated successfully in inter-laboratory comparisons

**Low VOC emissions labels in Europe**

**Now let us hear  
involved colleagues on details**

