

What is ETV

By Peter Fritzel, ETV project manager at ETA-Danmark A/S

ETV - Environmental Technology Verification

It is about proving and documenting the effect of innovative environmental technologies and verifying the environmental added value of the technology.

Have you developed an innovative environmental technology that you want to launch?

Then because of the technology is innovative, there are no existing standards or approvals in the market to prove how much your technology will benefit the environment.

Then you need an ETV.

An ETV is documentation that your technology can actually do what you claim it can do. This documentation is called environmental technology verification. Or Environmental Technology Verification – ETV.

The ETV is based on transparency and independence and a uniform, consistent process.

A process that is always the same, although with changing experts, so their knowledge matches your particular technology.

What do we mean by innovative environmental technology?

Having a vision, a creative idea or a good prototype is not enough.

It must be a technology that can be produced, marketed, and used, and it must deliver what it is claimed to deliver. Also, the technology has to offer one or more environmental advantages - It may be saving energy, cleaning water, or reducing emissions.

This makes the process comprehensive – but also reliable, since a third party scrutiny secures that the verification of claimed effects is backed by competence.

The process

The process for obtaining an ETV has four key phases:

1. Initiation
2. Protocol
3. Test
4. Verification

Each of the phases identifies different tasks and goals for the proposer and for the verification body including experts and test bodies and establishes important milestones in the verification process.

You must go through nine stages to obtain an ETV...

In order to follow the process in more detail, the four key phases can be described in the form of 9 supporting stages:



First, **contact** between the applicant and verifier is established.

Then a **QuickScan** is written. The potential of the technology is examined, calibration is made, and expectations are adjusted – and an assessment is made of whether the technology is ready for the ETV.

An application must be made in which the manufacturer states the effectiveness of the environmental technology – what it can do and how good it is at it. This is done in a **verification proposal**

Then a **contract** is entered – the process is agreed on, including who is responsible for what. This is the first milestone and concludes the first key phase.

Then, a **specific verification protocol** is prepared.

Then the verification and **tests**, if required, are **planned**. This is the second milestone and concludes the second key phase.

The **tests** agreed upon are then **performed**. The testing is important and is considered as a key phase and the completing of the test program is the third milestone.

Based on analysis of the results, a report is written, and your technology has now been **verified**.

Finally, the verification statement is **published**. This concludes the fourth and final phase.

All this takes about six months but may be shorter or longer

What value do you get from an ETV?

- Independent third party verification of the performance claim
- Increased credibility of your environmental performance claims
- Several thorough tests of the product – if such are not already available
- You get a verification statement describing the eco-efficiency of the technology.
- As an applicant, you will be involved in the process yourself and will assist in drawing up relevant environmental criteria

- Effective quality assurance
- A European quality stamp recognized in many countries.

ISO, the International Organization for Standardization, has prepared an international standard for ETVs, ISO 14034: 2016, enhancing the potential for global use. One difference is that you cannot obtain an accreditation against this standard.

ETV pilot program of the EU

The ETV pilot program of the EU was initiated in 2011 and gained speed in 2012. It was established to open markets in Europe based on the principle: Verified in one EU country, accepted all EU countries.

The EU ETV pilot program ensures mutual recognition of test results across the countries, and consequently tests from one country can be used for the marketing of the product in other EU countries. EU ETV supports the ISO ETV procedure, which will make sure that European technology vendors can use ETV statements for global marketing.

More information

ETA-Danmark is accredited according to ISO 17020 to issue ETV's based on the EU GVP as the Danish verification body under the ETV pilot programme of the EU. ETA-Danmark is also accredited to ISO 17020 to issue ETV's based on ISO 14034

ETA-Danmark has established a partnership with the Danish Centre for Verification of Climate and Environmental Technologies (DANETV), which is a cooperation between two accredited technological services institutions (GTS), The Danish Technological Institute and FORCE Technology.

This partnership ensures that ETA-Danmark can offer to handle verifications in all seven technology areas.

Under the EU ETV pilot programme:

- Water treatment and monitoring
- Energy efficiency and production
- Materials, waste and resources.

as a Danish DANETV verification:

- Environmental technologies for agriculture
- Air cleaning and monitoring
- Monitoring and cleaning of soil and groundwater
- Cleaner production and processes.

It is expected that these last 4 technology areas will be added to the programme on an ongoing basis.

Contacts:

Thomas Bruun, ETA-Danmark A/S, phone: +45 72 24 59 00, e-mail: tb@etadanmark.dk

Peter Fritzel, ETA-Danmark A/S, phone: +45 72 24 59 00, e-mail: pf@etadanmark.dk

Bodil Højland Lorentzen, DANETV / *The Danish Technological Institute (DTI)*, phone +45 45 16 91 48, e-mail: bhl@teknologisk.dk

Trine Erdal, DANETV / FORCE Technology, phone +45 43 25 00 24, e-mail: tre@force.dk

Gert S. Hansen, The Danish Environmental Protection Agency, Pilot programme in the EU, phone: +45 72 54 45 89, e-mail: gesha@mst.dk