#### **RESOURCE EFFICIENCY** Using less, living better

# EU industry's views on the future of Green Public Procurement

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## **Environmental challenges and EU policy**

- Increasing resource efficiency, an overarching objective for the EU
- Comprehensive environmental *acquis* in the EU
  - Number of EU laws: 307 in 1990 / 1,953 in 2009
- Principles for smart EU environmental policy-making
- Most effective combination of instruments to bring about the desired changes
  - What role for Green Public Procurement?





### **Review of EU public procurement rules**

- No pressing need to revise the 2004 legal framework, provides sufficient legal certainty
- Efforts should concentrate on more uniform enforcement of the existing rules
- Core principles to be safeguarded:
  - 'best value'
  - fairness and transparency
  - competition
  - link to the subject-matter of the contract





### **Green Public Procurement – state of play**

- 'Green' considerations can be performed in a very wide range in *existing* EU procurement law
  - Technical specifications / performance requirements
  - Selection and award criteria (lifecycle costs)
  - Verification criteria (be careful with use of labels)
- Requirements exist in sector-specific EU laws
- While progress is still needed, a range of national initiatives are being developed.





### **Green Public Procurement – the way forward**

- $\rightarrow$  Towards more uniform application of GPP rules
- Make voluntary criteria the backbone of GPP
- Proper identification and definition of products / services / works coverage:
  - criteria must be objective, science-based, verifiable and not too prescriptive
  - need for an economic rationale with lifecycle thinking
  - considerations to national and sectoral specificities
  - sound technical feasibility check
- Ensure strong involvement of industry
- Reinforce awareness, training, benchmarking





## **More information**

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