

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460



OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION

December 15, 2014

Dear ENERGY STAR® Central AC/ Air Source Heat Pump stakeholder:

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), I am pleased to inform you that the ENERGY STAR Version 5.0 CAC/ASHP specification has been finalized. Your valuable feedback throughout the development process has been integral to the final specification. The new Version 5.0 specification will take effect on September 15, 2015.

The Version 5.0 specification will distinguish highly efficient central ACs and air source heat pumps that have the potential to save consumers hundreds of dollars a year. In addition, for the first time, the Version 5.0 specification will allow independent coil manufacturers (ICMs) to have combinations certified to earn the ENERGY STAR. This will expand consumers' choice of ENERGY STAR products. A broad range of efficient products meet this specification, with options meeting the needs of most consumers. If all residential central ACs and air source heat pumps sold in the United States met these requirements, energy cost savings would grow to more than \$2.4 billion each year and 29 billion pounds of annual greenhouse gas emissions would be prevented, equivalent to the emissions from nearly 2.7 million vehicles.

EPA received no concerns with the Final Draft specification and thus this Final specification is substantively unchanged from the Final Draft. A complete CAC/ASHP Program Requirements document, including the Final Version 5.0 Eligibility Criteria and Partner Commitments, is attached for your reference. Previous draft proposals, stakeholder comments, and comment responses are available on the Product Development website at [www.energystar.gov/revisedspecs](http://www.energystar.gov/revisedspecs) (click on "CAC/ASHP").

**Transition Timeline and Next Steps:** EPA shares its Partners' desire for a smooth transition from one ENERGY STAR specification version to the next, such that ENERGY STAR labeled products meet the latest requirements when they go into effect and that partners have time to transition their collateral material. With this in mind and consistent with its approach for other product categories, EPA is sharing the following timeline for CAC/ASHP:

- Effective immediately, manufacturers may elect to have their Certification Body (CB) certify their eligible products to the Version 5.0 requirements.
- As of May 1, 2015, CBs will be asked to stop certifying new product submittals to the existing ENERGY STAR Version 4.1 specification requirements. Note, however, that existing certifications to Version 4.1 will remain valid for the purposes of ENERGY STAR qualification until September 15, 2015.

- As of September 15, 2015, any product manufactured and labeled as ENERGY STAR must be certified to meet Version 5.0 requirements. At this time, CBs will only submit product models certified to Version 5.0 to EPA and only those products will appear on the qualified product list.

Upon satisfactory completion of all certification requirements, a CB will notify the partner that the product is ENERGY STAR certified. AHRI will indicate the product is ENERGY STAR certified in the CEE/AHRI product directory, and other CBs will submit certified product data to EPA for listing on the ENERGY STAR website. For more information on the Third-Party Certification program please visit [www.energystar.gov/testingandverification](http://www.energystar.gov/testingandverification).

On behalf of EPA, I appreciate your participation in the development of this specification and I look forward to working with each of you as you qualify and promote your energy-efficient equipment. Please direct any specific questions to Abigail Daken at EPA, [daken.abigail@epa.gov](mailto:daken.abigail@epa.gov) and 202-343-9375 or Sarah Medepalli, ICF International, at [sarah.medepalli@icfi.com](mailto:sarah.medepalli@icfi.com) and 202-677-5201. Please direct specific questions regarding the test method to Ashley Armstrong at the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), [Ashley.armstrong@ee.doe.gov](mailto:Ashley.armstrong@ee.doe.gov) and 202-586-6590.

Thank you for your continued support of ENERGY STAR.

Sincerely,



Abigail Daken  
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ENERGY STAR HVAC Program