



## E.9 Assistance with complying to energy regulations

Regulatory requirements are not a new phenomenon. Companies face rules, standards and codes and the rigor in fulfilling regulatory responsibilities, makes the regulatory environment very complex and severe. Thus, companies are often struggling with demonstrating, documenting and reporting compliance. Evidently, companies cannot afford to haphazardly address the regulatory compliance inherent within their operations and market activities. A compliance program, in which the first step is to develop a road map, can help achieving compliance without exceeding the resource capabilities within the company itself.

**Developing a road map:** there is no-one-size fits all approach to compliance - as every enterprise follows a framework that is specific to its own internal operating environment. A predefined process of effectively achieving compliance, should address 4 core areas: planning, readiness assessment, remediation, and monitoring:

- **Scope and planning:** management commitment and readiness to compliance is essential to any compliance management program. Each company has to define an approach for assessing the compliance and keep a check on non-routine and non-systematic actions.
- **Readiness assessment:** it gives an easy and effective way to profile the current state or 'maturity' of the company's processes as expressed by the degree to which they comply with energy regulations and standards. Each area that needs attention will then be prioritized based on the Implementation Plan.
- **Remediation:** the gaps that pose the non-compliance risk are identified and prioritized. A process that can track the progress towards addressing the deficiencies identified as for energy regulations compliance.
- **Monitoring:** ongoing monitoring helps keep track of compliance status and highlight issues that need to be addressed. The essence of monitoring is to create a sustainable structure, resulting in consistent and efficient reporting and documentation (see also E.13).

There are a number of tools (mostly in the Netherlands) that can be used to support the work of the Trusted Partner in this specific need. Each available tool is strongly oriented towards national legislation.

More general information, not customized to the individual company, can be found on government sites and on the sites of agencies that manage and verify the obligations of individual companies.