

# Evaluating soft measures. Potential impacts of a web-based information tool about energy efficient products

ECEEE Summer Study Panel 8: Monitoring and Evaluation June 5, 2015

Claus Barthel Jan Kaselofsky Thomas Madry

# The object of our evaluation is **Topten**, a web-based transformation tool to bring more energy efficiency on the market of products

- Provides selections of the most efficient products available on the market.
- Addresses four focus areas: Mobility, appliances, electronics and building components
- The selections are displayed on 17 websites managed at national level.



### **Impact of Topten**

## Iceberg Model

#### Above the water 10%

#### Market Transparency

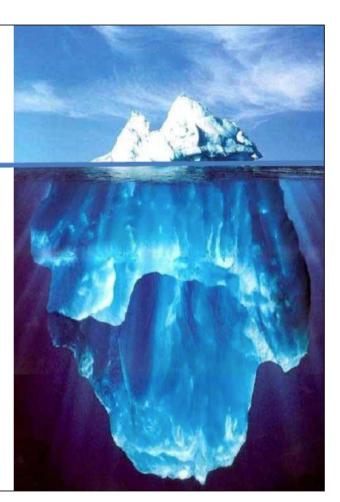
- Topten website
- · Consumer advice

#### Below the water 90%

#### **Market Transformation**

- Market Research
- Energylabels
- Testing standards
- · Industry contacts
- Retail programs
- Procurement
- Discounts & rebates





# To learn more about visitors and the direct potential impacts of Topten we carried out an **online survey in two rounds**

#### The first round of the survey

- On all Topten websites we installed a pop-up window, which was linked to a questionnaire with 17 questions.
- The survey was active from Oct. to Dec. 2012.
- 1791 visitors completed the survey (0,5 % of all 400.000 visitors during this period).
- The objective of the first round was to get a better impression of the different user groups
- The main questions of the first round were
  - Which user groups visit Topten with which motivation?
  - How do the users evaluate the certain features of the websites?
  - What are opportunities for improvement?

# To learn more about visitors and the direct potential impacts of Topten we carried out an **online survey in two rounds**

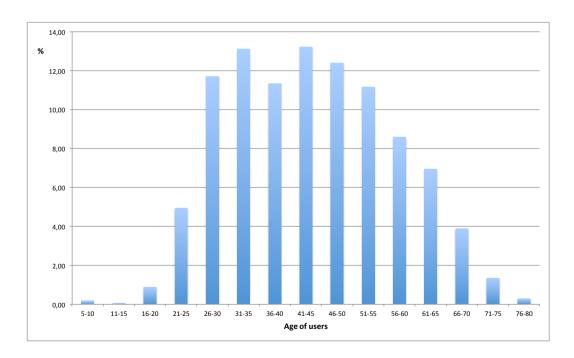
#### The second round of the survey

- A subset of the first surveys' participants was surveyed again.
- The survey was carries out from Feb. to Apr. 2012.
- 1043 visitors were contacted, and 383 completed the survey.
- The objective of the second round was to provide further insights into the concrete use of the information and its **influence on the users** purchasing behaviour.
- The main questions of the second round were
  - Which specific properties of a product are important for you?
  - Did you buy a product, which is listed on the Topten websites?
- In a final step, the reductions in energy demand and CO<sub>2</sub>-emissions have been estimated.

### A selection of results of the first round of the online survey

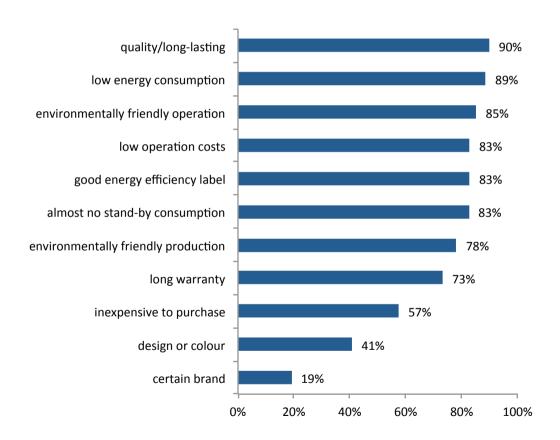
### The typical users

- 72 % are between 30 and 60 years old (relatively high for web-based information, this group is usually associated with a relatively high purchasing power).
- 90 % private users, 10 % professional users (energy consultants, local authorities, retailers etc.)
- The share of **male users** is higher (58 %) than the share of **female users** (42 %)



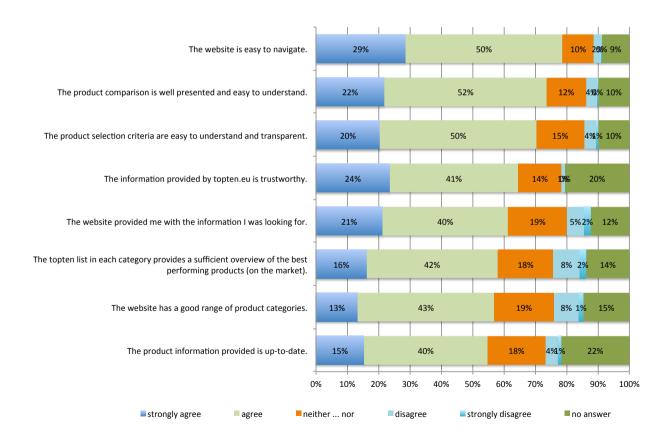
# A selection of results of the second round of the **online survey**Most frequently considered appliances characteristics

