

**ErP: Changes for OEMs, equipment manufacturers and operators**

## **Stricter efficiency requirements, clear system boundaries and new manufacturer obligations**

By introducing ErP 2026, the European Union is significantly tightening the requirements for fans starting in July. New efficiency limits, revised evaluation methods and expanded documentation requirements affect not only fan manufacturers but also OEMs, plant engineers and operators. ebm-papst provides information on the most important changes and explains what users should prepare for now.

### **Higher efficiency requirements, especially under partial load**

The new fan regulation significantly raises the minimum efficiency levels and continues to assess efficiency using the Fan Efficiency Grade (FEG); however, efficiency is now based on updated measurement conditions. A new feature is the stronger focus on partial load operation, placing the focus no longer solely on the best point, but on the overall efficiency level across the real operating range.

### **Focus shifts to the complete fan**

For the first time, the regulation clearly defines when a fan is considered complete. The interaction between the impeller, motor and stator is decisive. Anyone who produces incomplete fans or integrates them into their own systems and places them on the market under their own name is considered a manufacturer for regulatory purposes—with all obligations regarding conformity assessment and CE marking.

### **New obligations regarding information, documentation and repair**

ErP 2026 is also bringing about significantly increased transparency requirements. In the future, manufacturers must provide comprehensive information on energy efficiency, repairability and disassembly. Additionally, defined spare parts must be kept available for up to ten years after product discontinuation, while product information must be stored digitally for up to 20 years.

### **Take transition periods into account in a timely manner**

The regulation applies from July 24, 2026 onwards to so-called stand-alone fans and new products. For fans that are integrated into other products or applications—such as ventilation units, heat pumps or refrigeration systems—and are already on the market prior to this date, the requirements take effect on July 24, 2027. Replacement fans will be subject to clear restrictions starting in 2027 and may only be used under defined conditions.

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### Support from a single source

ebm-papst has been specifically preparing its portfolio for the requirements of ErP 2026 for years. Fully designed fans, system-specific efficiency assessments and transparent documentation make the transition easier for customers. In addition, ebm-papst provides support through consulting, measurements and digital design tools to help implement compliant solutions early on.

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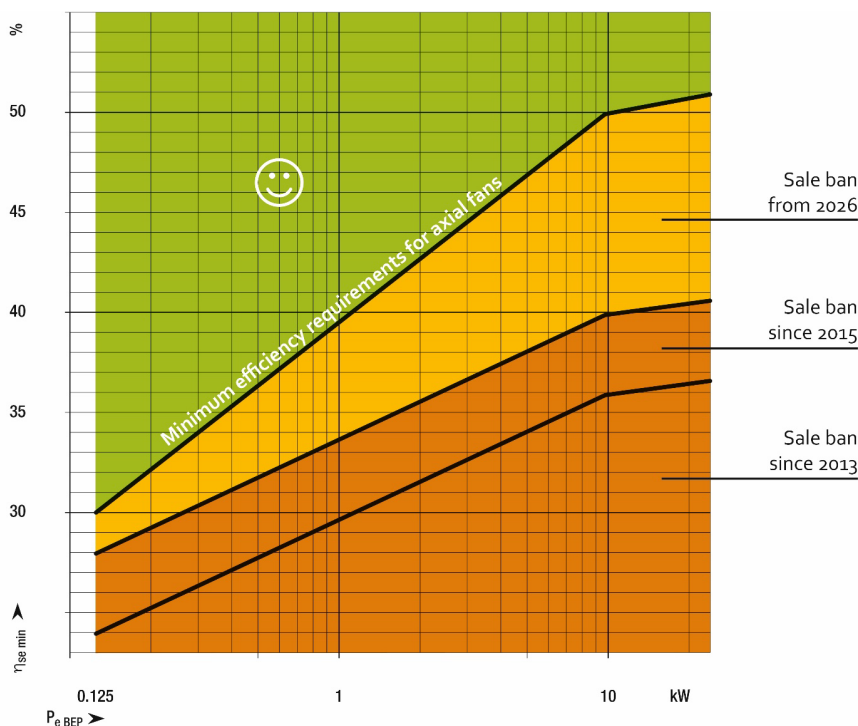


