

PRESS RELEASE

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The NATCP has launched an innovative investigation to inspect air fryers

The National Authority for Trade and Consumer Protection (NATCP) is launching a comprehensive nationwide inspection, based on laboratory measurements, to assess the energy consumption and regulatory compliance of hot-air fryers. The aim of the program is to determine whether air fryers available on the market comply with European Union ecodesign requirements, with particular regard to energy consumption in standby and off modes.

Sampling conducted by government agencies takes place nationwide, in large retail chains and smaller retail outlets, ensuring that the inspection covers a wide range of available products. A key focus of the inspection is the review of the EC Declaration of Conformity, which is a fundamental requirement for lawful distribution and certifies that the device in question complies with European Union regulations. In the event of the absence or inadequacy of this document, the manufacturer, importer, and distributor may all be held liable, which will result in regulatory action.

In addition to reviewing the documentation, the authority also examines the operational characteristics of the devices. Under EU regulations, all such equipment must provide a mode of operation that ensures low energy consumption when connected to the power grid while the device is not in use. Reducing standby energy consumption is of paramount importance, as individual consumption levels may be small but, when added together, can place a significant burden on households and the environment.

Previously, no official investigation specifically focused on air fryers and supported by laboratory measurements had been conducted in Hungary that assessed both energy efficiency and regulatory compliance requirements simultaneously.

To ensure optimal energy consumption and operation, however, consumers should also consider several factors before purchasing, in addition to the official investigation. For example, always match the appliance's size to the number of people in your household: a smaller air fryer may be practical for a one- or two-person household, while a larger-capacity model is better suited for families. It's worth checking the actual capacity and shape of the basket, as the usable space can vary even among models with the same listed capacity.

Before purchasing, check the appliance's power rating, as this can affect cooking time and energy consumption. Features such as adjustable temperature, a timer, and preset programs can be useful. Ease of cleaning is an important consideration: it's preferable if the basket and tray are dishwasher-safe. It's worth checking the appliance's noise level and the available space in your kitchen. Be sure to read the user manual and safety warnings before purchasing and using the appliance!

Regulatory oversight helps raise consumer awareness and increase market transparency, ensuring that, in the long term, only safe, energy-efficient, and legally compliant appliances remain on the market in Hungary. The authority's consistent action also serves to strengthen fair market competition and foster a more sustainable economic environment.

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National Authority for Trade and Consumer Protection