 A majority of participants prefers quality and long-lasting products with low energy consumption



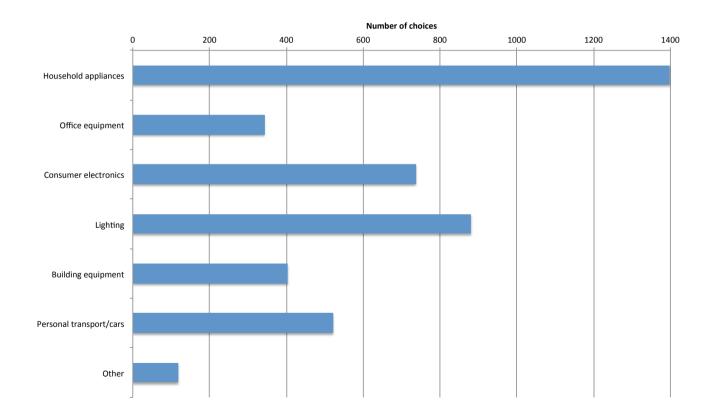
# A selection of results of the first round of the **online survey** Assessment of the Topten websites

- The visitors assess the websites easy to navigate and easy to understand.
- But there is also space for improvements regarding range of product categories and regular updating.



# A selection of results of the first round of the **online survey**Reasons for visiting the Topten websites

- 54 % of visitors expect help with concrete purchasing decisions.
- Household appliances, lighting and consumer electronics are most interesting for visitors.



# A selection of results of the second round of the online survey

Purchased "Topten" products and achieved savings

- 383 survey participants
   changed their purchase
   decision and altogether
   bought 399 "Topten"
   products
- Over the lifetime of products
   they have saved
  - 931 MWh end energy
  - 1.728 MWh primary energy
  - 345 t CO<sub>2</sub>

Categories	Bought Topten appliances	End energy reduction for an average Topten model [kWh/a]	Lifetime of savings [a]	End energy reduction for all given purchases over lifetime [kWh]	Primary energy reduction for all given purchases over lifetime [kWh]	CO <sub>2</sub> reduction for all given purchases over lifetime [t CO <sub>2</sub> ]
Fridge / Fridge Freezer	35	150	15	78 750	196 875	36,23
Freezer	23	120	15	41 400	103 500	19,04
Dishwasher	21	50	15	15 750	39 375	7,25
Washing Machine	27	80	15	32 400	81 000	14,9
Tumble Drier	16	320	15	76 800	192 000	35,33
Vacuum Cleaner	15	80	10	12 000	30 000	5,52
Coffee Machine	6	133	10	7 980	19 950	3,67
Other Household Appliances <sup>1</sup>	12	100	10	12 000	30 000	5,52
Monitors - Flat Screen	3	28	5	420	1 050	0,19
Laser Printers/Multifunctional	9	400	5	18 000	45 000	8,28
Other Office Equipment <sup>2</sup>	1	200	5	1 000	2 500	0,46
TV	23	120	10	27 600	69 000	12,7
Other Consumer Electronics <sup>3</sup>	6	100	5	3 000	7 500	1,38
Energy saving lamp (CFL)	72	40	15	43 200	108 000	19,87
LED	111	30	15	49 950	124 875	22,98
Halogen	2	15	2	60	150	0,03
Heat Pump	3	1 850	15	83 250	208 125	38,3
Circulation Pump	5	320	15	24 000	60 000	11,04
Air Condition	2	115	15	3 450	8 625	1,59
Car	6	5 560	12	400 334	400 334	100,8
Other Mobility <sup>4</sup>	1	-	12	-	-	-
Total	399	9 811		931 344	1 727 859	345,06

### A selection of results of the second round of the online survey

#### Assessment of savings of all Topten users of one year

#### The challenge

- We have to deal with **the self-selection-bias**, which arises when a sample is not randomly drawn from the population, which is the case here.
- In comparison to the annual **visitors of all Topten sites of 1,4 million**, the sample size of 383 is rather small.

#### **What Google Statistics says**

- The bounce rate is about 50 % across all websites.
- The average access time is 2 to 5 minutes.
  - => half of all visitors are looking for information

# What an evaluation of the Swedish Topten Website says (not exactly the same methodology)

About 10 % of all users buy a "Topten" product

### A selection of results of the second round of the **online survey**

Assessment of savings of all Topten users of one year

#### Our proposal for the overall mitigation calculation (for discussion)

• If we assume also that 10 % of all users behave like the control group, we get the total Energy and CO<sub>2</sub> savings caused by changed product choices of Topten visitors.

п	Savings over the lifetime ¶ of products per Unique Visitor #	Savings over the lifetime ¶ of products for • 1 year of operation of Topten #	Savings per year for 1 year of oper- ation of Topten 2 "
End energy savings¤	243 kWh¤	340 <mark>GWh</mark> ¤	26,5 GWh/a¤
Primary energy savings¤	451 kWh¤	631 <mark>GWh</mark> ¤	49,1 GWh/a¤
CO₂ mitigation¤	90,1 kg¤	126.133 t¤	9.815 t/a¤



# Thank you!



### Impact of Topten

# **Topten Logic Model**