Figure 1: The minimum efficiency requirements for axial fans have been gradually increased since 2013. From 2026, a minimum fan efficiency grade of 50 percent will apply—the decisive factor is the total static efficiency at the best efficiency point ( $P_e$  = electrical input power;  $\eta_{min}$  = minimum fan efficiency;  $\eta_{se}$  = total static efficiency; BEP = best point).

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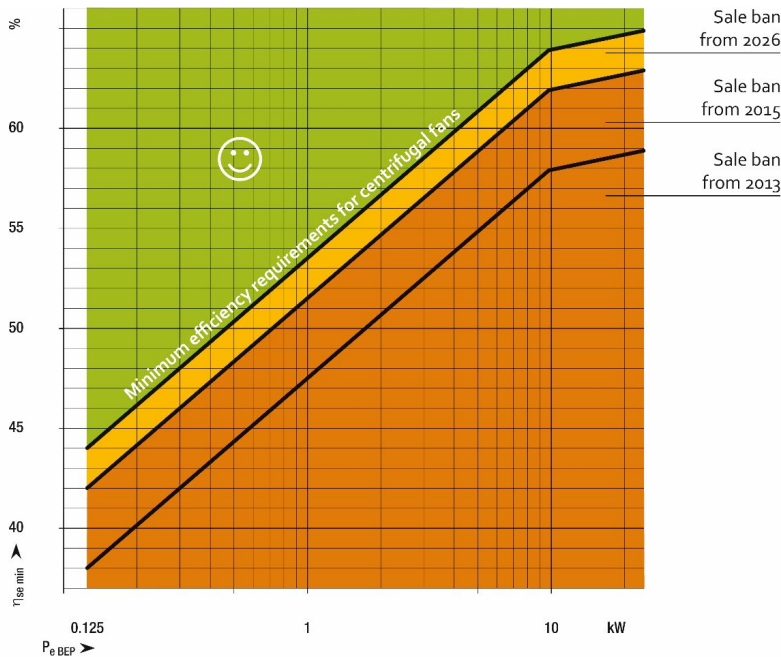


Figure 2: There are also increased requirements for centrifugal fans with backward-curved blades. From 2026, the minimum fan efficiency grade required will be 64 percent, setting a new benchmark for efficiency ( $P_e$  = electrical input power;  $\eta_{min}$  = minimum fan efficiency;  $\eta_{se}$  = total static efficiency; BEP = best efficiency point).



Figure 3: The central functional areas of axial (left) and centrifugal fans (right): the **impeller** as the aerodynamic core (green), the **motor** with integrated electronics as the drive unit (orange) and the **stator**, i.e., the air-conducting and supporting structures (blue).

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Tags	ErP, Ecodesign Directive, efficiency requirements, system boundary, overall efficiency
Link	<a href="https://www.ebmpapst.com/ecodesign">https://www.ebmpapst.com/ecodesign</a>

### **About ebm-papst**

The ebm-papst Group, a family-run company headquartered in Mulfingen, Germany, is the world's leading manufacturer of fans and motors. Since it was founded in 1963, the technological leader has set international industry standards with its core expertise in motor technology, electronics, digitalization and aerodynamics.

ebm-papst offers sustainable, intelligent and tailor-made solutions for virtually every requirement in ventilation and heating technology. ebm-papst sets the benchmark in almost all sectors, such as ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration technology, heating technology, information technology, mechanical engineering and medical technology.

In the 2024–25 financial year, the ebm-papst Group generated a turnover of 2.1 billion euros. It employs around 13,500 people at 30 production sites, including in Germany, China and the U.S., as well as in 50 sales offices worldwide.

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