

CASE STUDY

ENERGY STAR® HVAC Quality Installation



Confidence in Quality Installation

Middletown, CT

When the Cap family decided to replace their 35 year old furnace they also wanted to upgrade their system to include central air conditioning. "We hoped that by going to one central air conditioning system from four separate window units it would make us more comfortable and be efficient," said Mr. Cap.

The family started by looking in the yellow pages for a contractor, and after receiving several bids they settled on Aiello Home Services. "I liked that they took measurements before giving a cost estimate. Their price wasn't the lowest, but the methodical approach gave me much greater confidence in their work and that the system was specifically for my house," reported Mr. Cap. These measurements were taken for the ENERGY STAR Quality Installation pilot program administered by Connecticut Light & Power (CL&P) through the Connecticut Energy Efficiency Fund. The program requires that contractors install each system using procedures that provide maximum efficiency and comfort in heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems. Each contractor that participates in the program has been trained to offer this specialized service.

After conducting a comprehensive assessment of the Cap's heating and cooling needs, the Aiello Home Services technician determined that the existing furnace was oversized and could be replaced with a smaller model. As part of the installation process, the technician also tested and sealed the duct work to reduce leakage of heated or cooled air, measured to ensure adequate air flow throughout the house and checked that the air conditioner had the correct amount of refrigerant.

"We've saved about 20% this year on natural gas usage without sacrificing on our comfort," said Mr. Cap. "It worked out really nicely, we're saving energy and that helps offset the installation cost!"

After the system was installed, CL&P program administrators conducted independent testing to verify that

the system passed the ENERGY STAR Quality Installation requirements.

"I thought it was great," said Mr. Cap. "It was nice to know that the new system was really doing what they said it would."

Mr. Cap recommends the program to friends and family alike, "The ENERGY STAR program is well worth it."

The ENERGY STAR Quality Installation program is offered by EPA in partnership with utility companies in several states. Benefits of the program include:

- Up to 30% savings on heating and cooling costs
- Increased comfort throughout the home
- Improved system efficiency and air distribution

To find out more about HVAC Quality Installation, visit www.energystar.gov/HVACQI

